

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1020

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 26, 2015

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
and Transportation

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## AN ACT

To define STEM education to include computer science, and  
to support existing STEM education programs at the  
National Science Foundation.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “STEM Education Act  
3 of 2015”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF STEM EDUCATION.**

5 For purposes of carrying out STEM education activi-  
6 ties at the National Science Foundation, the Department  
7 of Energy, the National Aeronautics and Space Adminis-  
8 tration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-  
9 tration, the National Institute of Standards and Tech-  
10 nology, and the Environmental Protection Agency, the  
11 term “STEM education” means education in the subjects  
12 of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, in-  
13 cluding computer science.

14 **SEC. 3. INFORMAL STEM EDUCATION.**

15 (a) GRANTS.—The Director of the National Science  
16 Foundation, through the Directorate for Education and  
17 Human Resources, shall continue to award competitive,  
18 merit-reviewed grants to support—

19 (1) research and development of innovative out-  
20 of-school STEM learning and emerging STEM  
21 learning environments in order to improve STEM  
22 learning outcomes and engagement in STEM; and

23 (2) research that advances the field of informal  
24 STEM education.

25 (b) USES OF FUNDS.—Activities supported by grants  
26 under this section may encompass a single STEM dis-

1 cipline, multiple STEM disciplines, or integrative STEM  
2 initiatives and shall include—

3 (1) research and development that improves our  
4 understanding of learning and engagement in infor-  
5 mal environments, including the role of informal en-  
6 vironments in broadening participation in STEM;  
7 and

8 (2) design and testing of innovative STEM  
9 learning models, programs, and other resources for  
10 informal learning environments to improve STEM  
11 learning outcomes and increase engagement for K-  
12 12 students, K-12 teachers, and the general public,  
13 including design and testing of the scalability of  
14 models, programs, and other resources.

15 **SEC. 4. NOYCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AMENDMENTS.**

16 (a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 10A of the National  
17 Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C.  
18 1862n-1a) is amended—

19 (1) in subsection (a)(2)(B), by inserting “or  
20 bachelor’s” after “master’s”;

21 (2) in subsection (c)—

22 (A) by striking “and” at the end of para-  
23 graph (2)(B);

24 (B) in paragraph (3)—

1 (i) by inserting “for teachers with  
2 master’s degrees in their field” after  
3 “Teaching Fellowships”; and

4 (ii) by striking the period at the end  
5 of subparagraph (B) and inserting “;  
6 and”; and

7 (C) by adding at the end the following new  
8 paragraph:

9 “(4) in the case of National Science Foundation  
10 Master Teaching Fellowships for teachers with bach-  
11 elor’s degrees in their field and working toward a  
12 master’s degree—

13 “(A) offering academic courses leading to  
14 a master’s degree and leadership training to  
15 prepare individuals to become master teachers  
16 in elementary and secondary schools; and

17 “(B) offering programs both during and  
18 after matriculation in the program for which  
19 the fellowship is received to enable fellows to  
20 become highly effective mathematics and  
21 science teachers, including mentoring, training,  
22 induction, and professional development activi-  
23 ties, to fulfill the service requirements of this  
24 section, including the requirements of sub-

1 section (e), and to exchange ideas with others  
2 in their fields.”;

3 (3) in subsection (e), by striking “subsection  
4 (g)” and inserting “subsection (h)”;

5 (4) by redesignating subsections (g) through (i)  
6 as subsections (h) through (j), respectively; and

7 (5) by inserting after subsection (f) the fol-  
8 lowing new subsection:

9 “(g) SUPPORT FOR MASTER TEACHING FELLOWS  
10 WHILE ENROLLED IN A MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAM.—  
11 A National Science Foundation Master Teacher Fellow  
12 may receive a maximum of 1 year of fellowship support  
13 while enrolled in a master’s degree program as described  
14 in subsection (c)(4)(A), except that if such fellow is en-  
15 rolled in a part-time program, such amount shall be pro-  
16 rated according to the length of the program.”.

17 (b) DEFINITION.—Section 10(i)(5) of the National  
18 Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C.  
19 1862n–1(i)(5)) is amended by inserting “computer  
20 science,” after “means a science,”.

Passed the House of Representatives February 25,  
2015.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,

*Clerk.*