



NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION • 1201 16th St., N.W., Washington, D C 20036 • (202) 833-4000
HELEN P. BAIN, President SAM M. LAMBERT, Executive Secretary

March 10, 1971

Mr. John Heritage, Legislative Director
Office of Senator Gaylord Nelson
Old Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Heritage:

In answer to your query today about NEA resolutions or actions on Earth Day or Earth Week, attached here is the resolution passed by NEA's representative assembly in July on environmental education. In it the NEA strongly urges school systems to include environmental education and human ecology programs in their curriculum and to observe Earth Day annually. ~~Since the time that the NEA resolution was passed by its major policy making body, composed of more than 7,000 teachers from around the country, NEA's Executive Committee and Board of Directors passed a motion urging teachers around the country to support the resolution and to back Earth Day. I am hoping that the NEA will come out with a statement backing the Earth Week movement--which seems to be the news now rather than an Earth Day.~~

Chuch Conconi, press secretary in your office, should have copies of some of the pieces I have been writing on environmental education and Earth Week. We now have a daily teletype news service which goes directly to 14 of our state associations headquartered in state capitals.

Enclosed here is a March 9 article headlined "Nelson calls for more environmental education funds." We called your office for information on this.

Please continue to keep me posted on any further developments in this area. Give my regards to Chuck.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rozanne Weissman".
Rozanne Weissman, National Correspondent
Division of Press, Radio, and Television Relations

cc: Abby Chapkis
RW/mjc



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NEA Resolutions

70-23. Fair Housing

The National Education Association believes that universally applied fair housing practices aid in bringing about a truly universal public education.

The Association urges its affiliates, in cooperation with community agencies, to develop and promote practicable programs to implement fair housing practices in every community and to demand passage of legislation that will ensure to each person the opportunity to reside in the neighborhood of his choice.

70-24. Environmental Education

The National Education Association is concerned for an improved environment conducive to physical and emotional well-being. The Association strongly urges school systems to include environmental education and human ecology programs in their curriculum and to observe Earth Day annually. The Association further supports legislation and appropriations to preserve our natural environment.

70-25. Community Antenna Television

The National Education Association believes that the use of Community Antenna Television (CATV) channels for education is essential to preserve the public interest, to afford an opportunity for educational innovation, and to encompass the learning needs of a diverse society.

The Association directs its officers and staff to seek the reservation of at least 20 percent of all CATV channels for educational purposes.

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70-26. Human Relations in the School

The National Education Association believes that improved human relations is essential to the school environment. To improve human relations in schools, the Association calls for:

a. School recruitment policies that will ensure culturally diverse staffs

b. The development of ways to improve police-community and student-police relations through the joint efforts of school, community, and law enforcement agencies

c. The reduction of the ratio of students to certificated staff to the level teachers determine, in each case, is essential to improved learning

d. Further research and development of ways to identify, change, and, if necessary, exclude prejudiced personnel who exhibit prejudiced behavior detrimental to the school environment

e. The training of police in behavioral sciences, sociology, and human relations to encourage an enlightened approach to law enforcement

f. An awareness of the continued neglect of Mexican-American citizens and youth. The Association shall assist its affiliates to provide programs relevant and helpful to alleviate this neglect in the public schools.

Wtj

70-27. Drug Abuse

The National Education Association is concerned with the growing misuse and abuse of drugs. It supports the National Drug Education Training Program as a significant step forward in combating the problem. It urges its affiliates to cooperate in the development of leadership training teams to implement the program.



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