HLS 17RS-553 ENGROSSED

2017 Regular Session

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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

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 –

HLS 17RS-553

ENGROSSED
HCR NO. 14

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 not allow a student to fulfill a science credit for high school graduation by completing a 5 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

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

## 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)]

HCR 14 Engrossed

education system.

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2017 Regular Session

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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.