

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 21, 2007

**Cosponsor H.R. 3631, the Revolutionizing Education
Through Digital Investment Act**

Dear Colleague:

As the U.S. economy continually evolves with technological advancements, we need to do all we can to ensure our workforce remains competitive and can meet growing demands. Study after study has called for us to significantly improve our nation's education system, skills training, and lifelong learning for the new information age.

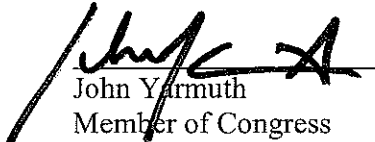
To fulfill these essential national needs, H.R. 3631, the *Revolutionizing Education through Digital Investment Act* would establish a non-profit National Center for Learning Science and Technology. This Center, established under the Department of Education, would focus on R&D in education and training. However, in stressing the critical importance of a broad public-private partnership, the Center would be eligible to receive funding from any federal agency, as well as corporations and certain individuals.

The Center's goal is no less than to revolutionize America's education, workplace training, and lifelong learning through the development and use of advanced digital information technologies. The nation's education and training institutions are not taking advantage of this technology that has transformed almost every other sector of society -- from our nation's economy, communications, and financial systems, to our defense needs and daily lives. The Center will enable our nation's schools, universities, libraries, museums, health service systems, public broadcasters, and others to reach out to millions of people in inner cities and rural areas, no matter how poor or remote, with the best of the educational and informational content now locked inside their walls.

The National Center for Learning Science and Technology will support the research and development of new models and prototypes of educational content, state-of-the-art simulation, visualization, and other tools, while fully incorporating the Internet and other new digital distribution technologies. Our competitors in the international marketplace, including China, Japan, Ireland, and India, are already investing heavily in upgrading their education and training systems with R&D in learning technologies. Yet, we have no comprehensive program to undertake the complex and difficult research needed to develop and test innovative learning strategies using new technology, and ensure that they are available for immediate and widespread use on a national level.

As the GI Bill in 1944 transformed higher education for a generation and beyond, the *Revolutionizing Education through Digital Investment Act* will modernize our methods of learning. To keep our workforce competitive and meet the changing needs of a global economy, we must revolutionize our education, and this bill will help accomplish this goal. I urge you cosponsor this important legislation. If you have any questions or would like to cosponsor H.R. 3631, please contact Ashley Bromagen in Rep. Yarmuth's office at 5-5401 or Rick Limardo in Rep. Regula's office at 5-3876.

Sincerely,


John Yarmuth
Member of Congress


Ralph Regula
Member of Congress