

PE1530/II

Iain Kennedy Email of 29 December 2014

To whom it may concern,

I have become aware of petition PE01530, and believe it is crucially important that I make my support for it known.

I was raised and educated in Scotland, with a degree in History and Philosophy from Glasgow University. I have since moved to the United States where I gained a Fellowship and a Masters Degree at Columbia University (NY) and an MBA at University of Michigan (MI). I am tremendously proud of my Scottish education, which prepared me not only to secure entry to these world-renowned establishments of higher learning, but then to succeed in a career in technology first at Amazon and now at Microsoft.

Accepting the teaching of 'evolution denial' and 'new earth theories' in Scottish schools is a deeply troubling step backwards. These ideas are not only 'bad' science but represent a fundamental misunderstanding of what science is. It is absolutely unacceptable, and highly damaging, to present them to Scottish students.

As a nation we have a reputation as scientists and inventors, forward thinkers and innovators. The impact of accepting such teachings in our schools will be not only damaging to individuals but to our global reputation and our economic opportunities - particularly when our neighbors and competitors in Europe have already taken an appropriate stance against them.

Sincerely,

Iain Kennedy
BA (Hons), MA, MBA.