

### **AB 2609 (O'DONNELL) TEACHERS: CA SCIENTIST-TO-TEACHER PATHWAY PROGRAM**

**POSITION:** The Chamber's Education & Workforce Roundtable voted to SUPPORT this bill on May 1, 2018. The Chamber's Public Policy Committee voted to SUPPORT this bill on May 8, 2018.

**STATUS:** The bill was passed through the Assembly's Education Committee with no opposition and has been referred to the Appropriations Committee.

#### **SUMMARY**

AB 2609 requires the California Department of Education to establish the Scientist-to-Teacher program for the purposes of recruiting, training, supporting, and retaining qualified science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) scientists as STEM teachers in kindergarten through grade 12

#### **INDUSTRIES IMPACTED**

K – 12 Education

#### **SUPPORTERS**

Aerojet Rocketdyne Foundation  
Alder Graduate School of Education  
Alliance Alice M. Baxter College-Ready High School  
Alliance College-Ready Public Schools  
Arthur A. Benjamin Health Professions High School  
Bayer  
California Science Teachers Association  
California STEM Network  
Center for Powerful Public Schools  
EnCorps STEM Teachers  
Institute for STEM Education—CSU, East Bay  
Los Angeles Education Corps  
Metropolitan Education District  
Northrop Grumman  
Pittsburg High School  
Santa Clara County Office of Education  
Silicon Valley Career Technical Education

#### **OPPONENTS**

None on file

#### **ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR**

- Attracts more STEM scientists into K-12 teaching
- Fosters high rates of retention and teacher leadership
- Grantee must supply CDE with a report that assesses the impacts of this program

#### **ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION**

- Fiscal effect is unknown

#### **MORE INFORMATION**

Seven of the ten fastest growing professions in California are in STEM fields so ensuring our future in economic success demands we provide students with access to fully prepared STEM teachers.