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[Home](#) > Continuing support for Louisiana repeal effort

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## [Continuing support for Louisiana repeal effort](#) [3]



Adding their support for the effort to repeal Louisiana's antievolution law are the New Orleans City Council and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Senate Bill 70, would, if enacted, repeal Louisiana Revised Statutes 17:285.1, which implemented the so-called Louisiana Science Education Act, passed and enacted in 2008. The American Institute for Biological Sciences, the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, the American Society for Cell Biology, the Louisiana Association of Biology Educators, the Louisiana Science Teachers Association, the National Association of Biology Teachers, and the Society for the Study of Evolution together with the Society of Systematic Biologists and the American Society of Naturalists, as well as forty-three Nobel laureates, have already endorsed SB 70.

At its May 5, 2011, meeting, the New Orleans City Council unanimously passed Resolution R-11-207, supporting SB 70. [According](#) [4] to the summary of the council's meeting, "This act [the LSEA] undermines the teaching of the scientific theory of evolution in the Louisiana public school science curriculum. This theory of evolution is a widely and commonly accepted scientific study and the basis for biology, medicine, biochemistry, agriculture, ecology and other scientific studies." Council member Gisleson Palmer was quoted as saying, "The Louisiana Science Education Act inhibits science focused students of all ages and inadequately prepares them for jobs in the science field. With the New Orleans Medical Corridor poised for tremendous growth, this law also profoundly impacts our ability to fill jobs in the cutting-edge science fields with students educated in our state's public schools."

In a letter to the sponsor of SB 70, Karen Carter Peterson (D-District 5), dated April 19, 2011, the

American Association for the Advancement of Science's chief executive officer Alan I. Leshner [wrote](#) [5] (PDF), "I write in support of your effort to repeal the Louisiana Science Education Act (LSEA). The LSEA features language that could be used for the insertion of religious or unscientific views in science classrooms. The bill disingenuously implies that particular theories, including evolution, are controversial among scientists. In reality, the science of evolution underpins all of modern biology. The principles behind it have been tested and retested for decades, and it is supported by tens of thousands of scientific studies. Evolution informs scientific research in a broad range of fields such as agriculture and medicine, work that has an important impact on our everyday lives."

[Anti-Evolution](#) [6]

[2011](#) [7]

[Louisiana](#) [8]

[+ read](#) [3]

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[2] <https://ncse.com/users/glenn>

[3] <https://ncse.com/news/2011/05/continuing-support-louisiana-repeal-effort-006665>

[4] <http://www.nolacitycouncil.com/news/meetingsummary.asp?id={D5BF04A0-905F-4FAA-B525-9142A973504F}#story7>

[5] [http://lasciencecoalition.org/docs/AAAS\\_LSEA\\_Repeal\\_4.19.11.pdf](http://lasciencecoalition.org/docs/AAAS_LSEA_Repeal_4.19.11.pdf)

[6] <https://ncse.com/news/anti-evolution>

[7] <https://ncse.com/news/2011>

[8] <https://ncse.com/news/louisiana>