

Submitter: Marina Moyce
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB854

I am a high school junior and I support the passage of Senate Bill 854. The issue of climate change isn't going away. We need a future generation that is equipped to address this problem; who are prepared to mitigate and adapt. We need to integrate climate education across subjects so that the diversity of problems we are facing, from extreme drought to acidifying oceans, are supplemented with well rounded understanding. Currently all of climate education is relegated to the Science department. Does this make sense? There is so much more to climate change than just earth science: there is its application to agriculture and city planning; its connection to history and economics; its relevance to our mental health. In math class involving climate change in lesson plans would give meaning to numbers and procedures that for many students are meaningless. In health class we could examine the many affects on mental and physical health that come from being trapped in your house for a week with hazardous air quality; or having to drop everything and flee a forest fire; or losing a loved one in an accident during a freak ice storm; or the mere inability to have hope for the future. As a young person I often feel my future has been compromised by climate change. This is chance for my generation to reclaim our and the earth's future and rise to meet the challenge of climate change: this begins with education. I urge you to consider the Bill as means to protect our collective future. Thank you members of the Education Committee for considering my testimony.