

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14

BY REPRESENTATIVE MORENO

CURRICULA: Requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to allow instruction in computer science to count for purposes of satisfying certain high school graduation requirements

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to allow  
3 computer science courses to count as science credit for purposes of satisfying high  
4 school graduation requirements and to establish and implement a state plan for  
5 making computer science a fundamental part of the state's public education system.

6 WHEREAS, research and data from numerous sources, including the Bureau of  
7 Labor Statistics, the College Board, Code.org, and the National Center for Education  
8 Statistics, show that computer science drives job growth and innovation throughout the  
9 economy and that occupations in the computer science field make up two-thirds of all  
10 projected new jobs in the areas of science, technology, education, and mathematics; and

11 WHEREAS, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, nearly forty percent growth  
12 is projected from 2012 to 2022 in the "computer systems design and related services"  
13 industry resulting in over two million jobs in 2022; and

14 WHEREAS, such research and data also reveal that sixty-seven percent of parents  
15 and fifty-six percent of teachers believe that students should be required to learn computer  
16 science, yet less than half of schools in the United States offer computer science courses; and

17 WHEREAS, despite the overwhelming need to produce more graduates with the  
18 credentials and experience needed in computer science fields, the Southern Regional  
19 Education Board reports that only three states – Arkansas, Texas, and West Virginia –

1 require all high schools to offer computer science, and no state requires students to take  
2 computer science to graduate from high school; and

3 WHEREAS, although Louisiana does allow computer science courses to satisfy  
4 graduation requirements in mathematics and for a high school diploma endorsement, it does  
5 not allow a student to fulfill a science credit for high school graduation by completing a  
6 computer science course; and

7 WHEREAS, allowing computer science courses to count as science credit for  
8 graduation and establishing and implementing a broad policy framework to provide students  
9 in kindergarten through grade twelve with access to computer science courses is necessary  
10 and crucial in helping students to become informed citizens and to better understand the role  
11 of computing in the world today.

12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
13 urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to allow computer  
14 science courses to count as science credit for purposes of satisfying high school graduation  
15 requirements and to establish and implement a state plan that articulates the goals for  
16 computer science, strategies for accomplishing such goals, and time lines for implementing  
17 the strategies in order to make computer science a fundamental part of the state's public  
18 education system.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
20 president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state  
21 superintendent of education.

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#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HCR 14 Original

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Requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to allow computer science courses to count as science credit for purposes of satisfying high school graduation requirements and to establish and implement a state plan that articulates the goals for computer science, strategies for accomplishing such goals, and time lines for implementing the strategies.