



February 10, 2012

The Honorable John Kline  
Chairman, Committee on Education and the Workforce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2181 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington DC 20515-6100

Dear Chairman Kline:

As members of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education Coalition, we are writing in response to the two bills you recently introduced that would reauthorize major portions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), otherwise known as the No Child Left Behind Act. We appreciate this opportunity to offer our feedback in response to the *Student Success Act* and the *Encouraging Innovation and Effective Teachers Act*.

An extensive array of economic data has continued to point to the close connections between a  
and the future  
concluded that:

*The STEM workforce will remain central to our economic vitality well into the future, contributing to innovation, technological growth, and economic development. Capable STEM students, from K-12 all the way through the*

While we appreciate your interest in providing more flexibility to states, if a future version of the ESEA will continue to establish national priorities as the *Student Success Act* clearly does for reading and math it is critical that science testing be retained.

***A Strong Federal Focus on STEM Education is Essential to a Strong U.S. Workforce, Economy***

The *Encouraging Innovation and Effective Teachers Act* would eliminate the U.S. Department of Education's -focused program the Math and Science

myriad of education programs, **we disagree with the absence of any strong STEM education focus for Title II grants or any significant linkage between Title II activities and workforce needs.**

Sincerely,

*American Chemical Society  
American Society for Biochemistry and  
Molecular Biology  
American Society of Agronomy  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
American Society for Engineering Education  
ASME  
Association for Computing Machinery  
Soil Science Society of America*

*ASTRA, Alliance for Science and Technology  
Research in America  
Campaign for Environmental Literacy  
Crop Science Society of America  
Education Development Center, Inc.  
Hands on Science Partnership  
IEEE-USA  
National Science Teachers Association*