

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 739

Supporting the goals and ideals of Engineers Week.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 15, 2018

Mr. LIPINSKI (for himself, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. MCKINLEY, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. TONKO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of Engineers Week.

Whereas engineers employ their scientific knowledge and analytical skills for the betterment of the United States;

Whereas the mission of DiscoverE (formerly the National Engineers Week Foundation) is to sustain and grow a dynamic engineering profession through outreach, education, celebration, and volunteerism as needed to keep the United States a global leader in engineering and engineering education;

Whereas the sponsors of Engineers Week are working together to transform the engineering workforce through

greater inclusion of women and underrepresented minorities;

Whereas by engaging young students, parents, and educators in hands-on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) activities, engineers help them discover how they can make a meaningful difference in the world;

Whereas the partnership between engineers and teachers inspires future generations of engineering and technology talent;

Whereas tens of thousands of engineers and engineering students will serve their communities not only through their work but, at this time of year, by reaching into hundreds of local communities;

Whereas engineers have helped meet the major global challenges of our time, including providing state-of-the-art transportation and information technology infrastructures, enhancing national security, and developing the clean energy technologies needed to power the people of the United States into the future;

Whereas most people in the United States continue to say that the benefits of science outweigh the potential harms, that the Federal Government should fund research, and that “science creates more opportunity for the next generation” according to the National Science Board’s 2018 Science and Engineering Indicators;

Whereas engineers are a crucial link in research, development, and the transformation of scientific discoveries into useful products and jobs, as the people of the United States look more than ever to engineers and their imagination, knowledge, and analytical skills to meet the challenges of the future;

Whereas the National Science Board’s 2018 Science and Engineering Indicators show that the number of students obtaining engineering bachelor’s degrees in the United States has increased steadily for the last 15 years for which data are available, yet the rates for women do not reflect our national demographics, with only 20 percent of bachelor’s degrees in engineering being earned by women;

Whereas the National Science Board’s “Science and Engineering Indicators 2018” show that historically underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, particularly Blacks and Hispanics, continue to display lower participation rates in science and engineering (S&E) occupations relative to their presence in the United States population, comprising about 11 percent of the S&E workforce;

Whereas the National Science Foundation’s National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics report on “Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering 2017” shows that women are closing the gap with men in S&E educational attainment but are still underrepresented in S&E occupations;

Whereas only around 4 percent of the Nation’s workforce is comprised of scientists and engineers, yet this group disproportionately creates jobs for the other 96 percent;

Whereas DiscoverE has grown into a formal coalition of more than 100 professional societies, major corporations, and government agencies that serves as a hub of engineering outreach dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated engineering workforce, promoting literacy in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and raising public awareness and appreciation of the contributions of engineers to society; and

Whereas February 18, 2018, to February 24, 2018, has been designated as Engineers Week by DiscoverE and the theme is, “Engineers: Inspiring Wonder”, spotlighting the important contributions of the engineering community to our quality of life now and in the future, including awe-inspiring wonders like cloud-busting skyscrapers and human travel to Mars and daily marvels like clean drinking water, computers, and cars: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of Engineers
3 Week to increase understanding of and interest in
4 engineering and technology careers and to promote
5 technological literacy and engineering education;

6 (2) recognizes that engineering education is a
7 critical component of STEM (science, technology,
8 engineering, and mathematics) education and essen-
9 tial to improving the United States educational sys-
10 tem and economic prosperity; and

11 (3) ensures that technological solutions de-
12 signed by the engineering community can be ad-
13 vanced through research, development, standardiza-
14 tion, and innovation.

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