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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To establish a grant program to promote the development of career education programs in computer science in secondary and postsecondary education.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CÁRDENAS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish a grant program to promote the development of career education programs in computer science in secondary and postsecondary 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 “Computer Science Ca-
5 reer Education Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP.—The term “eligi-
2 ble partnership” means a consortium between or
3 among at least 1 local educational agency, at least
4 1 institution of higher education, and representatives
5 of the community, including nonprofit organizations,
6 local or regional employers (including State agen-
7 cies) with a documented workforce need in the com-
8 puter science sector, workforce investment boards or
9 other entities providing employment services, re-
10 gional economic development organizations, industry
11 associations, representatives of labor organizations,
12 or central labor coalitions, where appropriate, and
13 parents and students.

14 (2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
15 term “institution of higher education” means—

16 (A) an institution of higher education as
17 defined in section 101 of the Higher Education
18 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001); or

19 (B) a postsecondary vocational institution
20 as defined in section 102(c) of the Higher Edu-
21 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(c)).

22 (3) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term
23 “local educational agency” has the meaning given
24 the term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-
25 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

1 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of Education.

3 (5) STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term
4 “State educational agency” has the meaning given
5 the term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-
6 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

7 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriated
9 to carry out this section, the Secretary shall award grants,
10 on a competitive basis, to eligible partnerships to enable
11 such partnerships to develop and operate a 4- or 6-year
12 computer science career education program.

13 (b) APPLICATION.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible partnership
15 that desires to receive a grant under this Act shall
16 submit an application to the Secretary at such time,
17 in such manner, and containing such information as
18 the Secretary may require.

19 (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
20 under paragraph (1) shall—

21 (A) describe the eligible partners and part-
22 nership, the roles and responsibilities of each
23 partner, and a demonstration of each partner’s
24 ability to support the proposed program;

1 (B) describe how the eligible partnership
2 will implement a computer science career edu-
3 cation program, as described in subsection (c);

4 (C) ensure funding under the grant pro-
5 gram is spent in a coordinated manner with
6 other local resources;

7 (D) describe the State or local workforce
8 shortages, as determined by the relevant State
9 agency in charge of workforce data, in the com-
10 puter science sector;

11 (E) make information, including career
12 guidance and advisement resources, available
13 about the program;

14 (F) ensure nonduplication of the partner-
15 ship's development of computer science career
16 education programs;

17 (G) ensure equitable access to the pro-
18 gram; and

19 (H) demonstrate alignment of the partner-
20 ship's computer science career education pro-
21 gram to the State, regional, or local computer
22 science sector.

23 (c) CONTENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE CAREER EDU-
24 CATION PROGRAM.—An eligible partnership that receives
25 a grant under this Act shall use the grant funds to develop

1 and operate a 4- or 6-year computer science career edu-
2 cation program that—

3 (1) includes the development of a computer
4 science program for both secondary education and
5 postsecondary education that—

6 (A) is aligned with rigorous computer
7 science standards for kindergarten through
8 grade 12 computer science education;

9 (B) links secondary schools and institu-
10 tions of higher education through nonduplica-
11 tive sequences of courses in computer science
12 career fields, including the investigation of op-
13 portunities for secondary students to earn post-
14 secondary credit while enrolled in secondary
15 school, such as through credit transfer agree-
16 ments including dual enrollment;

17 (C) uses, if appropriate and available, ex-
18 periential or work-based learning in collabora-
19 tion with local or regional employers;

20 (D) uses educational technology and dis-
21 tance learning, as appropriate, to involve all of
22 the partners in the eligible partnership more
23 fully in the development and operation of the
24 program;

1 (E) aligns with the skill needs of industries
2 in the State or region; and

3 (F) creates innovative opportunities for
4 students that lead to student attainment of in-
5 dustry-recognized credentials;

6 (2) includes professional development for teach-
7 ers that—

8 (A) is designed to prepare teachers to
9 teach the fundamental concepts of computer
10 science using effective teaching methods for all
11 students;

12 (B) provides for joint training for teachers
13 in the eligible partnership, including between
14 secondary and postsecondary teachers and core
15 academic teachers and career and technical
16 education teachers at both the secondary level
17 and postsecondary level;

18 (C) is designed to ensure that teachers and
19 administrators are aware of current career
20 pathways and the needs and expectations of
21 business and industry;

22 (D) focuses on training postsecondary and
23 secondary education faculty in the use of con-
24 textual and applied curricula and instruction;
25 and

1 (E) if needed, ensures secondary school
2 teachers are qualified to teach postsecondary
3 courses in the secondary school according to ar-
4 ticipation agreements;

5 (3) includes career and academic counseling for
6 the students that—

7 (A) provides information to students re-
8 garding available computer science career edu-
9 cation programs;

10 (B) supports student progress in com-
11 pleting computer science career education pro-
12 grams;

13 (C) provides labor market information on
14 local, State, regional, and national computer
15 science employment opportunities, such as occu-
16 pation demand, education requirements, and ex-
17 pected compensation; and

18 (D) tracks student placement in appro-
19 priate employment, or transfer to an institution
20 of higher education; and

21 (4) provides equal access to the full range of ca-
22 reer education programs, to individuals who are
23 members of underrepresented groups and special
24 populations, including the development of program

1 services appropriate to the needs of special popu-
2 lations.

3 (d) ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—An eli-
4 gible partnership that receives a grant under this Act may
5 use the grant funds to—

6 (1) provide for the acquisition of computer
7 equipment, software, and software licenses to di-
8 rectly develop and support a computer science pro-
9 gram;

10 (2) acquire technical assistance from State or
11 local entities that have designed, established, and op-
12 erated career education programs that have effec-
13 tively used educational technology and distance
14 learning in the delivery of curricula and services and
15 in the articulation process; and

16 (3) establish articulation agreements with insti-
17 tutions of higher education, and cooperative agree-
18 ments with labor organizations, or business located
19 inside or outside the State and served by the eligible
20 partnership, especially with regard to using distance
21 learning and educational technology to provide for
22 the delivery of services and programs.