

Submitter: Jasmine Boyd
On Behalf Of:
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Measure: SB854

Without education, there is no freedom: no freedom of expression, no freedom to vote for our representatives, and no freedom to life, liberty, and happiness. Without being educated about the realities of climate change, how can we make decisions regarding our future? There is no vote without an understanding of policy. I need to argue for basic human rights, the fundamental right to education, along with life, liberty, and happiness.

Every day I fear for our future. I do not know what will happen to our generation. While many of my peers have succumbed to nihilism, I refuse to believe there is nothing we can do regarding climate change. Others do not understand how serious the problem is. Only by treating climate change as a valid concern is it possible to do something about climate change. Nowhere else is it contested that climate change is not a concern. There is a consensus that climate change is one of the greatest threats to our civilization. It is suicide that it would not be integrated within K-12, if not also within universities.

Yes, I am young and not an expert on climate change. However, policymakers are not experts in climate change either. I may not have formal education in law, but I am one of the many people who will be affected by climate change in the future, and I have a unique perspective as a student. Too often, administrators and politicians will make assumptions about our education system. Politicians need to listen to teachers and students in the classroom, whom the policies will affect practically. I need to argue for basic human rights. The right to live. Thank you.