

ISTE optimistic about focus on preparing next-generation teachers in the 'Aim Higher Act' proposed as part of Higher Education Act Reauthorization process

WASHINGTON — July 24, 2018 — With the need to prepare next-generation teachers at a critical juncture, the opportunity for Congress to make an impact on the future of education has never been more important. The [International Society for Technology in Education](#) (ISTE) is optimistic about the elements that House Democrats on the Education and the Workforce Committee introduced in the Aim Higher Act that recognizes the importance of higher education institutions to adequately prepare educators with the skills they need to be effective in the classroom of today and the future.

ISTE CEO Richard Culatta says, "I'm pleased with the direction set forth in the The Aim High Act, particularly as it relates to ensuring educators are prepared to thrive in today's digitally rich classroom by ensuring they can demonstrate 'proficiency with the use of educational technology.' The legislation also aligns with the definitions of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that highlight the importance of successfully teaching in blended learning environments."

Additionally, ISTE supports the retention of the TEACH Grant Program that provides support to students who agree to teach for four years at an elementary school, secondary school or educational service agency that serves high-need schools and districts and teach high-need subjects, including science, technology, engineering and math.

Culatta also praised the provision that educational technology organizations be included on the advisory committee established by the secretary of education to carry out a study about profession-ready educators.

ISTE, an education nonprofit that helps educators around the world use technology to innovate education, remains committed to working with the House Education and the Workforce Committee as this process unfolds and hopes that the committee will consider additional language to ensure proficiency around the effective use of technology is measured in accordance with a national framework.

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The [International Society for Technology in Education](#) (ISTE) is a nonprofit organization that works with the global education community to accelerate the use of technology to solve tough problems and inspire innovation. Our worldwide network believes in the potential technology holds to transform teaching and learning.

ISTE sets a bold vision for education transformation through the ISTE Standards, a framework for students, educators, administrators, coaches and computer science educators to rethink education and create innovative learning environments. ISTE hosts the annual ISTE

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