MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Updates Connecticut’s Education Standards to Include Climate Change Education

SB 345- AAC Climate Change Education in Connecticut Schools

BACKGROUND
Climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing our nation today. According to the National Academy of Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and many others, manmade climate change is having a measurable impact on our planet, and urgent action is needed to prevent irreversible changes in our environment.\(^1\)

JUSTIFICATION
SB 345 requires Connecticut’s educational standards be amended to include Next Generation Science Standards, which involve critical analytical skills and core concepts around a number of subject areas, including modeling, predicting and managing current and future climate impacts due to climate change.\(^2\) The students of today will have a profound responsibility of leading the fight against climate change in the future, and should be prepared with the most up-to-date facts and science about climate change and its impacts on our environment. **CCE strongly supports making climate change education a basic requirement for all Connecticut students.**

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS

- Adds climate change curriculum, consistent with Next Generation Science Standards to the existing list of state-required subjects for public school students;
- Requires the CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to make itself available to public school districts for support in the development of such curriculum.

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\(^1\) [https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/)


**Citizens Campaign for the Environment Supports SB 345 AAC Climate Change Education in Connecticut Schools**

Citizens Campaign for the Environment is an 80,000 member non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization that works to empower communities and advocate solutions that protect public health and the natural environment.

[www.citizenscampaign.org](http://www.citizenscampaign.org)