

## External Affairs & Communications Anthony Pitagno Director

November 13, 2019

The Honorable Frank Lucas Ranking Member, House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology Rayburn House Office Building 2405 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Ranking Member Lucas:

On behalf of the American Chemical Society (ACS) and the over 150,000 member chemists and chemical engineers we represent, I write to endorse H.R. 4979, the Rural STEM Education Act. Support for students and teachers across all underserved populations will help close the gap of access and equity in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education. The ACS promotes strengthening STEM teacher recruitment and training programs, support for facilities and hands on research experiences, and investments in research for teaching and learning in STEM.

The ACS would like to commend you for your efforts to address equity of access to high quality STEM education and STEM teacher shortages in our country. This legislation and the bipartisan collaboration to bring it to the floor speak volumes to the STEM community.

We look forward to continued collaboration with your office and to working closely with Congress to pass this important legislation. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lauren Posey at <a href="mailto:loop\_posey@acs.org">loop\_posey@acs.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Anthony Pitagno

Anthony Pitagno

CC:

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson