

Calendar No. 339

119TH CONGRESS }
2d Session

SENATE

{ REPORT
119-110

NATIONAL STEM WEEK ACT

R E P O R T

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

ON

S. 1070



FEBRUARY 12, 2026.—Ordered to be printed

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

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Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 1070]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, to which was referred the bill (S. 1070) to establish a National STEM Week to promote American innovation and enhance STEM education pathways for all students, including those in rural, urban, and underserved communities, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of S. 1070 is to establish a National STEM Week to promote education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) across the United States.

BACKGROUND AND NEEDS

An increasing number of U.S. jobs require STEM skills¹ with STEM workers now comprising 24 percent of the workforce.² STEM occupations are expected to grow by 8 percent by 2034³ requiring continued cultivation of a STEM-literate workforce to meet future demands. To help address this challenge, Congress passed the

¹“Science and Engineering Indicators 2024: The State of U.S. Science and Engineering,” National Science Board, NSB–2024–3, 10–11, 2024, <https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nsb20243>.

²“Science and Engineering Indicators 2024: The STEM Labor Force: Scientists, Engineers, and Skilled Technical Workers,” National Science Board, NSB–2024–5, 10–11, 2024, <https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nsb20245>.

³Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employment in STEM Occupations*, August 28, 2025, <https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/stem-employment.htm>.

America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010, which established the National Science and Technology Council Committee on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education (CoSTEM).⁴ Congress tasked the committee with the responsibility to develop a 5-year STEM education strategic plan, coordinate and review Federal STEM education activities and programs, and maintain an inventory of federally sponsored STEM initiatives.⁵

S. 1070 would task CoSTEM with the responsibility to establish a National STEM Week for purposes of elevating public awareness and strengthening the STEM workforce pipeline through the coordination of resources and efforts in cultivating a STEM-literate workforce.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS

S. 1070 would do the following:

- Require CoSTEM to designate 1 week each calendar year as National STEM Week. During this week, CoSTEM would encourage schools to promote STEM education and call on industry to support STEM education through mentorship programs, site visits, and guest lectures.
- Require CoSTEM to report to Congress annually on the activities conducted during National STEM Week.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

S. 1070 was introduced on March 14, 2025, by Senator Ernst (for herself and Senator Klobuchar) and was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate. On October 21, 2025, the Committee met in open Executive Session, and by voice vote, ordered S. 1070 reported favorably with an amendment (in the nature of a substitute).

H.R. 2104, a bill related to S. 1070, was introduced on March 14, 2025, by Representative Carey (for himself and Representative Beatty) and was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce of the House of Representatives. Representative Harder was later added as a cosponsor.

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S. 5391, National STEM Week Act, was introduced on November 21, 2024, by Senator Ernst (for herself and Senator Klobuchar) and was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate. Senator Peters was later added as a cosponsor.

H.R. 9556, a House companion bill, was introduced on September 12, 2024, by Representative Carey (for himself and Representative Beatty) and was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce of the House of Representatives. Representatives Bacon, Ivey, Lawler, Grijalva, Carson, and Foster were later added as cosponsors.

⁴ 42 U.S.C. 6621.

⁵ Ibid.

ESTIMATED COSTS

In accordance with paragraph 11(a) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee provides the following cost estimate, prepared by the Congressional Budget Office:

S. 1070, National STEM Week Act			
As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on October 21, 2025			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2026	2026-2030	2026-2035
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	not estimated
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2036?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No
	No	Mandate Effects	
		Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2036?	No	Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

S. 1070 would require the National Science and Technology Council to establish a National STEM Week to highlight the importance of education and careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and to promote partnerships between industry leaders and educators. This authority would expire five years after enactment.

Based on the cost of similar activities, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1070 would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2026–2030 period. Any related spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Katherine Chou. The estimate was reviewed by Christina Hawley Anthony, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director, Congressional Budget Office.

REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

In accordance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee provides the following evaluation of the regulatory impact of the legislation, as reported:

NUMBER OF PERSONS COVERED

S. 1070 would cover educational institutions, industry members, and Federal agencies that host, sponsor, or promote STEM education activities.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

There is no easily quantifiable economic impact for S. 1070. The Act would establish a National STEM Week to promote STEM education across the Nation to meet the growing workforce needs of emerging technology industries. These efforts would aim to enhance education, training, and workforce development programs to maintain U.S. global competitiveness in STEM industries.

PRIVACY

S. 1070 would not impact the personal privacy of individuals.

PAPERWORK

S. 1070 would require the Committee on STEM of the National Science and Technology Council to submit an annual report to Congress for 5 years.

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING

In compliance with paragraph 4(b) of rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee provides that no provisions contained in the bill, as reported, meet the definition of congressionally directed spending items under the rule.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Short title.

This section would provide that the bill may be cited as the “National STEM Week Act”.

Section 2. Findings.

This section would highlight the crucial role of STEM to the economic competitiveness and innovative capacity of the United States. It would also outline the need to enhance access to STEM education opportunities across the country, including through formal and informal learning environments.

Section 3. Designation of National STEM Week.

This section would direct the National Science and Technology Council Committee on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education (CoSTEM), in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to designate a week each calendar year as “National STEM Week”.

This section would add a requirement to report on the activities conducted during National STEM Week, including a summary of nationwide participation and activities, an analysis of the impact of the activities on improving STEM education outcomes, and recommendations for improving future STEM Weeks that incorporate feedback from participants and stakeholders.

This section would define the terms “educational institution”, “elementary school”, “secondary school”, “industry leader”, “industry partner”, “institution of higher education”, “STEM”, and “State”.

This section would also establish the purposes of National STEM Week to:

- Highlight the importance of STEM education.

- Showcase different STEM career pathways.
- Encourage family engagement with STEM activities at home.
- Provide real-world applications and mentorship opportunities in STEM fields.
- Support States and local communities in developing and promoting their own STEM Week activities.

This section would require CoSTEM to carry out programs and activities to meet the purposes of National STEM Week, including encouraging educational institutions and families of students attending such educational institutions to participate in STEM activities.

Lastly, this section would sunset the activities and programs of the National STEM Week 5 years after the date of enactment.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new material is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

AMERICA COMPETES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

* * * * *

TITLE I—OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

[42 U.S.C. 6621]

SEC. 101. COORDINATION OF FEDERAL STEM EDUCATION.

(a) * * *

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The committee established under subsection (a) shall—

- (1) * * *
- (2) * * *
- (3) * * *
- (4) * * *
- (5) * * *
- (6) * * *
- (7) * * *
- (8) * * *

(9) request and review feedback from States on how the States are utilizing Federal STEM education programs and activities; **[and]**

(10) recommend the reform, termination, or consolidation of Federal STEM education activities and programs, taking into consideration the recommendations of the STEM Education Advisory Panel**[.]; and**

(11) *in consultation with relevant stakeholders, designate a week each calendar year, until the expiration date provided in subsection (e), as “National STEM Week”.*

(c) * * *

(d) REPORTS.—

(1) * * *

(2) * * *

(3) * * *

(4) * * *

(5) * * *

(6) * * *

(7) * * *

(8) * * *

(9) an account of Federal research agency investments in HBCUs, TCUs, and MSIs, including, to the degree practicable, data on the level of participation of HBCUs, TCUs, and MSIs as prime recipients, contractors, subrecipients, or subcontractors of an award, or reasonable estimates thereof; **[and]**

(10) a description of material changes to the implementation of section 10522 of the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act~~1.~~; *and*

(11) *a description of the activities conducted under National STEM Week, including—*

(A) a summary of nationwide participation and activities;

(B) an analysis of the impact of these activities on improving STEM education and closing educational gaps; and

(C) recommendations for improving future STEM Weeks based on feedback from participants and stakeholders.

(e) NATIONAL STEM WEEK.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—*In this subsection:*

(A) EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—*The term “educational institution” means any elementary school, secondary school, and institution of higher education.*

(B) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; SECONDARY SCHOOL.—*The terms “elementary school” and “secondary school” have the meanings given the terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).*

(C) INDUSTRY LEADER.—*The term “industry leader” means an individual in a leadership position within an industry partner who has the authority to make strategic decisions and allocate resources to support the purposes of National STEM Week.*

(D) INDUSTRY PARTNER.—*The term “industry partner” means a for-profit or nonprofit entity seeking to support the purposes of National STEM Week.*

(E) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—*The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).*

(F) STEM.—*The term “STEM” means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.*

(G) STATE.—*The term “State” means each of the 50 States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the United States Virgin Islands.*

(2) *PURPOSES.*—The purposes of National STEM Week are, through the programs and activities described in paragraph (3), to—

(A) highlight the importance of STEM education in educational institutions across the country;

(B) showcase diverse career pathways within STEM fields in both classroom settings and informal learning environments;

(C) encourage family engagement with STEM activities at home to foster a conducive learning environment;

(D) facilitate partnerships between educational institutions and industry leaders to provide students with real-world applications and mentorship opportunities in STEM fields; and

(E) support States and local communities in developing and promoting their own STEM Week activities and resources, tailored to their unique educational and industrial landscapes.

(3) *PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.*—During National STEM Week, the committee established under subsection (a) shall carry out the following:

(A) *EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.*—Encourage educational institutions to participate in National STEM Week.

(B) *COMMUNITY AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT.*—Encourage families of students attending the educational institutions participating in National STEM Week to participate in STEM activities.

(C) *INDUSTRY INVOLVEMENT.*—Encourage STEM industries to—

(i) engage with students enrolled in educational institutions by providing mentorship programs, site visits, and guest lectures; and

(ii) support STEM education initiatives at such educational institutions through funding, resources, and expertise.

(4) *EXPIRATION.*—The authority to designate a week as National STEM Week and to carry out all programs and activities described in this subsection shall expire on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of the National STEM Week Act.

* * * * *