

From: Baker, Josh
To: Soura, ChristianChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov
Date: 5/9/2013 10:03:07 AM
Subject: Fw: Support the Hatch-Klobuchar-Coons Amendment on S. 744
Attachments: Hatch-Klobuchar-Coons STEM Amdt.pdf

Not sure we should reach out to Sen. Graham, but good to know.

From: Hoelscher, Doug [IGOV] [mailto:Doug.Hoelscher@iowa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 07:23 PM
To: Baker, Josh
Subject: FW: Support the Hatch-Klobuchar-Coons Amendment on S. 744

Hi Josh,

Just left you a quick message, but wanted to follow-up with a quick email.

Would you all be willing to ping Sen. Graham's office tomorrow morning on the below discussed amendment that will go before the Judiciary committee tomorrow. Below is a message we sent to a few Grassley folks after talking to them that you could leverage as you see fit.

Thanks for your consideration for engagement on this narrow slice of the discussion. Glad to discuss further via phone - my cell is 515-802-1196.

Sincerely,

Doug Hoelscher
State of Iowa,
Office of State-Federal Relations
Phone: 202-624-5479
Hall of States, Suite 359
444 North Capitol Street
Washington, DC 20001

Just saw the Hatch-Klobuchar-Coons amendment on STEM that dropped since I last contacted you.

The State supports the amendment and encourages your boss to vote for the Hatch-Klobuchar-Coons STEM education amendment, which would amend the STEM fund in S.744 to ensure that states are empowered to design STEM initiatives that meet the unique needs of their students and employers. Governor Branstad and Lt. Governor Reynolds are proud of the work of the Governor's STEM Advisory Council to promote STEM career-paths among high-school and college students. The State is concerned that the original STEM fund language in S.744, which authorizes the National Science Foundation to direct funding for federally-prescribed STEM activities, concentrates STEM efforts too late in the development pipeline. In addition, states, not the Federal government, are best positioned to assemble economic development, workforce development, private sector and education stakeholder groups interested in improving STEM education, decreasing workers' middle-skills gaps.

The Hatch-Klobuchar-Coons STEM amendment (attached for your benefit) would provide states with the authority and flexibility necessary to design successful programs that meet students' and employers' needs.

Summary of the Senators Hatch-Klobuchar-Coons STEM Amendment:

- 70% of funds would be distributed by formula to states and territories to develop and implement STEM

activities to serve students. States may develop partnerships with higher education, economic development, workforce, industry, and local educational agencies. This text reflects the I-Squared framework as refined by the nation's governors and chief state school officers.

- 20% of funds would be distributed to minority serving institutions of higher education, consistent with the Gang of 8 bill, to increase retention and graduation rates of students pursuing STEM fields, including loan forgiveness and scholarship programs.
- 5% of funds would be distributed to states to support employment and training programs, in STEM fields, including services to veterans and spouses, as well as the development of license and credentialing programs.
- 3% will fund 3-year competitive grants to establish American Dream Accounts, which will help low-income K-12 students focus on STEM careers and prepare for college.
- 2% will be reserved for the administration of the STEM Education and Training Fund.
- Green card fees, set at \$1,000, would fund the STEM account.

Thank you for your and the Senator's time and consideration.

Sincerely,