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February 12, 2021

# TO: your legislator

# CC: The Honorable Christine Rolfes, Chair, and the Honorable Lynda Wilson, Ranking Minority Member, Senate Ways and Means, The Honorable Timm Ormsby, Chair and the Honorable Drew Stokesberry, Ranking Minority Member, House Appropriations, Kathryn Kurtz, Executive Director, PEI

**FROM:**

**RE: Support for Increasing Education Reform Proviso on STEM-Integrated Learning**

Please edit to build in language appropriate for your organization/school district/you

The Pacific Education Institute (PEI) is a statewide non-profit that envisions scientifically literate students making well informed, balanced environmental decisions for just and sustainable communities. PEI empowers our educators to implement FieldSTEM—equitable, integrated, locally relevant, field-based learning connected to community green economy career opportunities. Unlike many professional learning organizations, PEI is not a “one and done” provider. They establish long-term relationships with educators, schools and districts to support ongoing implementation, ensuring that all educators have the content, skills and partnerships to successfully implement FieldSTEM.

As a public/private partnership, PEI’s public dollars are matched making public investment go further. PEI helps meet the demand for ongoing, high quality, systemic and sustainable professional learning for Washington educators, and PEI reaches all corners of the state. In October PEI in partnership with the Governor’s office and E3 Washington published the [RoadMap to a Green Economy](https://pacificeducationinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Educating-for-a-Green-Economy-Roadmap-FullReport.pdf). The roadmap lists 5 goals with recommendation to achieve those goals. At this moment in time, with the uncertainties of COVID-19’s effect on our communities, In partnership with career and technical colleges, local organizations, business and state agencies, PEI’s focus is on building the competencies young people need to find living wage employment in their communities. We are requesting your of support an increase of the FieldSTEM proviso through the amendment to the Governor’s Budget page 213, HB 1094 Sec 522 (11)(e) to $1.5 million/biennium per year to allow PEI to meet the needs of school districts like ours.

Add Detail or pictures that demonstrate how FieldSTEM is being implemented in your district.

Thank you for making environmental education and stewardship a strong priority and for supporting PEI.

Sincerely,

