

## S 2543

### Supporting Afterschool STEM Act

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Education

**Introduced:** Jun 26, 2014

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Jun 26, 2014)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/2543>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NH • **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 15, 2014
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 22, 2014
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 30, 2014
Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]	D · AK		Jul 31, 2014
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Sep 10, 2014
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2014

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 26, 2014

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Education

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 5217	Related bill	Sep 12, 2014: Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology.

Supporting Afterschool STEM Act - Requires the Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish an afterschool STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) grant program awarding competitive grants to afterschool or STEM networks to:

- develop quality standards for STEM programming in afterschool programs and provide those programs with technical assistance in implementing such standards,
- work with state education stakeholders to define and promote appropriate measurable outcomes for afterschool programs that include STEM content,
- provide technical assistance to afterschool programs to start or grow their afterschool STEM efforts and define appropriate learning outcomes for such efforts,
- coordinate professional development for afterschool program educators,
- help afterschool program providers form strategic partnerships to advance STEM learning in afterschool programs,
- create and disseminate tool kits to afterschool programs wanting to form partnerships and incorporate STEM professionals as mentors and role models, and
- provide technical assistance to federally funded STEM researchers and professionals who wish to engage with afterschool programs.

Defines: (1) an "afterschool program" as a structured program offered for elementary, middle, or secondary school students when school is not in session, such as before or after school, on the weekend, or during the summer; and (2) an "afterschool or STEM network" as a coalition that fosters partnerships and provides support to afterschool program providers and STEM education providers.

Includes as goals of the grant program: (1) to support the development and delivery of high-quality STEM education to populations underrepresented in STEM fields, and (2) to provide hands-on learning and exposure to STEM research facilities and businesses through in-person or virtual distance-learning experiences.

Requires the Director to provide each recipient of a STEM research grant who is under the Director's authority with information on opportunities to engage with students in out-of-school-time programs, such as through mentorships.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jun 26, 2014:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 26, 2014:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.