



## National Lieutenant Governors Association

### 1                    **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF STEM EDUCATION**

2    **WHEREAS**, four billion people on the planet use a mobile phone, 90% of all of the world’s data has  
3    been generated in the past two years, and driverless cars are a reality, according to the Smithsonian;  
4    and

5    **WHEREAS**, the future is here, and it requires a citizenry fluent in science, technology, engineering,  
6    and math (STEM); and

7    **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Commerce “STEM Jobs: 2017 Update” says employment in STEM  
8    occupations grew much faster than in non-STEM occupations over the last decade (24.4% versus  
9    4%, respectively); and

10   **WHEREAS**, the same update notes from 2014 to 2024 STEM occupations are projected to grow by  
11   8.9% compared to 6.4% growth for non-STEM occupations and STEM workers command higher  
12   wages - earning 29% more than their non-STEM counterparts in 2015; and

13   **WHEREAS**, the States and Territories are committed to educating young Americans to lead the  
14   world in science, technology, math and engineering and to strengthen the nation’s workforce; and

15   **WHEREAS**, less than half of U.S. high schools currently offer computer programming, according to  
16   Code.org; and

17   **WHEREAS**, teaching creatively develops critical thinking skills, engages students and fosters  
18   innovation; traits that are essential to successfully enter a STEM related field; and

19   **WHEREAS**, less than a quarter of students who took the Advanced Placement Computer Science A  
20   exam in 2016 were women, according to the College Board; and

21   **WHEREAS**, women make up half of the total U.S. college-educated workforce, but only 29% of the  
22   science and engineering workforce; and

23   **WHEREAS**, we must encourage more girls and women to pursue STEM careers and encourage more  
24   companies to promote a culture of gender equity; and

25   **WHEREAS**, minorities are underrepresented in STEM fields—just 2.2% of Latinos, 2.7% of African  
26   Americans, and 3.3% of Native Americans and Alaska Natives have earned a university degree in  
27   STEM fields, according to the Smithsonian; and



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28 **WHEREAS**, more can be done to improve participation in STEM and Computer Science education  
29 among women, minorities, and students in rural communities, and among all students; and

30 **WHEREAS**, U.S. global competitiveness, research and development in all fields, health, and economic  
31 opportunity is strengthened and enhanced by increasing the exposure of all children to science,  
32 technology, engineering, and math and by encouraging interest in the same.

33 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors  
34 Association (NLGA) recommends a sense of urgency be adopted to accomplish exposure to and  
35 education in STEM subjects for all children. Our children are our future; and

36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the NLGA supports the goal of the U.S. Department of Education having  
37 as a priority the establishment of high-quality STEM education and that the Department have a goal  
38 of devoting grant funds towards this priority, as set forth in the September 25, 2017, Presidential  
39 Memorandum; and

40 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the NLGA supports making exposure to and education in the technical  
41 field available to students and adults to U.S. address the needs in the nation's technology-  
42 knowledgeable workforce.

ADOPTED, this day, the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, 2018.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Adam Gregg (R – Iowa), Lt. Governor Tim Griffin (R – Arkansas), Lt. Governor  
Rebecca Kleefisch (R – Wisconsin), Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman (D – Connecticut); Lt. Governor David  
Zuckerman (P-D – Vermont)