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HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
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VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 3, 2010

Mr. Mark Young  
Ohio Parks and Recreation Association  
527 Park Boulevard  
Worthington, OH 43085

Dear Mr. Young:

Thank you for expressing your support for S.866, the No Child Left Inside Act.

I agree that environmental issues are of growing concern, and that we must prepare our young people for the challenges of global climate change, depletion of our natural resources, and the endangerment of rare species and habitats. S.866 would expand environmental education by amending the No Child Left Behind Act to include funding to train teachers in environmental education programs, increase environmental literacy, and establish an Office of Environmental Education within the U.S. Department of Education.

During the reauthorization of NCLB, I will be working with my colleagues on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee to find a way to re-balance the education system so that teachers can focus more on learning as a comprehensive concept rather than teaching to a test. Additionally, I will advocate for full funding of NCLB so that we are not forced to prioritize one important aspect of education over another. As we consider issues relating to environmental education, I will certainly keep your views in mind.

Thank you again for contacting me.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator