



**Proposed National Latino Congreso Resolution 7.09
Resolution on Green Schools
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WHEREAS nationally, some 55 million students spend their school days in facilities that are too often unhealthy and a hindrance to their ability to learn; and

WHEREAS in general, "74% of the nation's school buildings" need replacement, incurring a staggering energy cost of \$238.60 per K-12 student nationwide (one third of all facility costs); and

WHEREAS over 27 million students every year participate in the National School Breakfast/School lunch program to receive free or reduced meals from their schools;

1. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that organizations represented by delegates of the 2007 National Latino Congreso call on America's schools promote a healthy, safe learning environment, which includes:

- a) Removing toxins from school sites, including toxic cleaning supplies, to be replaced with non-toxic alternatives; and
- b) Insuring healthy, organic foods are provided to students; and
- c) Creating a viable, holistic learning environment for all because every student deserves to attend a healthy school; and

2. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that all schools sites and buildings in America be designed with sustainability and a healthy learning environment in mind, which includes:

- a) Ensuring all buildings have adequate, efficient lighting, that will lower energy costs and improve the ability of students to learn; and
- b) Including green spaces, such as green roofs and outdoor classrooms, to promote environmental education and healthy environments; and
- c) Ensuring all school buildings meet nationally recognized green building requirements, in order to promote sustainability and lower school maintenance costs; and

3. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that organizations represented by delegates of the 2007 National Latino Congreso call on states to create a grant making program for teachers to promote environmental education instruction in schools in order for them to obtain the resources and instruction necessary to teach more environmental education in their classes; and

4. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that all above goals should be achieved by 2030 to attain the set target of greening America's schools within a generation.