



## ISTE Applauds Bipartisan Effort to Prepare Students to be Leaders in the Field of Artificial Intelligence

**WASHINGTON — March 12, 2020** — The [International Society for Technology in Education \(ISTE\)](http://iste.org), an education nonprofit that works with the education community to accelerate the use of technology to solve tough problems and inspire innovation, released the following statement in support of H.R. 6216, The National Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act of 2020, a bipartisan bill introduced today in the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Science, Space and Technology.

“Artificial intelligence (AI) is already part of our daily lives – 77 percent of people use it to aid in both simple and complex tasks. In order to prepare students for the jobs of today — and tomorrow — we must ensure that educators have the tools and training necessary to help students understand and ethically design the AI we all rely upon. By building educators’ capacity to bring AI into their classroom, students will learn not just about the technology, but how to work with and along-side it,” said Joseph South, chief learning officer at ISTE. “We are grateful for the committee’s hard work, led by Chair Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) and Ranking Member Frank Lucas (R-OK), to craft a bipartisan bill that calls for the establishment of a comprehensive, multi-agency approach to AI research and development.”

H.R. 6216 provides funding for a new National Science Foundation (NSF) competitive grant program that will support initiatives to improve AI education by promoting "the widespread understanding of artificial intelligence principles and methods to create an educated workforce." The NSF grants would be used for AI-related education activities at all levels of education, including the creation of educational tools, technology ethics curricula, and educator professional development and training.

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### About ISTE

The [International Society for Technology in Education \(ISTE\)](http://iste.org) is a nonprofit organization that works with the global education community to accelerate the use of technology to solve tough problems and inspire innovation. Our worldwide network believes in the potential technology holds to transform teaching and learning.

ISTE sets a bold vision for education transformation through the ISTE Standards, a framework for students, educators, administrators, coaches and computer science educators to rethink education and create innovative learning environments. ISTE hosts the annual ISTE Conference & Expo, one of the world’s most influential edtech events. The organization’s professional learning offerings include online courses, professional networks, year-round academies, peer-reviewed journals and other publications. ISTE is also the leading publisher of books focused on technology in education. For more information or to become an ISTE member, [visit iste.org](http://iste.org).