

RESOLUTION ON SEPTEMBER 20th CLIMATE ACTION

Whereas, the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has determined humanity has now less than 12 years to act to avert the worst effects of a climate catastrophe; and

Whereas, climate change disproportionately impacts vulnerable and marginalized frontline communities of color and low-income communities, and will leave marginalized communities with fewer economic opportunities and more environmental and health burdens; and

Whereas, without taking concrete action now to address the climate crisis, the well-being and economic welfare of our youth and future generations will be severely and irreversibly jeopardized; and

Whereas, the WEA supports the teaching of climate change, climate issues, and climate impacts for all students at all grade levels and across all disciplines (CR I-2); and

Whereas, the NEA believes that humans must take immediate steps to change activities that contribute to global climate change (I-10); and

Whereas, Swedish teen activist Greta Thunberg has inspired a new generation of climate activists around the world, and youth, environmental and other social justice organizations have called for a "Global Climate Strike" for the week of September 20-27, declaring a climate emergency and demanding immediate action at all levels of government and society to prevent a climate catastrophe;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Washington Education Association encourages its members to utilize resources such as those found at www.nea.org/home/65564.htm to raise student and community awareness of the climate emergency, to support students in developing action plans in response to the climate crisis, and to stand in solidarity with the youth by joining them when possible, and be it further

Resolved that the Washington Education Association declares its support for the Climate Action on September 20th initiated by teen activist Greta Thunberg and led by youth throughout the world.