



September 27, 2023

Support the Mathematical and Statistical Modeling Education Act

The Mathematical and Statistical Modeling Education Act (S. 2739 and H.R. 1735) calls for the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support mathematical and statistical modeling education in elementary and secondary schools. If it is passed into law, the NSF must

1. provide competitive grants to institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations for research and development to support high-quality mathematical and statistical modeling education (including data science and computational thinking) in schools; and
2. enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct a study and produce a report on mathematical and statistical modeling education in schools.

The Mathematical and Statistical Modeling Education Act is bipartisan. In the House, it was introduced by Representatives **Jim Baird (IN-4)** and **Chrissy Houlahan (PA-6)**. In the Senate, it was introduced by Senators **Marsha Blackburn (TN)** and **Maggie Hassan (NH)**.

During the 117th Congress, the same bill was introduced in both chambers (H.R. 3588 and S. 1839). H.R. 3588 was overwhelmingly passed by the US House, 323 yeas and 92 nays.

S. 2739/H.R. 1735 will provide much needed support for students and our workforce.

- Mathematical and statistical modeling is critical for data science and artificial intelligence.
- Models make predictions and provide insight for science, engineering, and technology.

Now in a data-rich, AI-driven world, mathematical and statistical modeling education—at all levels—should be a top priority for the United States.

About the American Mathematical Society

Founded in 1888, the American Mathematical Society (AMS) is dedicated to advancing the interests of mathematical research and scholarship and connecting the diverse global mathematics community. The AMS has 30,000 individual members worldwide and supports mathematical scientists at every career stage.

Office of Government Relations

Advocating at the federal level for the mathematical sciences

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The US continues to fall behind in mathematical sciences education.

- The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) ranks countries' student academic attainment through their Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)¹ for the benefit of policymakers in education worldwide.
- PISA shows that the US falls behind in mathematical education compared to the OECD average, while maintaining a high ranking in both the sciences and English.

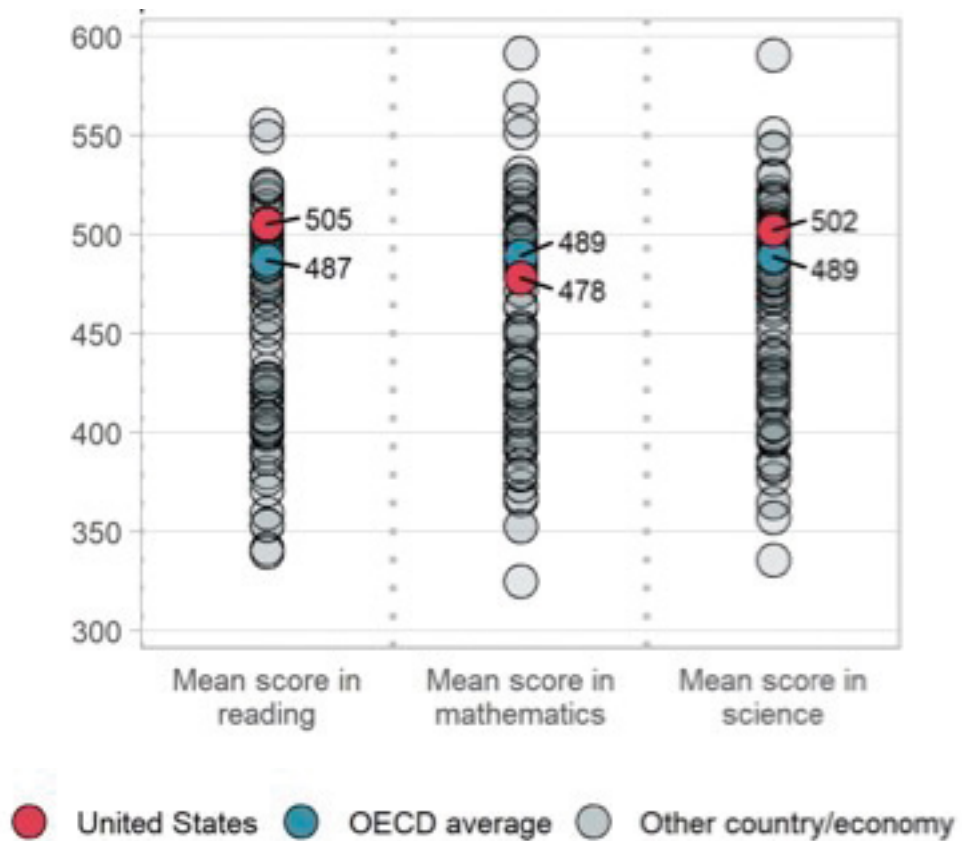


Figure. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)'s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)—snapshot of performance in reading, mathematics, and science.

¹ <https://data.oecd.org/chart/78tj>