



## Environmental Education and the No Child Left Behind Act

### ACTION ALERT

July 13, 2007

#### Ask Your Representative to Co-Sponsor the No Child Left Inside Act of 2007

Congressman John Sarbanes has introduced the No Child Left Inside Act of 2007 to the House Committee on Education and Labor (House Bill 3036). This bill urges Congress to include critical environmental education measures in the No Child Left Behind law. **Please encourage your Representative to co-sponsor this important piece of legislation!**

With the nation facing complicated environmental issues that will challenge us for years to come, it is critical that schools provide students with a solid grounding in environmental education. But because of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), many schools are scaling back or eliminating environmental education programs. Congress has the opportunity to change this with the reauthorization of NCLB. Learn more about NCLB at [www.eenclb.org](http://www.eenclb.org).

The language in the No Child Left Inside Act of 2007 recommends including environmental education in NCLB in these ways:

- Provide incentives for state educational agencies to create a State Environmental Literacy Plan for integrating environmental education into their K-12 curriculum to ensure that graduates are environmentally literate.
- Provide funding to help states, schools systems, and environmental education partners to implement the State Environmental Literacy Plan.

#### **Help us guarantee that no student is left inside when it comes to the learning about their environment.**

1. Write a letter urging your Representative to co-sponsor the No Child Left Inside Act of 2007 and support inclusion of environmental education in NCLB. Go to [www.eeNCLB.org](http://www.eeNCLB.org) for a sample letter that you can email and/or fax.
2. Send this action alert to your colleagues and ask them to contact their Representatives.

By making a few changes to NCLB, we can dramatically improve our schools' ability to prepare children for real-world challenges and careers – and ensure an environmentally sustainable future.

Note: "No Child Left Inside" is used with permission from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.