



INVITATION TO JOIN THE NCLI COALITION

We would like to invite your organization to become a member of the No Child Left InsideSM Coalition (www.eenclb.org). The Coalition represents over 154 educational, environmental, health, and business organizations across the country comprising more than 19 million people. We believe the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act provides Congress with the opportunity to address one of the unintended consequences of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) – the elimination or scaling-back of environmental education and field investigations in schools throughout the nation. To better prepare students for the 21st century economy and to improve student achievement and health, we are urging Congress to include the provisions of H.R.3036 and S.1981 – the No Child Left Inside Act – in the reauthorization bill. This measure would support the efforts of states and school systems to develop environmental literacy plans and train teachers to deliver quality environmental education programs in the classroom and outdoors.

The No Child Left Inside Act amends the NCLB law in the following ways:

- Provides federal funding to states to train teachers in environmental education and to operate model environmental education programs, which include outdoor learning.
- Provides funding to states that create environmental literacy plans to ensure that high school graduates are environmentally literate.
- Provides funding through an environmental education grant program to build state and national capacity.

To be a member of the Coalition:

- Send to Albert "Abby" Ybarra (aybarra@cbf.org) your organization's name, the name of the executive director/CEO/president who will "sign" for the organization and his/her title. Also let Abby know how many individuals are represented by your organization (e.g., members).
- Alert your organization's membership and leadership about the importance of environmental education in the No Child Left Behind Act and encourage them to contact their representatives and senators to ask them to co-sponsor the No Child Left Inside Act.
- Sign on to Coalition letters to Congress, as appropriate.
- Write letters to the editor or op-eds for your local newspapers.
- Send updates to your members as they become available from the Coalition.

We hope you will join the Coalition and actively encourage Congress to include environmental education in NCLB.

Thank you.

Don Baugh, NCLI Coalition Coordinator