



June 10, 2008

Louisiana House of Representatives
900 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Dear Louisiana State Representative,

On behalf of our members, and especially those in Louisiana, the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) would like to express its opposition to the Louisiana Science Education Act (SB 733) currently being considered by your state. We feel that the wording of this legislation clearly allows non-scientific explanations for topics such as evolution, the origins of life, global warming, and human cloning to be introduced into the science classroom.

The National Association of Biology Teachers affirms that teaching biology must be in a standards-based instructional framework, upholding scientific integrity and the right to teach accurate and current science without penalty of political or religious influences on content. Experimentation, logical analysis, and evidence-based revision, based on detectable and measurable data, are procedures that clearly differentiate and separate science from other ways of knowing. Explanations or ways of knowing that invoke metaphysical, non-naturalistic or supernatural events are outside the scope of science and not part of a valid science curriculum.

We respectfully request that the state of Louisiana not allow its science curriculum to be weakened by encouraging the utilization of supplemental materials produced for the sole purpose of confusing students about the nature of science. Instead, we hope your state decides to support science education that imparts understanding based on the key components of the scientific method. We are confident that your students are best served when scientific integrity is maintained in the science classrooms of Louisiana.

Thank you for your consideration,

Todd Carter
President, National Association of Biology Teachers

Approved by the NABT Board of Directors