



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 33		DATE: 2/26/2025	
COMMITTEE: Higher Education and Workforce Development			
TESTIFYING: ☒ IN SUPPORT OF ☐ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CADE TREMAIN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-3511	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 428 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/20/2025 12:00 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DAN PAYNE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-205-4920	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 3036 HWY JJ			
CITY: BOURBON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65441
EMAIL: ddpayne1982@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: submissionOnly		SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 9:48 AM
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I support STEM Career Awareness



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH SCHLEMEIER		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: SCIENCE COACH, BIOSTL, NEXT MO		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 213 E. CAPITOL AVENUE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TEJA TEPPALA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65202
EMAIL: teja.teppala@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: physical		SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 1:19 PM
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Teja TeppalaRE: Testimony in Support of HB33 – STEM Career Awareness Activity ProgramFebruary 19, 2025.Dear Chairman and Members of the Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee,My name is Teja Teppala, and I am a doctoral candidate in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Missouri. I am writing to express my strong support for HB33, which seeks to establish the STEM Career Awareness Activity Program.As an experienced science communicator, I have witnessed the transformative power of STEM education in shaping our students' futures and preparing them for demanding careers. However, many students face significant barriers in pursuing STEM pathways due to unequal access to resources, lack of mentorship, and financial constraints. As of 2021, STEM occupations constituted 24.7% of Missouri's total workforce, and HB33 provides a great opportunity to close the STEM workforce gap with other states. Research consistently shows that early exposure to STEM significantly increases the likelihood of students pursuing these fields in higher education. Therefore, this bill is important to equip students with problem-solving, analytical, and technical skills, which are essential to contribute to a rapidly evolving workforce. It not only fosters innovation but also supports the state's economic growth.Investing in STEM education today means investing in Missouri's future prosperity. I urge you all to advance HB33 for the benefit of our students, our economy, and our state.Thank you for your time and consideration.Sincerely,Teja Teppala



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER: 314-440-9000	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX #1535			
CITY: O' FALLON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63366
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: submissionOnly		SUBMIT DATE: 2/20/2025 11:46 PM
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I am Opposed to this New Program. These are numerous other Programs being offered to Middle School and High School Students, by the State Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Workforce Development and other State Programs, in addition to programs being offered by Private Companies and Not-For-Profit Organizations. I do not see the additional need nor benefit for yet another program to address Math, Science and Technology.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CAROLYN IVEY		PHONE NUMBER: 314-757-3743	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 635 MCBRIDE POINTE DRIVE			
CITY: WILDWOOD		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63011
EMAIL: cmpeters08@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: submissionOnly		SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 5:53 PM
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Would this be extracurricular or academic? If academic would it be required or elective? If required how much class time would be required to be dedicated to this effort?