June 25, 2013

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
United State Senate
478 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Tonko
U.S. House of Representatives
2463 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joseph P. Kennedy
U.S. House of Representatives
1218 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Gillibrand, Representative Tonko, and Representative Kennedy:

The National Society of Professional Engineers would like to express its support for the Educating Tomorrow’s Engineers Act, which would provide grants to integrate engineering curricula and content into classrooms across the country and expand the uses of existing federal education programs to include engineering education.

As you know, the National Society of Professional Engineers is the national society of licensed professional engineers from all disciplines that promotes the ethical and competent practice of engineering, advocates licensure, and enhances the image and well-being of its members. NSPE serves more than 35,000 members and the public through 53 state and territorial societies and over 400 chapters.

Though early education is vital to developing the desire and skills to become an engineer, there are few programs that advance engineering and technological literacy at the K–12 level. The Educating Tomorrow’s Engineers Act would enhance K–12 engineering education and provide for expanded research to inform best practices. The bill’s goals of expanding student exposure to engineering design skills, providing instructors with tools and support to effectively teach engineering, enabling schools to target more resources toward engineering education, and promoting research in engineering education are critical to cultivating the next generation of engineers.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to enhancing engineering education in our nation. NSPE stands ready to assist as this bill proceeds through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Dan J. Wittliff, P.E., F.NSPE
President
National Society of Professional Engineers