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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1036 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, HAGGERTY, RABB, KINSEY, LONGIETTI,  
DAVIS, VAZQUEZ, NEILSON, SCHLOSSBERG, READSHAW, MURT,  
DAVIDSON, DRISCOLL, J. HARRIS, YOUNGBLOOD, MARSICO, DALEY AND  
BRADFORD, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

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A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to establish an  
2 advisory committee to conduct a study of this Commonwealth's  
3 current educational offerings regarding computer science and  
4 provide feedback on opportunities for bolstering computer  
5 science education in Pennsylvania.

6 WHEREAS, Computer science is the scientific and practical  
7 approach to computation and its applications and the study of  
8 the principles and use of computers; and

9 WHEREAS, Computer science promotes job growth and innovation  
10 and is one of the most in-demand college degrees; and

11 WHEREAS, The field of computer science prepares individuals  
12 for not only current career opportunities but for future career  
13 opportunities that do not yet exist; and

14 WHEREAS, It is necessary to have an educated workforce that  
15 is prepared for the future economy of this Commonwealth and the  
16 nation; and

17 WHEREAS, There are a number of policy initiatives that can be  
18 pursued to provide the necessary education for a future economy;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, These initiatives include creating a computer  
3 science State plan for kindergarten through grade 12, providing  
4 dedicated funding for rigorous computer science professional  
5 development and establishing certification pathways for computer  
6 science teachers; and

7 WHEREAS, These initiatives also include establishing programs  
8 at institutions of higher education to offer computer science to  
9 preservice teachers, creating dedicated computer science  
10 positions in State and local education agencies, requiring that  
11 all secondary schools offer computer science and allowing  
12 computer science to count as a core admission requirement at  
13 institutions of higher education; and

14 WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the General Assembly to  
15 govern this Commonwealth in a manner that helps the residents of  
16 this Commonwealth, which may involve preparing them for the  
17 future; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission  
19 establish an advisory committee to conduct a study of computer  
20 science policy initiatives; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission provide  
22 feedback on the feasibility of implementing computer science  
23 policy proposals and their impacts regarding the field of  
24 computer science in this Commonwealth; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission report  
26 to the House of Representatives the result of its study and  
27 recommendations regarding computer science education in this  
28 Commonwealth and file the report with the Chief Clerk of the  
29 House of Representatives no later than 365 days after adoption  
30 of this resolution.