

S 737

Building Blocks of STEM Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Mar 11, 2019

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 116-102.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 116-102. (Dec 24, 2019)

Law: 116-102 (Enacted Dec 24, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/737>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]

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

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]	R · TN		Mar 11, 2019
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Mar 11, 2019
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Mar 11, 2019
Sen. Fischer, Deb [R-NE]	R · NE		Mar 11, 2019
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Mar 11, 2019
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		May 13, 2019
Sen. Hoeven, John [R-ND]	R · ND		Jul 29, 2019
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Sep 23, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Aug 16, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 1665	Identical bill	Jul 24, 2019: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Building Blocks of STEM Act

This bill modifies National Science Foundation (NSF) grant programs that support STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, including computer science) education.

(Sec. 3) The bill instructs the NSF, when awarding grants under the Discovery Research PreK-12 program, to improve the focus of research and development on elementary and prekindergarten education.

(Sec. 4) The bill specifies that NSF grants to increase the participation of underrepresented populations in STEM fields may be used for research into various subjects regarding female students in prekindergarten through elementary school, including

- the role of teachers and caregivers in encouraging or discouraging participation by such students in STEM activities, and
- the types of STEM activities that encourage greater participation by such students.

(Sec. 5) The bill specifies that NSF grants to research computer science education and computational thinking may be used to support development and implementation of various tools and models for teaching and learning, including

- developing and offering female-inclusive computer science enrichment programs, and
- acquainting female students in prekindergarten through elementary school with careers in computer science.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 24, 2019:** Signed by President.
- **Dec 24, 2019:** Became Public Law No: 116-102.
- **Dec 19, 2019:** Presented to President.
- **Dec 9, 2019:** Ms. Johnson (TX) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Dec 9, 2019:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H9362-9363)
- **Dec 9, 2019:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 737.
- **Dec 9, 2019:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H9362)
- **Dec 9, 2019:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H9362)
- **Dec 9, 2019:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Oct 1, 2019:** Received in the House.
- **Oct 1, 2019:** Held at the desk.
- **Sep 27, 2019:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Sep 26, 2019:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S5760-5761)
- **Sep 26, 2019:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.
- **Sep 26, 2019:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.
- **Aug 16, 2019:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Wicker under authority of the order of the Senate of 08/01/2019 without amendment. With written report No. 116-78.
- **Aug 16, 2019:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 180.
- **May 15, 2019:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Mar 11, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 11, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.