

**Pending  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**House Bill No. 1165**

**BY: Committee**

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting  
in lieu thereof the following:**

12        **SECTION 1.** The Mississippi Legislature finds that:  
13               (a) Education in computer science is a critical need  
14 for the students of Mississippi for the twenty-first century;  
15               (b) More than half of high schools in Mississippi do  
16 not teach a computer science course;  
17               (c) There are multitudes of unfulfilled computer  
18 science jobs in the state; and  
19               (d) The logical thinking skills taught by computer  
20 science are very valuable in many noncomputer science jobs, as  
21 technology has become embedded in most professions.



22           **SECTION 2.** As used in this act, the following terms shall  
23 have the meaning ascribed in this section:

24           (a) "Computer science" means the study of computers,  
25 algorithmic processes, coding, and logical thinking, including  
26 computer principles, their hardware and software designs, their  
27 implementation and their impact on society.

28           (b) "Computer science courses" means high school and  
29 middle school courses that teach computer science as stand-alone  
30 implementations; and elementary curriculum that provides  
31 instruction in computer science as stand-alone implementations or  
32 embedded in other subjects and focuses on how to create and  
33 understand technology, rather than simply using technology.

34           (c) "Offer" means providing a course taught by a  
35 computer science teacher:

36           (i) Who is onsite at the physical location of the  
37 school; or

38           (ii) Who is not onsite at the physical location of  
39 the school but conducts the course through virtual means with a  
40 proctor onsite at the physical location of the school.

41           **SECTION 3.** (1) The State Department of Education is  
42 authorized and directed to implement K-12 computer science  
43 curriculum based on the 2018 Mississippi College and  
44 Career-Readiness Standards for computer science, which includes  
45 instruction in, but not limited to:

46           (a) Computational thinking;



- 47 (b) Problem-solving;
- 48 (c) Programming;
- 49 (d) Cyber security;
- 50 (e) Data science;
- 51 (f) Robotics; and
- 52 (g) Other computer science and cyber-related content.

53 (2) Beginning in the 2021-2022 school year:

54 (a) Each local school district shall provide that all  
55 middle schools in its school system offer instruction in  
56 exploratory computer science;

57 (b) Each local school district shall provide that fifty  
58 percent (50%) of elementary schools in its school system offer a  
59 minimum of one (1) hour of instruction in computer science each  
60 week;

61 (c) Each charter school that serves middle or high  
62 school students shall offer a course in computer science;

63 (d) Each charter school that serves elementary school  
64 students shall offer instruction in computer science.

65 (3) Beginning in the 2022-2023 school year:

66 (a) Each local school district shall provide that at  
67 least fifty percent (50%) of the high schools in its school system  
68 offer a course in computer science;

69 (b) Each local school district shall provide that all  
70 elementary schools in its school system offer a minimum of one (1)  
71 hour of instruction in exploratory computer science each week.



72 (4) Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, each local  
73 school district shall provide that all schools in its school  
74 system offer instruction in computer science.

75 **SECTION 4.** The State Department of Education shall ensure  
76 that the Mississippi Virtual School operated pursuant to Section  
77 37-161-3 has sufficient capacity to enable schools to utilize high  
78 quality instruction computer science courses to meet the needs of  
79 such schools as a result of this act.

80 **SECTION 5.** (1) Subject to appropriations made by the  
81 Legislature, the State Department of Education shall provide  
82 annual training for teachers, counselors and administrators in  
83 order to phase in the K-12 computer science curriculum.  
84 Preference should be given to districts who have the fewest number  
85 of teachers trained in computer science. The State Department of  
86 Education shall work with the Center for Cyber Education at  
87 Mississippi State University to develop and coordinate teacher  
88 training. The State Department of Education may contract with  
89 private and nonprofit providers for teacher training and for  
90 student instruction, and is encouraged to utilize available  
91 cost-free computer training, instruction and resources. Teachers  
92 may receive computer science instruction training through an  
93 online platform.

94 (2) The State Department of Education shall:

95 (a) Convene a task force composed of at least one (1)  
96 representative from each of the following categories:



97 (i) The State Superintendent of Education;

98 (ii) A local superintendent of education where at  
99 least fifty percent (50%) of the schools in the district teach  
100 computer science;

101 (iii) A local superintendent of education where  
102 less than fifty percent (50%) of the schools in the district teach  
103 computer science;

104 (iv) A Grade K-5 teacher;

105 (v) A Grade 6-8 teacher;

106 (vi) A Grade 9-12 teacher;

107 (vii) A representative from a state institution of  
108 higher learning; and

109 (viii) A representative from the business  
110 community.

111 (b) The task force shall provide a report by January 1,  
112 2021, to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the  
113 House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Senate Education  
114 Committee and the Chairman of the House Education Committee. The  
115 report shall include a strategic plan for statewide computer  
116 science education initiatives, including, but not limited to, the  
117 following:

118 (i) A summary of the current state landscape for  
119 K-12 computer science education;



120 (ii) A plan for expanding computer science  
121 education opportunities to every school in the state by the  
122 2023-2024 school year;

123 (iii) A plan for the development of preservice and  
124 in-service teachers seeking a computer science endorsement or  
125 course specific license, in order to meet timeline for course  
126 requirements;

127 (iv) The development of a vetted list of approved  
128 vendors in computer science education that are recognized as high  
129 quality computer science courses or instruction, which should  
130 weigh preference on cost and ease of implementation; and

131 (v) The identification of approved computer  
132 science courses that may fulfill one (1) unit of academic credit  
133 for mathematics or science courses for high school graduation.

134 (2) The State Department of Education shall submit a report  
135 by December 31 of each year through 2024 to the Governor, the  
136 Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
137 the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee and the Chairman of  
138 the House Education Committee. The report shall include a list of  
139 schools in each district teaching computer science and the number  
140 of computer science teachers trained in each district.

141 **SECTION 6.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
142 and after July 2, 2020, and shall stand repealed on July 1, 2020.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**



1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
2 EDUCATION TO IMPLEMENT A MANDATORY K-12 COMPUTER SCIENCE  
3 CURRICULUM BASED ON THE MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE AND CAREER-READINESS  
4 STANDARDS FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE WHICH INCLUDES INSTRUCTION IN, BUT  
5 NOT LIMITED TO, COMPUTATIONAL THINKING, CYBER-RELATED,  
6 PROGRAMMING, CYBER SECURITY, DATA SCIENCE, ROBOTICS, AND OTHER  
7 COMPUTER SCIENCE AND CYBER-RELATED CONTENT; TO PRESCRIBE MINIMUM  
8 COMPONENTS OF THE CURRICULUM AT EACH GRADE LEVEL; AND TO PROVIDE  
9 FOR TEACHER TRAINING AS NEEDED AT ALL GRADE LEVELS; AND FOR  
10 RELATED PURPOSES.

