



1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to computer coding instruction;  
3           amending s. 1007.01, F.S.; requiring the Articulation  
4           Coordinating Committee to develop recommendations  
5           related to computer science instruction; providing  
6           requirements for such recommendations; requiring the  
7           committee to report its findings and recommendations  
8           to the Board of Governors of the State University  
9           System, the State Board of Education, and the  
10          Legislature by a specified date; providing for future  
11          expiration of certain committee duties; amending s.  
12          1007.2616, F.S.; requiring the Commissioner of  
13          Education to include certain courses in the Course  
14          Code Directory; requiring a school district to notify  
15          students if enrolled in any such courses; requiring  
16          the Department of Education to annually report certain  
17          information to the Board of Governors and the  
18          Legislature; requiring the State Board of Education,  
19          in consultation with the Board of Governors and school  
20          districts, to develop strategies relating to computer  
21          science educator certification requirements and  
22          teacher recruitment; providing an effective date.

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24   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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26 Section 1. Paragraph (j) is added to subsection (3) of  
27 section 1007.01, Florida Statutes, to read:

28 1007.01 Articulation; legislative intent; purpose; role of  
29 the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors;  
30 Articulation Coordinating Committee.—

31 (3) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with  
32 the Chancellor of the State University System, shall establish  
33 the Articulation Coordinating Committee, which shall make  
34 recommendations related to statewide articulation policies and  
35 issues regarding access, quality, and reporting of data  
36 maintained by the K-20 data warehouse, established pursuant to  
37 ss. 1001.10 and 1008.31, to the Higher Education Coordination  
38 Council, the State Board of Education, and the Board of  
39 Governors. The committee shall consist of two members each  
40 representing the State University System, the Florida College  
41 System, public career and technical education, K-12 education,  
42 and nonpublic postsecondary education and one member  
43 representing students. The chair shall be elected from the  
44 membership. The Office of K-20 Articulation shall provide  
45 administrative support for the committee. The committee shall:

46 (j) Develop recommendations to prepare students for  
47 successful postsecondary education and careers in computer  
48 science, information technology, and related fields. In  
49 developing the recommendations, the committee shall consider  
50 policies and practices that are designed to increase access to



51 high-quality educational experiences that help more students  
52 obtain careers in such fields.

53 1. The committee's recommendations must identify:

54 a. High school courses in computer science, including  
55 computer coding and computer programming, identified by  
56 university faculty as having sufficient rigor that satisfies  
57 specified State University System admissions requirements for  
58 mathematics and science.

59 b. Common academic and technical skills needed for  
60 students to meet projected labor market demands in computer  
61 science, information technology, and related fields in the  
62 state.

63 c. How middle and high school students, including  
64 underrepresented and nontraditional students, can be encouraged  
65 to pursue further studies and careers in computer science,  
66 information technology, and related fields.

67 d. Secondary course sequences that prepare students to  
68 succeed in postsecondary educational programs in computer  
69 science, information technology, and related fields.

70 e. Gaps in current policy, curricula, programs, and  
71 practices at the state, school district, and postsecondary  
72 levels which inhibit students from pursuing advanced studies and  
73 careers in computer science, information technology, and related  
74 fields.

75 f. Appropriate educator qualifications and computer



76 science pedagogy to maintain technologically current  
77 instructional knowledge and practices in teacher preparation  
78 programs.

79 g. Common definitions for terms related to computer  
80 science, including terms such as "computer coding" and "computer  
81 programming," for consistent use across the Florida K-20  
82 education system.

83 2. By December 31, 2018, the committee shall report its  
84 recommendations to the Board of Governors of the State  
85 University System, the State Board of Education, and the  
86 Legislature.

87 3. This paragraph expires January 1, 2019.

88 Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 1007.2616, Florida  
89 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (5), and a new subsection  
90 (4) is added to that section to read:

91 1007.2616 Computer science and technology instruction.—

92 (4) (a) By June 30, 2018, the commissioner shall include in  
93 the Course Code Directory high school-level courses that  
94 incorporate computer science standards and prepare students for  
95 postsecondary success in computer science, information  
96 technology, and related fields.

97 (b) If a student is enrolled in an identified course that  
98 satisfies a mathematics or science admissions requirement for  
99 the Florida College System or the State University System, the  
100 school district must notify the student that he or she should



101 contact any out-of-state or private postsecondary institution to  
102 which the student is applying and inquire whether the course  
103 credit satisfies any of the institution's admissions  
104 requirements.

105 (c) The Department of Education shall annually report to  
106 the Board of Governors and the Legislature:

107 1. The courses identified in the Course Code Directory  
108 that meet the academic standards for computer science.

109 2. The number of students, by district, including the  
110 Florida Virtual School, who are enrolled in a course identified  
111 in the Course Code Directory that meets the academic standards  
112 for computer science.

113 3. The number of individuals who hold a valid educator  
114 certificate in computer science or a related field.

115 (d) The State Board of Education shall consult with the  
116 Board of Governors and school districts to develop strategies  
117 for recruiting qualified teachers to provide computer science  
118 instruction, updating computer science educator certification  
119 requirements, providing appropriate professional development to  
120 maintain technologically current instructional knowledge and  
121 practices in the school districts, and identifying and  
122 streamlining traditional and alternative pathways toward  
123 obtaining computer science educator certification.

124 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.