



SPONSOR: Rep. Heffernan & Sen. McDowell & Rep. K. Williams  
Reps. Bentz, Bolden, Hudson, Jaques, Keeley, Mitchell,  
Osienski, Paradee, B. Short; Sens. Simpson, Walsh

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE BILL NO. 15

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND  
COMPUTER SCIENCE.

1 WHEREAS, computer science skills are widely recognized as valuable assets in the current and future job market;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, students in Delaware would benefit from taking computer science courses in high school; and

4 WHEREAS, high school students who are exposed to computer science and coding courses in high school are  
5 more likely to take such courses in college; and

6 WHEREAS, more high school students would take computer science and coding courses if they fulfilled a  
7 graduation requirement in mathematics;

8 NOW, THEREFORE:

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

10 Section 1. Amend Chapter 41, Title 14 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strikethrough and  
11 insertions as shown by underline as follows:

12 § 4138. Computer Science.

13 (a) By the 2020-2021 school year, all public high schools, including charter schools, shall offer at least 1 computer  
14 science course. The Department of Education is directed to develop standards for computer science and seek approval of  
15 the State Board of Education of such standards no later than December 31, 2017.

16 (b) Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, the requirements to receive a State of Delaware diploma, pursuant  
17 to § 122(b)(3) of this title, shall permit an Advanced Placement, Honors, College Prep or Integrated computer science  
18 course, meeting the computer science and mathematics standards, to be used to satisfy a mathematics graduation credit  
19 requirement with the exception of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or the equivalent courses. Guidelines addressing the  
20 standards and content requirements for courses that satisfy the graduation requirements shall be developed by the  
21 Department, with the assent of the State Board of Education.

## SYNOPSIS

This bill creates a requirement that all public high schools, including charter schools, shall offer at least one computer science course at the high school level by the 2020-2021 school year. Also, this bill creates a requirement that, by the 2018-2019 school year, a computer science course may satisfy one year of the total credit requirement in mathematics, excluding Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II or the equivalent courses. The State Board of Education shall develop guidelines addressing how computer science courses can satisfy graduation requirements.