

By the Committees on Appropriations; and Education Pre-K - 12;
and Senators Ring, Brandes, and Galvano

576-02998-16

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to computer coding instruction;
3 amending s. 1007.2616, F.S.; requiring high schools to
4 offer student opportunities to take specified computer
5 coding courses by a specified school year; requiring
6 the Commissioner of Education to identify the computer
7 coding courses that satisfy two credits of foreign
8 language instruction under certain circumstances;
9 requiring Florida College System institutions and
10 state universities to recognize the credits as foreign
11 language credits; requiring each student and his or
12 her parent to sign a statement acknowledging and
13 accepting that taking a computer coding course as a
14 foreign language may not meet certain out-of-state
15 requirements; requiring the inclusion of certain
16 computer coding courses in the Course Code Directory;
17 providing an effective date.

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19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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21 Section 1. Present subsection (4) of section 1007.2616,
22 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (5), and a new
23 subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

24 1007.2616 Computer science and technology instruction.—

25 (4) Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, high schools
26 must provide students opportunities to take computer coding
27 courses of sufficient rigor, as identified by the commissioner,
28 such that two credits in such courses and the earning of a
29 related industry certification satisfies two credits of
30 sequential foreign language instruction. Florida College System
31 institutions and state universities must recognize the credits

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32 as foreign language credits; however, each student and his or
33 her parent must sign a statement acknowledging and accepting
34 that taking a computer coding course as a foreign language may
35 not meet out-of-state college and university foreign language
36 requirements. Computer coding courses created and identified by
37 the commissioner and computer coding courses taken to earn the
38 related industry certification shall be included in the Course
39 Code Directory.

40 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.