

Bill Number: S. 1534

Bill Sponsor: Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. (D-H)

Title of Bill: Women and Underrepresented Minorities in STEM Booster Act of 2025

Current Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/1534/text>

Status: April 30, 2025: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Summary: To increase the participation of historically underrepresented demographic groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and industry.

P&A Committee Insights:

- The bill aims to increase participation in education and industry among women and underrepresented minorities in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).
- “Minority” to include various racial and ethnic groups as well as LGBTQ+ and gender-nonconforming individuals.
- Nursing is not typically considered a STEM field; however, there is a strong push for it to be recognized as such.
- The Department of Labor and the Department of Veterans Affairs recognize nursing as a STEM field.
- The Department of Homeland Security and the National Science Foundation do not recognize nursing as a STEM Field.
- Focus on underrepresented groups.
- Boosting participation
- The Director of the National Science Foundation is authorized to implement additional programs to support the bill’s objective
- Funding authorization.
- By designating Nursing as a STEM field, hundreds of millions of dollars can be unlocked for Americans to pursue nursing as a career. The U.S. Department of Education plans to invest \$578 million in STEM education in 2020.

Position: Support with recommendation to advocate for nursing to be added as a STEM.

Priority: High

Subject: Nursing Workforce

Bill to Review: Women and Underrepresented Minorities in STEM Booser Act of 2025 (S 1534)

- Introduced: April 30, 2025
- Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

Leader of bill: Senator Mazie K. Hirono (D-H)

Reviewer: R. Hickson

Date: July 2025

Overall Pros	Overall Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bill aims to increase the participation in education and industry of women and underrepresented minorities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.• “Minority” to include various racial and ethnic groups as well as LGBTQ+ and gender-nonconforming individuals.	None

Language Concerns:

- Nursing is not considered a STEM, there is a strong push for it to be recognized.
- Dept of Labor and the Dept of Veterans Affairs recognize nursing as a STEM field.
- The Dept of Homeland Security and National Science Foundation does not recognize nursing as a STEM Field.

Reviewer Comments:

- focus on underrepresented groups.
- Boosting participation
- Authorizes the Director of National Science Foundation is authorized to implement additional programs to support the bills’ objective
- Funding authorization.

Recommendation for NAHN Position (Support, Watch, Oppose): Support with recommendation to advocate for nursing to be added as a STEM.

- By designating Nursing as STEM, hundreds of millions of dollars can be unlocked for Americans to pursue Nursing as a career.
- \$578 Million is invested in STEM education by 2020 by the U.S. Department of Education