

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 160

BY SENATORS FOIL, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CONNICK, DUPLESSIS,
EDMONDS, HARRIS, MIZELL, PRESSLY AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To establish and recognize the Louisiana Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Innovation Caucus of the Senate and to provide relative to the caucus.

WHEREAS, STEM occupations are responsible for the creation of thousands of jobs for Louisiana residents with average individual salaries in selected fields as follows: software developers at one hundred twenty-eight thousand nine hundred eighty dollars per year, petroleum engineers at one hundred fifty-five thousand eight hundred ninety dollars, chemists at one hundred two thousand one hundred twenty dollars, and radiation therapists at eighty-eight thousand five hundred ten dollars; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana is home to many academic institutions which collectively attracted more than two hundred twenty-five million dollars of National Institutes of Health funding for fiscal year 2023; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana is a leader in engineering, biomedical innovation, aerospace, defense, energy, and many other STEM sectors; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the Louisiana Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Innovation Caucus, hereafter referred to as the STEM Innovation Caucus, will enable members of the Senate who are passionate about STEM innovation and growth in Louisiana to develop, coordinate, facilitate, and speak with a unified voice for legislative policy supporting STEM research and entrepreneurialism in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, a STEM Innovation Caucus was established in the House of Representatives in House Resolution 74 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby establish and recognize the Louisiana Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Innovation Caucus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that every member of the Senate who has an interest in STEM innovation and policy development may be a member of the STEM Innovation Caucus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the STEM Innovation Caucus of the Senate shall not be provided any funding, office space, equipment, or staff by the Senate or any agency thereof.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE