

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3122

To support coding education.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 25, 2018

Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mr. CASSIDY) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Edu-
cation, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To support coding education.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Coding Opportunities
5 and Development for Equitable Students Act” or the
6 “High School CODES Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

9 (1) CODING.—The term “coding” has the
10 meaning given the term in section 114(e)(6) of the

1 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education
2 Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2324(e)(6)).

3 (2) COMPUTER SCIENCE.—The term “computer
4 science” means the study of computers and algo-
5 rithmic processes, including the principles, hardware
6 and software designs, implementation, and impact
7 on society, of computers and algorithmic processes.

8 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF THE SENATE.**

9 It is the Sense of the Senate that—

10 (1) States should support high schools in recog-
11 nizing coding and computer science classes as class-
12 es that count toward the fulfillment of graduation
13 requirements;

14 (2) it should be a priority to create a national
15 strategy to incorporate computer science and coding
16 into the elementary and secondary educational sys-
17 tem in the United States;

18 (3) learning to write and read code is critical to
19 creating and innovating in cyberspace, and learning
20 to write and read code is a skill critical to the na-
21 tional security and economic competitiveness of the
22 United States; and

23 (4) the modernization of the educational system
24 in the United States is a priority, and modernization

1 is necessary to bolster the next generation of high-
 2 tech workers.

3 **SEC. 4. CODING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.**

4 Section 114 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
 5 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2324) is amend-
 6 ed—

7 (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-
 8 section (f);

9 (2) in subsection (d)(2)(A), by striking “sub-
 10 section(e)” and inserting “subsection (f)”;

11 (3) in subsection (d)(4)(A), by striking “sub-
 12 section (e)” and inserting “subsection (f)”;

13 (4) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-
 14 lowing:

15 “(e) CODING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
 17 out a coding demonstration program, through which
 18 the Secretary shall award grants to local educational
 19 agencies to enable those local educational agencies to
 20 establish new programs or expand existing programs
 21 that allow high school students to take a coding
 22 class in place of a mathematics, science, or foreign
 23 language class in order to fulfill a graduation re-
 24 quirement.

25 “(2) APPLICATION.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A local educational
2 agency desiring a grant under this subsection
3 shall submit an application to the Secretary at
4 such time, in such manner, and containing such
5 information as the Secretary may require, in-
6 cluding the information described in subpara-
7 graph (B).

8 “(B) CONTENTS.—An application sub-
9 mitted under subparagraph (A) shall include—

10 “(i) a strategy for obtaining future
11 funding to sustain the program after the
12 grant has ended from State, private, or
13 other non-Federal funding sources;

14 “(ii) a spending plan;

15 “(iii) a description of the goals of the
16 program; and

17 “(iv) a description of the statistics the
18 local educational agency will collect to in-
19 clude in the local educational agency’s re-
20 port to the Secretary described under para-
21 graph (4).

22 “(3) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this
23 subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to a
24 local educational agency submitting an application

1 under paragraph (2) that is located in a rural or un-
 2 derserved area.

3 “(4) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the
 4 date of enactment of this subsection, each local edu-
 5 cational agency receiving a grant under paragraph
 6 (1) shall submit to the Secretary a report about the
 7 coding program activities carried out with grant
 8 funds, including information and statistics about
 9 that program’s findings, successes, and failures.

10 “(5) SUNSET.—This subsection shall remain in
 11 effect until the date that is 5 years after the date
 12 of enactment of this subsection.

13 “(6) DEFINITIONS.—

14 “(A) CODING.—In this subsection, the
 15 term ‘coding’ means the creation and modifica-
 16 tion of—

17 “(i) source code (defined as any series
 18 of statements written in some human-read-
 19 able computer programming language); or

20 “(ii) machine code (defined as instruc-
 21 tions for a computer processor in some ma-
 22 chine language).

23 “(B) HIGH SCHOOL.—In this subsection,
 24 the term ‘high school’ has the meaning given
 25 the term in section 8101 of the Elementary and

1 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
2 7801).”.

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