

109TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 421

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 14, 2006

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education,  
Labor, and Pensions

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress and support for Greater Opportunities for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (GO–STEM) programs.

Whereas in October 2005, the Government Accountability Office released a study on Federal science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs and concluded that the Federal Government funds 207 education-related STEM programs across 13 separate Federal agencies;

Whereas in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–171), the Congress established the Academic Competitiveness Council in order to identify all Federal education programs with a mathematics and science focus;

Whereas the Academic Competitiveness Council is chaired by the Secretary of Education and brings together officials from across the Federal Government;

Whereas the Academic Competitiveness Council is charged with determining the effectiveness of each program and identifying areas of overlap or duplication; and

Whereas the Academic Competitiveness Council has up to one year after February 2006 to release its report and will recommend ways to efficiently integrate and coordinate the programs: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
2       *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3               (1) mathematics and science education pro-  
4       grams across Federal agencies should be better co-  
5       ordinated;

6               (2) there should be minimal duplication among  
7       these programs and consistent standards of evalua-  
8       tion;

9               (3) the Department of Education should be  
10      commended for its rapid response in creating the  
11      Academic Competitiveness Council; and

12              (4) the recommendations of the Academic Com-  
13      petitiveness Council should be closely examined when

- 1 making decisions about Federal funding for mathe-
- 2 matics and science education programs.

Passed the House of Representatives June 7, 2006.

Attest: KAREN L. HAAS,  
*Clerk.*