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This publication is intended for your information about issues important to education, women and children. How you choose to use the information included here is up to you.

This free newsletter is sponsored by the United States Forum of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is an organization of leading women educators with over 80,000 members. Delta Kappa Gamma members wishing to subscribe to this FREE newsletter should send a request to the editor Angela O. Bedenbaugh at Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com. We urge you to share this newsletter with other interested individuals who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma or members who do not subscribe to this publication.

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NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the current version of which is commonly referred to as No Child Left Behind (NCLB) is going to be revised in this session of Congress. The major bill is not expected to be introduced until much later this year (possibly sometime this summer). Some other separate bills have been introduced already. A bill which would permit alternate assessments and standards for students with "significant cognitive disabilities" has been introduced in the Senate (S.516). Several other bills seek to increase the number of females and minorities in the STEM fields. At this time bills are being filed and referred to committees. It is interesting that in the Senate the Education Committee Chair [Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN)] and the committee's ranking member [Senator Patty Murray (D-WA)] are working together to formulate the Senate version of ESEA.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March is Women's History Month and March 8 is designated as International Women's History Day by the United Nations. The 2015 UN theme is "Empowering Women, Empowering Humanity: Picture It!"

Women have been making strides to become more involved in some nontraditional areas. For example, it is estimated that currently 49% of video game developers are female, which is up from about 19% some years back. Video games often depict scantily clad females; many include violence against female characters (assault and rape), and ascribe to female characters negative attributes such as giggling and sighing. The violence, sexually provocative clothing and ineffectual seeming female video characters affect how young people perceive what is normal and acceptable. With the increasing numbers of women entering the video gaming workforce, this characterization is slowly changing. However, until it is pointed out to them, even female programmers have fallen into the trap of depicting women as weak and wearing

sexually provocative garments. The percentage of females who actively participate in video gaming is steadily increasing and higher percentages of female video gamers are found in younger women. An indepth analysis of females and video gaming can be found at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_and_video_games.

HELP FOR DYSLEXICS IN READING

A font has been developed by a dyslexic adult that helps dyslexic individuals read more easily. The "Dislexie" font puts more emphasis on parts of letters which are different making individual letters more easily distinguishable. It does not cure dyslexia, it simply makes letters more easily distinguishable from one another. For more information and free downloads of this font which is compatible with Microsoft Word, Excel, Vista and PowerPoint go to <http://www.dyslexiefont.com/>

FORUM FACEBOOK PAGE LINK

For those of you desiring discussion of legislative topics there is a U. S. Forum Facebook page online at <http://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>

FORUM WEB SITE: <http://www.usforumdkg.org/>

CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION can be obtained through Congressional Switchboard [1-866-327-8670](tel:1-866-327-8670) [this is a toll free number]. You can contact your Congressman and Senator through this number without paying long distance charges.

<http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House of Representatives <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the U.S. Senate
White House [1-202-456-1111](tel:1-202-456-1111)

FIVE CONSTITUENT CONTACTS WILL CAUSE A LEGISLATOR TO PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO A GIVEN ISSUE.