

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 894

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR LIBLA.

Read 1st time January 10, 2018, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

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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  
2 section, to be known as section 170.018, to read as follows:

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

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

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

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

**21 3. Before July 1, 2019, the state board of education shall develop**

22 a procedure by which any teacher who holds a certificate of license to  
23 teach under section 168.021 and demonstrates sufficient content  
24 knowledge of computer science, as determined by the state board of  
25 education, shall receive a special endorsement on his or her license  
26 signifying his or her specialized knowledge in computer science.

27 4. (1) For purposes of this subsection, "eligible entity" means:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

58 (a) Reach new and existing teachers with little computer science

59 **background;**

60 **(b) Use effective practices for professional development;**

61 **(c) Focus the training on the conceptual foundations of computer**  
62 **science;**

63 **(d) Reach and support historically underrepresented students in**  
64 **computer science;**

65 **(e) Provide teachers with concrete experience with hands-on,**  
66 **inquiry-based practices; and**

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

69 **5. The department of elementary and secondary education shall**  
70 **promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section. Any rule**  
71 **or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is**  
72 **created under the authority delegated in this section shall become**  
73 **effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions**  
74 **of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and**  
75 **chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of the powers vested with the**  
76 **general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the**  
77 **effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held**  
78 **unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule**  
79 **proposed or adopted after August 28, 2018, shall be invalid and void.**

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