

FairTest

Seven Ways to Work for NCLB Reform

- 1) **Hold a public forum in your community to discuss NCLB.**
- 2) **Persuade your organizations to pass resolutions calling for reform of NCLB.** (Such resolutions are often issued by unions, religious groups, professional associations, and parents groups.) Ask them to:
 - a) **Endorse the *Joint Organizational Statement on NCLB*** signed by 143 national education, civil rights, religious, disability, parent, labor and civic organizations.
 - See the *Joint Organizational Statement* at <http://www.fairtest.org/joint-organizational-statement-no-child-left-behin>
 - b) **Publicize your results** in the local media and **send copies of resolutions and petitions** to your local and federal elected officials.
- 3) **Write letters-to-the-editor and op-ed pieces for your local and regional newspapers.**
 - See *How to Work With Your Local Media* at http://www.fairtest.org/get_involved/media
- 4) **Get your local school board to pass a resolution or hold a community forum about NCLB.**
- 5) **Contact your U.S. senators and representatives about changing NCLB:**
 - a) **send them letters** with copies of news clips, resolutions, and/or signed petitions
 - b) **call them** with your concerns
 - c) **set up small group meetings with them in your district;** bring other parents, teachers, and/or local elected officials to the meeting.
 - To contact your members of Congress, go to <http://www.visi.com/juan/congress/>
- 6) **Contact your state legislators to enlist them in the effort to reform NCLB.**
 - a) **send them letters, call, and/or set up meetings**
 - b) **seek their commitment to pass resolutions** in the State Legislature about NCLB reform and **to work with your state's Congressional delegation** to change the federal law.
- 7) **Parents: Join the NCLB-mandated Parents Advisory Board at your child's school.**
 - a) **make sure it is an independent voice for parents**
 - b) **work to minimize the damage caused by NCLB at the school.**

See www.fairtest.org/K-12 for fact sheets, reports, and other materials on NCLB. For information on organizing and activism, on working with the media, and locating state-level activists, go to www.fairtest.org/get_involved.