Advance STEM Education.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics education is vital to Washington.

FY 2017 \$155,000 to support the STEM Alliance.

The STEM Education Innovation Alliance (STEM Alliance) has made progress in increasing awareness of and opportunities in STEM education. The Student Achievement Council would like to continue its leadership in convening the STEM Alliance and communicating its recommendations regarding STEM education and the workforce to the Governor and the Legislature.

Since August 2014, the STEM Alliance has worked to strengthen the alignment of Washington's education and workforce-training systems with the needs of the economy. Staffed by the Student Achievement Council, the STEM Alliance includes representatives from Washington's education sectors, Washington STEM, and STEMfocused businesses.

Aligning STEM education with workforce needs is a high priority for the Governor and Legislature.

Aligning STEM education with the workforce needs of Washington's technology-based economy is a high priority for the Governor's Office and the Legislature. For this work to continue, and for the STEM Alliance to remain an effective vehicle for making progress in STEM education and workforce alignment, consistent and reliable

funding must be available to support the Student Achievement Council's role in coordinating and facilitating this work.

To this point, providing the staff support necessary for the STEM Alliance's work has only been made possible through an NGA grant and in-kind contributions. Without this appropriation, the Student Achievement Council does not have the capacity to continue in this role on behalf of the STEM Alliance once the NGA grant ends.

The STEM Alliance has made substantial advances in developing priorities and strategies, and in adopting a framework for gauging progress. The work of the STEM Alliance has developed important momentum, with excellent prospects for continuing a sustained positive impact on the state's efforts to align STEM education with the needs of our dynamic, technology-based economy.

STEM education in Washington will be advanced though state support for the STEM Alliance, which is well-positioned to have a strong impact. Supplemental funds would enable the Student Achievement Council to continue providing leadership, meeting facilitation, and policy support to increase awareness and expand capacity and opportunities in STEM education.

