

February 17, 2021

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Chairwoman
House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
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 the MSI STEM Achievement Act. APS strongly supports the objectives of the legislation, while also recognizing the need for Congress to appropriate funds to the National Science Foundation (NSF) to carry out the programs the bill authorizes.

Broadening participation in the STEM workforce is an important goal that APS as a scientific society considers to be one of our core values. Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) play a critical role in bringing members of underrepresented groups into STEM training and careers. By supporting and strengthening programs at MSIs and learning from their successes through partnerships with non-MSIs, federal resources can further the goals of diversity and inclusion in the scientific workforce.

Because these programs will require significant resources, we urge Congress to ensure that NSF's future appropriations provide sufficient funding for the agency to carry out the provisions of the MSI STEM Achievement Act without compromising other mission-critical areas including basic research and STEM education.

Sincerely,



Linda C. Samuelson, PhD
President



Scott Steen, CAE, FAESE
Executive Director

Physiology is a broad area of scientific inquiry that focuses on how molecules, cells, tissues and organs function in health and disease. The American Physiological Society connects a global, multidisciplinary community of more than 10,000 biomedical scientists and educators as part of its mission to advance scientific discovery, understand life and improve health. The Society drives collaboration and spotlights scientific discoveries through its 16 scholarly journals and programming that support researchers and educators in their work.