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## [A new voice against Oklahoma's antiscience bill](#) [3]



A young activist in Oklahoma is making headlines for his opposition to the state's [Senate Bill 393](#) [4], which would empower science denial in the classroom.

Ken Nguyen, a high school junior, was aghast to discover the so-called Oklahoma Science Education Act while serving for a page for his state representative. He [told](#) [5] KFOR-TV (March 15, 2016), "In my opinion, it's a blank check for teachers to teach whatever they believe is relevant," which might include creationism or climate change denial.

"I felt like I just couldn't sit back and watch [it] happen," Nguyen added. He recruited a number of his fellow students to join him in protesting SB 393 when it is considered on the floor of the senate. (As NCSE previously [reported](#) [6], the bill passed the Senate Education Committee on a 13-1 vote on February 27, 2017.)

Also opposed to SB 393 are the [American Institute of Biological Sciences](#) [7], the [National Council Against Censorship](#) [8], the [National Association of Biology Teachers](#) [9] (PDF), and the National Science Teachers Association, which in a March 7, 2017, alert (PDF) [urged](#) [10] its Oklahoma members to recommend their state senators vote against the bill.

SB 393 is not yet scheduled to be heard on the floor of the Senate; March 23, 2017, is the last day on which it could pass the Senate.

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