SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A STATE PLAN FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

1　　　WHEREAS, computer science drives job growth and innovation
2　throughout the economy and society of the State, with
3　occupations involving computing making up over two-thirds of all
4　projected new jobs in science, technology, engineering, and
5　mathematics (STEM) fields; and
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7　　　WHEREAS, recent survey and research results highlight the
8　importance of robust computer science curricula, and the
9　disparity between the demand for computer science education and
10　its availability, for example:
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12　　(1)　Ninety percent of parents want their child's school to
13　　　　　teach computer science, but only forty percent of
14　　　　　schools teach it;
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16　　(2)　Fifty percent of Americans rank computer science as
17　　　　　one of the two most important subjects of study after
18　　　　　reading and writing;
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20　　(3)　Seventy-five percent of Americans believe computer
21　　　　　science is cool in a way that it wasn't ten years ago;
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23　　(4)　Students who learn computer science in high school are
24　　　　　six times more likely to major in it, and women are
25　　　　　ten times more likely; and
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27　　(5)　Sixty-seven percent of parents and fifty-six percent
28　　　　　of teachers believe students should be required to
29　　　　　learn computer science; and
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31　　　WHEREAS, as of December 2016, there were 1,343 open
32　computing jobs in Hawaii, and that the average salary for a

1 computing occupation in Hawaii is $78,414, compared to the
2 average salary in the State, which is $47,740; and
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4   WHEREAS, only fourteen schools in Hawaii offered the
5 advance placement computer science course in 2015-2016, and
6 while ninety percent of parents want their children to learn
7 computer science, only forty percent of schools teach computer
8 programming; now, therefore,
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10   BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
12 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
13 Education is requested to develop and implement a computer
14 science curricula plan statewide for all students from
15 kindergarten through twelfth grade, which includes:
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17   (1) The goals of the computer science curricula;
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19   (2) Strategies for accomplishing the Department's goals;
20   and
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22   (3) Timelines for carrying out the strategies described in
23   the plan; and
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25   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
26 requested to establish, and make publicly available, computer
27 science standards across all grade levels from kindergarten
28 through twelfth grade, which focus on the creation and use of
29 software and computing technologies at all grade levels; and
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31   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
32 requested to provide dedicated funding for rigorous computer
33 science and professional development and course support in the
34 Department's budget; and
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36   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department is requested to
37 establish dedicated computer science administrative and
38 leadership positions; and
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40   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
41 requested to require that every public intermediate, middle, and
42 high school offer computer science courses based on rigorous

S.C.R. NO. 168

1 standards for each grade level, which may include remote and in-
2 person courses; and
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4   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any student who completes a
5 computer science course receive credit for that course toward
6 core graduation requirements at the school that the student
7 attends; and
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9   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is
10 requested, as part of its admission process, to allow students
11 to substitute computer science courses for other required course
12 credits; and
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14   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
16 Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, and Chairperson
17 of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.
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20   OFFERED BY: _____