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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that as society moves  
2 forward further into the twenty-first century, access to  
3 information is growing exponentially, and well-paying, desirable  
4 jobs require more education and knowledge of technology than  
5 ever before. Computer science helps to advance job growth and  
6 innovation throughout the economy and society. Computing  
7 occupations are a primary source of all new wages in the United  
8 States and make up over half of all projected new jobs in  
9 science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. It is  
10 crucial that Hawaii's public school students are exposed to STEM  
11 and computer science opportunities to ensure that they succeed  
12 in college- and career-readiness.

13           Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, required the  
14 department of education to develop and implement a statewide  
15 computer science curricula plan for public school students in  
16 kindergarten through twelfth grade and also required that each  
17 public high school offer at least one computer science course



1 each school year. However, the legislature finds that often,  
2 teachers with backgrounds in math and science are asked to teach  
3 computer science courses, for which they lack adequate  
4 foundational knowledge. To ensure that teachers can offer high-  
5 quality instruction in computer science to students, it is  
6 imperative that the State support teachers with appropriate  
7 professional development opportunities.

8 The purpose of this Act is to support teachers with  
9 appropriate professional development opportunities by  
10 appropriating funds to the department of education to enter into  
11 a contract or agreement with one or more entities to develop and  
12 implement computer science professional development programs  
13 directly accessible to teachers.

14 SECTION 2. (a) The department of education shall enter  
15 into a contract or agreement with one or more entities to  
16 develop and implement computer science professional development  
17 programs directly accessible to teachers; provided that an  
18 entity shall be:

- 19 (1) An educational agency, including a charter educational  
20 agency, or a consortia of educational agencies in the  
21 State;



- 1           (2) An institution of higher education located in the
- 2           State; or
- 3           (3) A nationally recognized provider of effective computer
- 4           science professional development programs.
- 5           (b) An entity that intends to enter into a contract or
- 6 agreement with the department of education pursuant to this Act
- 7 shall first submit a proposal to the department that, at a
- 8 minimum, addresses how the entity plans to:
- 9           (1) Instruct teachers with varying levels of knowledge and
- 10           experience in computer science;
- 11           (2) Provide teachers with experience in hands-on, inquiry-
- 12           based practices;
- 13           (3) Use effective practices for professional development;
- 14           (4) Emphasize the conceptual foundations of computer
- 15           science;
- 16           (5) Instruct teachers on how to effectively teach students
- 17           in computer science, including students from
- 18           demographic groups that are historically
- 19           underrepresented in computer science careers;

1 (6) Adapt its instruction to accommodate the particular  
2 needs of teachers in different schools and districts;  
3 and

4 (7) Meet other requirements established by the department.

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the  
8 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
9 2020-2021 for the department of education to enter into a  
10 contract with one or more entities to develop and implement  
11 computer science professional development programs for teachers.

12 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
13 of education for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

**Report Title:**

Computer Science; Professional Development for Teachers;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Provides for computer science professional development for  
teachers. Appropriates funds. (HB1274 HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

