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## DIGEST

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HB 264 Original

2024 Regular Session

Hughes

**Abstract:** Requires students to successfully complete a one unit Computer Science course to graduate from high school and to qualify for TOPS.

Proposed law requires completion of a one unit Computer Science course for:

- (1) Graduation from a public high school.
- (2) A high school career diploma. Present law requires a student to complete one mathematics elective course, one science elective course, and nine credits in Jump Start courses to be eligible for a career diploma. Proposed law requires that one of these credits be Computer Science.
- (3) A TOPS award. Present law requires a student to complete one mathematics elective course, two science elective courses, and two units in either Foreign Language or Computer Science to be eligible for a TOPS award. Proposed law requires that one of these credits be Computer Science.
- (4) A TOPS-Tech award. Present law requires a student to complete one mathematics elective course, one science elective course, and nine credits in Jump Start courses to be eligible for a TOPS-Tech award. Proposed law requires that one of these credits be Computer Science.

Proposed law requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education to promulgate rules to implement offering Computer Science courses.

Proposed law requires teacher preparation programs to include instruction on teaching students computer science.

Implementation required in part prior to the 2025-2026 school year; in part prior to the 2026-2027 school year; in part prior to the 2027-2028 school year.

(Amends R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(b), (c), and (f), 5025(2)(b), (3)(c), and (8), and 5026(A)(2)(c), (3)(b), and (5); Adds R.S. 17:7.2(A)(9), 280.3, 3996(B)(82), 5025(9), 5025.7, and 5026(F))