

Submitter: Linda Bernhardt  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3365

Dear Chair Neron and members of the House Education Committee,  
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 3365. My husband and I are retired farmers and parents, and we care deeply about future generations. We strongly support expanding and integrating sustainability and climate change instruction across all K-12 core subject areas (language arts, sciences, mathematics, social studies, health, physical education and the arts), but especially science. Isn't the idea of education to present the facts/data and let the students figure it out for themselves? There are currently too many mixed messages that confuse and politicize us.

Climate change is an existential threat to future generations and they MUST have the information to change course. Obviously the older generations aren't helping. Empowering youth to make individual and collective choices requires information. We must help them see they are a part of the environment, not separate from it. I taught environmental policy at the college level for many years and it was delightful to see students make the connection between their place in the natural world and how our actions impact our fellow humans, wildlife/animals, and the environment as a whole.

On a personal level, we all know this has been a wet year, but on average we farmers are seeing water availability shrinking and our crop yields decreasing. We are deeply concerned that with increasing population and climate change, there could be dire consequences in the not too distant future.

Please support HB 3365!

LD Bernhardt, MS and LA Hill, RN  
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