



## National Lieutenant Governors Association

### NLGA Consensus Resolution In Support of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Education As A Pillar of Work at the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA)

**WHEREAS**, the U.S workforce demands workers who are prepared for the jobs of now and jobs of the future. STEM workers made up almost one-quarter of America's labor force in 2021,<sup>1</sup> and jobs in STEM are projected to grow at a faster rate than other jobs between now and 2033,<sup>2</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, the median salaries of jobs in STEM are more than twice as high as non-STEM jobs,<sup>3</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, STEM-related jobs do not just include those that require a bachelor's degree or higher, but include jobs in diverse fields such as healthcare, computing, manufacturing, construction, aviation and aerospace, food and agriculture, and more,<sup>4</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, among people ages 18 to 74 years, women make up 51% of the population but only 35% of the people employed in STEM occupations, while Hispanic workers represented 15% of the total STEM workforce in 2021, Asian and Black workers were 10% and 9%, respectively, and American Indians and Alaska Natives together made up less than 1% of the U.S. population and STEM workforce in 2021,<sup>5</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, providing STEM opportunities as early as possible for students can encourage creativity and critical thinking, team-building

NLGA recognizes the importance of STEM education for pre-K – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students beginning as early as possible, where states and territories can have direct impact on educational opportunities, especially for underserved and under-resourced students, to encourage curriculum, resources, and interest in STEM education in schools, and

**WHEREAS**, NLGA recognizes the importance of STEM education for pre-K – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students beginning as early as possible, which can encourage creativity, critical thinking, team-building, project management, and problem-solving skills in youth that will serve them for a lifetime, and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nsb20245/assets/nsb20245.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://blog.dol.gov/2024/09/06/new-bls-employment-projections-3-charts#:~:text=Growth%20of%20STEM%20occupations,for%20all%20occupations%20\(4.0%25\).](https://blog.dol.gov/2024/09/06/new-bls-employment-projections-3-charts#:~:text=Growth%20of%20STEM%20occupations,for%20all%20occupations%20(4.0%25).)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/stem-employment.htm>

<sup>4</sup> <https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nsb20245/assets/nsb20245.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nsf23315/assets/nsf23315-report.pdf>

28 **WHEREAS**, as the convener and nonpartisan association for the seconds-in-command in state  
29 and territorial government, NLGA has a unique role in bringing forth opportunities for  
30 collaboration among the 50 states and five U.S. territories on STEM education through  
31 innovative programming and projects, and

32 **WHEREAS**, the NLGA Center for State Strategies in STEM was created in 2022 to include  
33 projects and programming to further STEM education in the states and territories, and as a  
34 major pillar of work for the Association.<sup>6</sup>

35 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association  
36 (NLGA) acknowledges the value and importance of STEM education, and the impact that  
37 states and territories can have to improve education opportunities for all students, and  
38 strengthen the workforce and economy.

39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NLGA will continue the work of the Center for State  
40 Strategies in STEM in commitment to developing and implementing opportunities for  
41 collaboration among the states and territories on STEM education, including, but not limited  
42 to, the *NLGA Lt. Governors' STEM Scholarship Program*, the *NLGA STEM Service Projects* at NLGA  
43 meetings, and the NLGA STEM Spark Award, understanding that such projects will have little  
44 to no negative fiscal impact to NLGA.

45 **ADOPTED**, this day, the 10<sup>th</sup> of April, 2025.

46 **Co-Sponsors:** Colorado Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera (D), Michigan Lt. Governor Garlin  
47 Gilchrist (D), Vermont Lt. Governor John Rodgers (R)

48 ***Proposed for the docket by:*** Michigan Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist (D)

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<sup>6</sup> <https://nlga.us/wp-content/uploads/Resolution-In-Support-of-STEM-1.pdf>