

Dear Colleague:

Fund the President's Math & Science Education Request

Urge the Appropriators to provide at least \$562.2 M to strengthen our math & science education programs

Please join us in signing the attached letter to Chairman Regula and Ranking Member Obey of the Labor, Health and Human Services & Education subcommittee requesting that they provide at least \$562.2 million in funding to strengthen mathematics and science education at the Department of Education, as requested in the President's budget.

Jobs of the future will require an understanding of the basic principles and concepts of math and science. Give our kids a chance - give them teachers who are trained to teach math and science properly and understandably. It is critical for our children's and our nation's future.

For more information, or if you wish to sign the attached letter, please contact Rachel Post with Rep. Ehlers (5-3831 or rachel.post@mail.house.gov) or Chris Hartmann with Rep. Holt (5-5801 or christopher.hartmann@mail.house.gov)

Sincerely,

/S/

Vernon J. Ehlers
M.C.

Rush Holt
M.C.

Mark Udall
M.C.

Judy Biggert
M.C.

March X, 2006

Chairman Ralph Regula

Ranking Member David Obey

House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS and Education
2306 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

2314 Rayburn House Office
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Regula and Ranking Member Obey:

As your subcommittee considers its priorities for the fiscal year 2007 appropriations for Labor, Health and Human Services & Education, we respectfully request that you provide at least \$562.2 million in funding to strengthen mathematics and science education, as requested in the President's budget.

A resounding bipartisan chorus of business leaders, educators, Nobel laureates and other luminaries has called for improvements in our nation's math and science education. For example, in Tapping America's Potential: the Education for Innovation Initiative, 15 prominent business organizations called for doubling the number of science, technology, engineering and mathematics graduates with bachelor's degrees by 2015. In Rising Above the Gathering Storm, the National Academy of Sciences recommended "increasing America's talent pool by vastly improving K-12 science and math education."

We were delighted to learn that the President has joined this growing bipartisan chorus. His budget calls for \$380 million, as part of the American Competitiveness Initiative, for proposals to strengthen the capacity of our schools to improve elementary and secondary instruction in math and science. Additionally, the President's budget requests \$182.2 million for the Mathematics and Science Partnerships. Combined, the President's request for improving math and science education totals \$562.2 million. We realize that portions of the American Competitiveness Initiative may require authorization legislation, and, at this time, we are not necessarily endorsing the specific provisions contained within this initiative. However, we respectfully request that your subcommittee fund the President's request by allocating at least \$562.2 million toward improving math and science education.

In particular, the Math and Science Partnerships provide necessary professional development, which strengthens the teachers' ability to effectively teach math and science and strengthens our students' math and science skills.

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