



June 17, 2019

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Chairwoman
House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
House Office Building 2321 Rayburn
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Ranking Member
House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Johnson and Ranking Member Lucas:

The American Physiological Society (APS) is pleased to endorse H.R. 2528, the STEM Opportunities Act of 2019. APS strongly supports the objectives of the legislation, recognizing the need for Congress also to appropriate the authorized funds to the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Broadening participation in the STEM workforce is an important goal that is shared by APS as part of the society's core values. The multi-pronged approach outlined in H.R. 2528 would improve our understanding of current barriers to participation, while also addressing those obstacles through increased attention and resources. The proposed policies, data collection, workshops and grant programs address critical needs and the NSF is well-positioned to carry out these functions. However, creating these new programs will require significant resources. We urge members of Congress to ensure that NSF's future appropriations provide sufficient funding for the agency to carry out the provisions of H.R. 2528 without compromising other mission-critical areas including basic research and STEM education.

The APS is a nonprofit devoted to fostering education, scientific research and dissemination of information in the physiological sciences. The Society was founded in 1887 with 28 members and now has over 9,000 members, most of whom hold doctoral degrees in physiology, medicine and/or other health professions. The APS is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive scientific workforce encompassing the best and brightest minds from around the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meredith Hay".

Meredith Hay
President