Expressing support for designation of April 28, 2008, as `National Healthy Schools Day'.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
March 14, 2008

Ms. HOOLEY (for herself, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. LEE, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. HOLT, Mr. WU, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. HONDA, Mr. INSLEE, and Mr. LIPINSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for designation of April 28, 2008, as `National Healthy Schools Day'.

Whereas 1 out of every 5 Americans goes to school every day which equals 55,000,000 students and 6,000,000 faculty and staff;

Whereas over half of our Nation's schools have problems linked to indoor air quality;

Whereas children are more vulnerable to environmental hazards as they breathe more air, drink more fluids, and eat more food per pound of body weight due to their developing systems;

Whereas poor indoor environmental quality is associated with a wide range of problems that include poor concentration, respiratory illness, learning difficulties, and cancer;

Whereas scientific studies suggest that poor environmental conditions in schools have an adverse effect on students' health and academic achievement;

Whereas the 1999 Heschong Mahone study found that schools with improved indoor air quality reduced the incidence of asthma, colds, and flu among children while improving student learning and performance by a documented 7 to 18 percent;

Whereas green and healthy schools save on average $100,000 per year on energy costs, enough to hire 2 teachers, buy 200 new computers, or purchase 5,000 new textbooks;
Whereas converting all the Nation's schools to green schools would reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 33,200,000 metric tons;

Whereas the Green Schools Caucus was formed to educate Members of Congress about the many benefits of green and healthy schools and to work to impact the Federal Government role in green and healthy school construction and renovation;

Whereas our schools have the great responsibility of preparing the next generation to lead our Nation; and

Whereas April 28, 2008, would be an appropriate day to designate as `National Healthy Schools Day': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives supports the designation of a `National Healthy Schools Day'.