

RESOLUTION 17-05.88

The Need for Climate Change Literacy -- DEMCCO Version

WHEREAS, our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions must be significantly reduced and if, how, how much, and by when, this is done is a science-based, political question, requiring that both the general public and our elected officials be informed and motivated; and

WHEREAS, (1) in late 2013, California adopted the “Next Generation Science Standards” (NGSS); (2) at the October 2015 Conference of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE), the California Environmental Literacy Task Force (CELTF) presented the environmental elements of the NGSS, revealing that the standards do not guarantee the needed climate literacy; and (3) in May of 2015, the California State PTA adopted “Climate Change Is a Children’s Issue”, a resolution asking school districts to take important actions, including “to educate students on climate and energy literacy and human sustainability”; and (4) elected officials are responsible for policies to reduce GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS, students deserve all of the scientific facts that will clearly and significantly impact their future and, to do their job, elected officials need a sufficient understanding of this unfolding crisis;

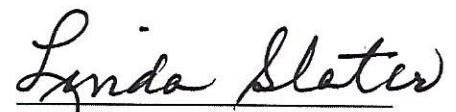
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, DEMCCO reinforces the need for all high school students to know, before they graduate, and elected officials to know, acknowledge, and address, as soon as possible, (1) both the existence of and the reason for anthropogenic climate change; (2) its potential for harm; (3) the difference between stabilizing the climate at a livable level and destabilization; (4) science-based, climate-stabilizing, GHG reduction targets; (5) the primary variables and considerations in identifying those targets and (6) a set of enforceable measures that would achieve those climate-stabilizing targets, for the categories of electricity generation and light-duty vehicles (cars and light-duty trucks.)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this support be communicated to the California Governor, Senate Pro-Tem, Speaker of the Assembly, the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties, the Superintendent of Public Schools, the State Board of Education, the State legislature, and the California School Board Association, in the hope that this issue will come to the attention of all of our elected officials, including school board members.

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Approved by DEMCCO:

July 27, 2019



President