

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2128

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE COOKSON.

5952H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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## AN ACT

To amend chapter 170, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to computer science.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 170, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be  
2 known as section 170.018, to read as follows:

**170.018. 1. (1) For purposes of this subsection, "computer science course" means  
2 a course in which students study computers and algorithmic processes, including their  
3 principles, their hardware and software designs, their implementation, and their impact  
4 on society.**

**5 (2) The department of elementary and secondary education shall, before July 1,  
6 2019, develop a high school graduation policy that allows a student to fulfill one unit of  
7 academic credit with a district-approved computer science course for any math, science,  
8 or practical arts unit required for high school graduation.**

**9 2. (1) Before July 1, 2019, the state board of education shall convene a work group  
10 to develop and recommend academic performance standards relating to computer science.  
11 The state board of education and the work group shall follow the procedures and conduct  
12 the public hearings required by section 160.514. The state board of education shall develop  
13 written curriculum frameworks relating to computer science that may be used by school  
14 districts in accordance with section 160.514.**

**15 (2) The state board of education shall adopt and implement academic performance  
16 standards relating to computer science beginning in the 2020-21 school year.**

**17 3. Before July 1, 2019, the state board of education shall develop a procedure by  
18 which any teacher who holds a certificate of license to teach under section 168.021 and**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

19 demonstrates sufficient content knowledge of computer science, as determined by the state  
20 board of education, shall receive a special endorsement on his or her license signifying his  
21 or her specialized knowledge in computer science.

22 4. (1) For purposes of this subsection, "eligible entity" means:

23 (a) A local educational agency, or a consortium of local educational agencies, in the  
24 state, including charter schools that have declared themselves local educational agencies;

25 (b) An institution of higher education in the state; or

26 (c) A nonprofit or private provider of nationally recognized and high-quality  
27 computer science professional development, as determined by the state board of education.

28 (2) (a) There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Computer Science  
29 Education Fund". The fund shall consist of all moneys that may be appropriated to it by  
30 the general assembly and any gifts, contributions, grants, or bequests received from private  
31 or other sources for the purpose of providing teacher professional development programs  
32 relating to computer science. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In  
33 accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve  
34 disbursements. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in  
35 the fund shall be used solely for the administration of grants to eligible entities as described  
36 in this section.

37 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys  
38 remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the  
39 general revenue fund.

40 (c) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other  
41 funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited  
42 to the fund.

43 (3) The state board of education shall award grants from the computer science  
44 education fund to eligible entities for the purpose of providing teacher professional  
45 development programs relating to computer science. An eligible entity wishing to receive  
46 such a grant shall submit an application to the department of elementary and secondary  
47 education addressing how the entity plans to:

48 (a) Reach new and existing teachers with little computer science background;

49 (b) Use effective practices for professional development;

50 (c) Focus the training on the conceptual foundations of computer science;

51 (d) Reach and support historically underrepresented students in computer science;

52 (e) Provide teachers with concrete experience with hands-on, inquiry-based  
53 practices; and

54           **(f) Accommodate the particular needs of students and teachers in each district and**  
55 **school.**

56           **5. The department of elementary and secondary education shall promulgate rules**  
57 **to implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is**  
58 **defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall**  
59 **become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter**  
60 **536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and**  
61 **if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review,**  
62 **to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held**  
63 **unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted**  
64 **after August 28, 2018, shall be invalid and void.**

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