



COMMITTEE ON  
**SCIENCE, SPACE, & TECHNOLOGY**  
Lamar Smith, Chairman

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## **Statement from Barbara Comstock (R-Va.)**

*Full Committee Markup*

**Chairwoman Comstock:** Mr. Chairman, H.R. 4375, the STEM Research and Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act, contains two provisions aimed at providing better information on how to make taxpayer-funded investments in STEM and research and development more effective, transparent and fair.

First, the bill requires the National Science Foundation (NSF) - for the first time - to report and make recommendations to Congress regarding the effectiveness of its research and education programs aimed at broadening the participation of women and historically underrepresented individuals and minorities in STEM.

This report will give Congress, NSF and other stakeholders objective information about what kinds of interventions and assistance are efficient, scalable and effective.

In order to have a vibrant economy that provides opportunity and prosperity for all, we must be the leader in STEM fields. To do that, we need to develop the talent of all Americans. We cannot afford to leave anyone behind. This report will help us focus resources on the best and most effective methods.

Second, the bill requires all federal science agencies to collect standardized information, including demographics, for each application received for research and developments grants. Agencies are to submit the information annually to NSF, which is directed to publish an annual statistical summary.

This information will provide better transparency to how taxpayer dollars are spent on research and scientists across the federal government.

I want to thank Ranking Member Johnson for joining me in sponsoring this bill and for her longtime commitment to ensuring STEM opportunities and advancements for all.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your support as well.

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