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Full list of quotes in support of the Data Science and Literacy Act

"Achieving the Dream recognizes the need for increased access to data science, data literacy, and statistics education for all students," said **Devora Shamah, PhD, Executive Director of Research & Assessment, Achieving the Dream**. *"In our work with two-year community college, this bill will support the work of two-year colleges in narrowing equity gaps for access to STEM and data science and statistics for students who are currently underrepresented in these fields."*

"The Stevens-Baird-Beyer-Kim Data Science and Literacy Act articulates the great need for developing programs that train students in the areas of data science and statistics," said **Laura Watkins, President, American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges**. *"AMATYC believes that it is crucial for mathematics education in the first two years of college to include data science and statistics programs. This Act will help colleges meet the workforce need for data literate employees."*

"Students of all ages need access to high quality mathematics and data science education," said **Tyler Kloefkorn, PhD, Associate Director, American Mathematical Society**. *"The Data Science and Literacy Act will support efforts that infuse data science in the classroom – such as updating curriculum and professional development for educators – and help train the US STEM workforce for generations to come. We greatly appreciate Representatives Stevens, Baird, Beyer, and Kim for their leadership on this legislation."*

"Statistics and data science are fundamental to production, innovation, and discovery, so there is a high demand for a workforce with statistics and data science skills," said **Katherine B. Ensor, 2022 President, American Statistical Association.** *"Everyone receives data-driven information and faces data-driven decisions daily. The Stevens-Baird-Beyer-Kim Data Science and Literacy Act brings attention to the tremendous job opportunities for data-savvy students. It helps schools provide*

statistics and data science education that meets workforce and society demands and prepares future researchers."

"The Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE) strongly supports the Data Science and Literacy Act of 2023," said the **Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators**. "*Data literacy is critical to an informed citizenry. Data science has become increasingly important for all members of our STEM workforce and many other industries. As the bill states, 'Data science is an interdisciplinary field that seeks to use aspects of statistics, mathematics, and computer science to extract knowledge from data, and to develop and provide tools to interact with data.' Thus, those who prepare teachers of mathematics and statistics are essential to supporting data science in K-20+ education. Providing funding for data science and literacy education at all levels is critical to expanding access to important educational opportunities for all. Investing in data science and literacy education will help equip and empower future generations."*

"The mission of the Association for Women in Mathematics is to support and encourage women and non-binary mathematicians at all stages of their education and careers," said **Kathryn Leonard, PhD, President, Association for Women in Mathematics**. *"We applaud the provisions in the Data Science and Literacy Act which specifically call out the need to fund programs which address both recruitment and retention of STEM talent in underrepresented groups across the educational pipeline, key factors in the success of our membership at a national level. We appreciate that Rep. Stevens and her co-sponsors are advocating for a broader and more inclusive data science field, allowing the field to benefit from talent across many vectors of identity."*

"CASC envisions a robust, sustainable ecosystem supporting academic research computing and data services that is enabled by a vibrant, diverse community of professionals," said the **Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation.** *"The high performance computing (HPC) resources that CASC members enable involve rapid calculations and enormous data sets that create insightful visualizations that lead to scientific discovery. Increasing access to data science and literacy education is a critical element in educating future research computing and data scientists to achieve scientific, technical, and information management breakthroughs to keep the U.S. at the forefront of the 21st-century knowledge economy."*

"The Data Coalition is thrilled to see the bipartisan Data Science and Literacy Act introduced in the House of Representatives today," said **Corinna Turbes, Policy Director, Data Coalition**. *"Data science and literacy are essential to building a modern workforce and a well-informed nation. Not only does this bill provide*

opportunities to improve the economic outlook for many students, improving our nation's data literacy will allow us to use data more effectively in making evidence-informed decisions. We are thankful for the leadership from Congressmen Stevens, Beyer, Baird and Kim on this issue, and look forward to advancing this common-sense investment in our students and workforce."

"U.S. education is facing a perfect storm. Students are struggling to regain lost time from pandemic disruptions while data-driven technologies, like artificial intelligence and machine learning, are quickly changing the basic skills and knowledge needed to succeed," said **Zarek Drozda, Director, Data Science 4 Everyone**. "*Congressional leadership will be paramount to ensuring the next generation can build the digital and physical world, rather than simply respond to it. Investing in K-16 data science will guarantee our global competitiveness, national security, and leadership in the new knowledge economy. The Stevens-Baird-Beyer-Kim Data Science and Literacy Act will be a critical step forward for preparing all students to leap into the future already here."*

"Ensuring that data literacy is a foundational aspect of education is a cornerstone of the United States' long term economic and national security. Data is everywhere, and the ideas and demands to create more of it, and the evermore complex ways to deploy it, are growing more significant by the day," said **Jeff Cohen, Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer, INFORMS**. *"This bill is a key part of addressing the substantial shortfall of STEM-prepared students for the workforce of tomorrow. Operations Research, analytics, and the science and technology of decision making is predicated on the sound and ethical use of data. INFORMS strongly supports the bi-partisan Data Science and Literacy Act of 2023 and looks forward to working to ensure its passage and effective implementation."*

"The Mathematical Association of America (MAA) offers full support for the Data Science and Literacy Act of 2023," said **Michael Pearson, Executive Director, Mathematical Association of America**. *"Data science and data literacy are quickly emerging as central to innovation, growth, and workforce competitiveness. Providing broad access to data science and literacy skills is essential to STEM education equity, which in turn is critical for talent development in the United States workforce. The Data Science and Literacy Act directly addresses these societal needs."*

"As our society and opportunities for students become increasingly data intense and information based, a foundation of data literacy skills based in data science and statistics is all the more important for today's citizens and a competitive workforce," said **Kevin Dykema, President, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.** *"The Data Science and Literacy Act targets and addresses a critical*

need for high-quality preservice and in-service preparation and professional development supporting PK-12 teachers of mathematics and statistics in establishing their own data science proficiency as a foundation for developing their students' understanding of and skill in applying statistics and data science."

"The National Science Teaching Association (NSTA) is proud to officially support the Data Science and Literacy Act of 2023," said **Dr. Erika Shugart, Executive Director, National Science Teaching Association**. *"NSTA strongly supports STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education that provides students with an interdisciplinary approach to learning. STEM education makes learning "real" and gives students opportunities to see the connection between the content they are studying and the application of that content in authentic and relevant ways. This bipartisan legislation will increase access to STEM classes, using data science and literacy as a catalyst for increased interest in STEM."*

"It is essential for the future of education to support initiatives to increase data literacy education in our schools," said **Suzanne Weekes, Executive Director, Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics**. *"The Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics has long been involved in the advancement of data literacy at all levels of education and applauds the introduction of this timely bill. Bolstering data and computational literacy will enhance student learning and expand pathways to critical STEM careers."*