



**International Technology and Engineering
Educators Association**

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

ITEEA Continues Legislative Action

Reston, Virginia, June 7, 2011. ITEEA has been working closely with STEM Education colleagues to visit Congressional Members in order to provide feedback pertaining to the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which is currently in the legislative process. ITEEA has also been a part of letter writing campaigns to the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee as they continue their work in this area.

Content related to this legislation now includes:

- Robust and educated programs to provide effective STEM-related professional development and preparation for educators and other educational innovation activities under Title II.B;
- Strengthening STEM-focused formula-funded programs that provide resources to each state for high-need students and areas; complemented with competitive grant programs in STEM education to promote ambitious reform efforts;
- Federal efforts to empower each state to develop its own comprehensive STEM education action plan—including its own definition of STEM needs—that will include input from a wide range of business, professional, and education stakeholders;
- The integration of STEM-focused curricula, projects, and programs as high-priority allowable uses of funds under other ESEA programs that support classroom and field teaching and learning as well as out of school experiences such as afterschool and summer programs;
- A strong emphasis in K-12 learning environments on hands-on, experiential, inquiry-based and learner-centered student experiences and activities, including engineering design processes and digital access for STEM student and educators to help foster 21st Century skills;
- Federal efforts to encourage and foster ongoing collaborative state efforts to adopt “common core” or other high-quality standards in math and science;
- Targeted efforts to promote STEM subject master teachers and teacher specialists;
- Federal efforts to expand the diversity of the STEM pipeline and workforce, including targeted initiatives to promote the inclusion of underrepresented minorities and women in STEM fields.



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ITEEA members who are interested in tracking this and other legislation should become a part of one of ITEEA's TIDE Watcher networking group. More information is available at <http://www.iteea.org/Networking/learningcommunities.htm>.

For more information about ITEEA, go to www.iteea.org

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