

## **Policy Brief: AB 285 Bill**

### Californian Sustainability and Environmental Education

#### **Statement of the Problem**

Existing educational curriculum places a lack of emphasis on the causes and effects of climate change as well as methods to adapt to and mitigate it. This leads to a lack of information regarding important topics within the scope of climate change, which can especially be seen in the youth.

#### **Summary of the Proposed Solution**

AB 285 aims to fill this gap in education by placing a requirement upon the science area of study to include an emphasis on these topics. This bill will add content on climate change into current science courses in grades one through six as well as grades seven through twelve, commencing no later than the 2024-2025 school year. This new content will include information about the causes of climate change, with a focus on the effects of human activities, knowledge about the effects of climate change such as rising global temperatures and sea levels, mitigation strategies namely reducing greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy sources, and various adaptation strategies.

#### **Reasons to Cast a Vote in Affirmation:**

California is a leader in environmental policy and by educating our youth in crucial topics about climate change, we can ensure that they are prepared to navigate and address the pressing challenges faced by climate change.

## Chicago Style References

1. Lieberman, Tanya, ed. n.d. Review of ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE on EDUCATION al Muratsuchi, Chair AB 285 (Luz Rivas) – as Introduced January 24, 2023. Aedn.assembly.ca.gov. Accessed April 1, 2024.  
<https://aedn.assembly.ca.gov/sites/aedn.assembly.ca.gov/files/AB%20285%20%28Luz%20Rivas%29.pdf>.
2. Rivas, Luz, and Assembly District 43. n.d. “AB 285 (L. Rivas) Climate Science Education.” The Climate Center. Accessed April 1, 2024. <https://theclimatecenter.org/our-work/bill-tracker/ab-285-pupil-instruction-science-requirements-climate-change/>.
3. “Environmental & Climate Justice | Green America.” n.d. Greenamerica.org. Accessed April 1, 2024.  
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