



National Lieutenant Governors Association

Resolution In Support of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Education As A Pillar of Work at the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) and Establishing the NLGA Center for State Strategies in STEM

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the U.S workforce demands workers who are prepared for the jobs of now and jobs of the
2 future, and STEM workers make up almost one-quarter of America’s labor force, and jobs in STEM are
3 projected to grow at a faster rate than other jobs between now and 2030¹; and
- 4 **WHEREAS**, the median salaries of jobs in STEM are more than twice as large as non-STEM jobs²; and
- 5 **WHEREAS**, STEM-related jobs do not just include those that require a bachelor’s degree or higher, but
6 include jobs in diverse fields such as healthcare, computing, manufacturing, construction, aviation and
7 aerospace, food and agriculture, and more³; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the U.S. and global economy’s growth in
9 digitization and technology, and highlighted the need for education and training opportunities that
10 encourage the development of a diversified workforce; and
- 11 **WHEREAS**, women and minorities are underrepresented in the STEM segment of the labor force, with
12 the National Science Board noting that the number of women and Black workers in the STEM-related
13 field must double to reflect the true demographics of the country, while Latinos in the field must triple⁴;
14 and
- 15 **WHEREAS**, an analysis by the Pew Research Center found that a smaller share of Black and Hispanic
16 students are earning degrees in STEM than in other programs⁵; and
- 17 **WHEREAS**, the pathway to STEM jobs begins in elementary and secondary education, and states and
18 territories can have direct impact on educational opportunities, especially for underserved and under-
19 resourced students, to encourage curriculum, resources, and interest in STEM education in schools; and
- 20 **WHEREAS**, NLGA recognizes the importance of STEM education for K-12 students beginning as early
21 as possible, which can encourage creativity, critical thinking, team-building, project management, and
22 problem-solving skills in youth that will serve them for a lifetime; and
- 23 **WHEREAS**, NLGA recognizes the importance of STEM education for K-12 students beginning as early
24 as possible, which can encourage creativity, critical thinking, team-building, project management, and
25 problem-solving skills in youth that will serve them for a lifetime; and

¹ [Employment in STEM occupations : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics \(bls.gov\)](https://www.bls.gov)

² [Employment in STEM occupations : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics \(bls.gov\)](https://www.bls.gov)

³ [The STEM Labor Force of Today: Scientists, Engineers, and Skilled Technical Workers | NSF - National Science Foundation](https://www.nsf.gov)

⁴ [National Science Board: Vision 2030 \(nsf.gov\)](https://www.nsf.gov)

⁵ [STEM Jobs See Uneven Progress in Increasing Gender, Racial and Ethnic Diversity | Pew Research Center](https://www.pewresearch.org)



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26 **WHEREAS**, NLGA recognizes STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) as an
27 extension of the original STEM acronym which notes the value of arts to and in education to produce
29 creativity, problem-solving, and collaboration, and to promote creativity and curiosity at the core.

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

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

36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NLGA creates the Center for State Strategies for STEM, to
37 include projects and programming to further STEM education in the states and territories, as a major
38 pillar of work for the Association.

39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NLGA is committed to developing and implementing
40 opportunities for collaboration among the 50 states and five U.S. territories on STEM education,
41 including, but not limited to, the *NLGA Lt. Governors' STEM Scholarship Program* and the *NLGA*
42 *STEM Service Project*, understanding that such projects will have no negative fiscal impact to NLGA.

ADOPTED, this day, the _____ of March, 2022.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Mike Foley (R – Nebraska), Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist (D – Michigan), Lt.
Governor Adam Gregg (R – Iowa), Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver (D – New Jersey)