



Rural STEM Education Research

*Title V: Broadening Participation in Science
Division B: Research & Innovation
H.R. 4521, the America COMPETES Act*

Introduced by Rep. Frank Lucas (R-OK)

For students who grow up in rural areas of this country, even in states that boast some of the world's best research universities, a STEM career may seem unattainable. This legislation addresses inequities faced by rural students that make it harder to access quality STEM education.

- This bipartisan bill passed the House in May 2021
- The Rural STEM Education Act provides for research and development to increase access to STEM education opportunities in rural schools and to provide teachers with the resources they need to teach more effectively.
- The bill also directs the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to develop a prize competition to advance research and development of creative technologies for expanded broadband access.
- This bill further provides for assessments of Federal investments in rural STEM education to be conducted by the National Academies and the Government Accountability Office.