



National School Boards Association
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July 12, 2022

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
326 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

The National School Boards Association (NSBA) urges you to preserve the Postsecondary STEM Pathways and the Improving Access to Elementary and Secondary Computer Science Education programs as the Senate and House work to resolve differences between the America Creating Opportunities for Manufacturing, Pre-Eminence in Technology, and Economic Strength Act of 2022 (H.R. 4521) and the United States Innovation and Competition Act of 2021 (S. 1260).

The nation's school boards support efforts to ensure that every student is equipped with the rich academic content knowledge and diverse skills required to succeed after graduation. This commitment includes a growing emphasis on expanding STEM and Computer Science learning opportunities designed to help students prepare for successful careers in the cutting-edge industries and fields that the rest of this important legislation seeks to support.



The leading advocate for public education

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We are pleased that both USICA and the America COMPETES Act recognize that investing in STEM and Computer Science education are essential to boosting the country's ability to maintain its global economic leadership. We respectfully encourage you to resolve the minor differences between the Senate and House versions regarding these needed education initiatives and maintain the new grant programs in the measure approved by the conference committee for final consideration by the full Congress and White House.

Increasing funding for postsecondary STEM Pathways and Computer Science grants will make a meaningful difference for students, schools, communities, and the nation's economy. We appreciate your leadership to support our nation's students, families, and schools and to ensure access to greater opportunities and advancement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Sincerely,



John Heim
Executive Director and CEO
National School Boards Association