

18A:7C-1.1

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2017 **CHAPTER:** 303

NJSA: 18A:7C-1.1 (Requires school districts to offer course in computer science and DOE to adopt changes to NJ Student Learning Standards in computer science.)

BILL NO: S2485 (Substituted for A2873)

SPONSOR(S) Diegnan and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 9/8/2016

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Education
 SENATE: ---

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** 1/8/2018
 SENATE: 6/29/2017

DATE OF APPROVAL: 1/16/2018

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Second Reprint enacted) Yes

S2485

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 2 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** No

SENATE: No

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: Yes 6/19/2017
6/26/2017

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

A2873

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 2 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** Yes

SENATE: No

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: Yes 6/8/2017
6/29/2017

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

(continued)

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Yes

"A look at new laws signed by Christie - Governor approves more than 100 bills on last day," The Record, January 16, 2018

RH/CL

P.L. 2017, CHAPTER 303, *approved January 16, 2018*
Senate No. 2485 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning ²**[high school graduation requirements]**
2 computer science education² and supplementing chapter ²**[7C]**
3 35² of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. a. No later than the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year,
9 each public school enrolling students in grades nine through 12 ¹, other
10 than a county vocational school district,¹ shall offer a course in
11 computer science. The course shall include, but need not be limited to,
12 instruction in computational thinking, computer programming, the
13 appropriate use of the Internet and development of Internet web pages,
14 data security and the prevention of data breaches, ethical matters in
15 computer science, and the global impact of advancements in computer
16 science. ²The course shall be informed by the review undertaken by
17 the Department of Education pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2015, c.229.²

18 b. Beginning with the 2022-2023 ²**[grade nine class]** school
19 year², the State Board of Education shall ²**[require each student to**
20 **complete a course in computer science that includes instruction in the**
21 **various areas specified in subsection a. of this section as part of the**
22 **high school graduation requirements. ¹In the case of a student enrolled**
23 **in a county vocational school district, instruction in a career-specific**
24 **application that is delivered as part of an approved career and technical**
25 **education program shall satisfy this requirement. ¹]** adopt any
26 appropriate changes to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and
27 graduation requirements based upon the review undertaken by the
28 Department of Education pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2015, c.229.²

29
30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

31
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33
34

35 _____
36 Requires school districts to offer course in computer science and
37 DOE to adopt changes to NJ Student Learning Standards in
computer science.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate floor amendments adopted June 19, 2017.

²Senate floor amendments adopted June 26, 2017.

SENATE, No. 2485

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

Sponsored by:

Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.

District 18 (Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Requires completion of a computer science class as part of the high school graduation requirements.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S2485 DIEGNAN

2

1 AN ACT concerning high school graduation requirements and
2 supplementing chapter 7C of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes.

4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7

8 1. a. No later than the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year,
9 each public school enrolling students in grades nine through 12
10 shall offer a course in computer science. The course shall include,
11 but need not be limited to, instruction in computational thinking,
12 computer programming, the appropriate use of the Internet and
13 development of Internet web pages, data security and the prevention
14 of data breaches, ethical matters in computer science, and the global
15 impact of advancements in computer science.

16 b. Beginning with the 2022-2023 grade nine class, the State
17 Board of Education shall require each student to complete a course
18 in computer science that includes instruction in the various areas
19 specified in subsection a. of this section as part of the high school
20 graduation requirements.

21

22 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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24

25

STATEMENT

26

27 This bill provides that no later than the beginning of the 2018-
28 2019 school year, each public school enrolling students in grades
29 nine through 12 will offer a course in computer science. The
30 course would include instruction in computational thinking,
31 computer programming, the appropriate use of the Internet and
32 development of Internet web pages, data security and the prevention
33 of data breaches, ethical matters in computer science, and the global
34 impact of advancements in computer science. The bill also
35 stipulates that beginning with the 2022-2023 grade nine class, the
36 State Board of Education will require each student to complete a
37 course in computer science as part of the high school graduation
38 requirements.

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 2485

with Senate Floor Amendments
(Proposed by Senator DIEGNAN)

ADOPTED: JUNE 19, 2017

These floor amendments exempt county vocational school districts from the requirement of offering a course in computer science, and stipulate that instruction in a career-specific application that is delivered as part of an approved career and technical education program will satisfy the requirement that a student complete a course in computer science as part of the high school graduation requirements.

STATEMENT TO
[First Reprint]
SENATE, No. 2485

with Senate Floor Amendments
(Proposed by Senator DIEGNAN)

ADOPTED: JUNE 26, 2017

These floor amendments:

- Eliminate the bill's requirement that beginning with the 2022-2023 grade nine class, students complete a course in computer science in order to graduate high school;
- Require that the computer science course required to be offered by public schools be informed by the work being done by the Department of Education pursuant to P.L.2015, c.229, which provides that the department review the New Jersey Student Learning Standards to ensure that modern computer science standards are incorporated, where appropriate; and
- Provide that by the 2022-2023 school year the State Board of Education will adopt appropriate changes to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and to high school graduation requirements that reflect the work being done by the Department of Education pursuant to P.L.2015, c.229.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2873

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 16, 2016

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman PATRICIA EGAN JONES

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Requires completion of a computer science class as part of the high school graduation requirements.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning high school graduation requirements and
2 supplementing chapter 7C of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes.

4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7

8 1. Beginning with the 2016-2017 grade nine class, the State
9 Board of Education shall require each student to complete a course
10 in computer science that includes, but is not limited to, instruction
11 on computer programming, as part of the high school graduation
12 requirements.

13

14 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

15

16

17

STATEMENT

18

19 This bill provides that beginning with the 2016-2017 grade nine
20 class, the State Board of Education will require each student to
21 complete a course in computer science that includes, but is not
22 limited to, instruction on computer programming, as part of the high
23 school graduation requirements.

24

25 Computer science is driving job growth and innovation, and
26 more than half of projected jobs in STEM (Science, Technology,
27 Engineering, and Mathematics) fields are in computing occupations.
28 Also, computer science is a foundational science for the digital age,
29 and a fundamental knowledge of computer science is needed to
30 prepare students for the 21st century, regardless of their ultimate
field of study or occupation.

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2873

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 20, 2016

The Assembly Education Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2873 with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill provides that no later than the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year, each public school enrolling students in grades nine through 12 will offer a course in computer science. The course would include instruction in computational thinking, computer programming, the appropriate use of the Internet and development of Internet web pages, data security and the prevention of data breaches, ethical matters in computer science, and the global impact of advancements in computer science. The bill also stipulates that beginning with the 2022-2023 grade nine class, the State Board of Education will require each student to complete a course in computer science as part of the high school graduation requirements.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to:

- 1) require that, no later than the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year, each public school enrolling students in grades nine through 12 offer a course in computer science;
- 2) specify topics, in addition to computer programming, that would be included in the computer science course; and
- 3) change the class for which completing a course in computer science would be a graduation requirement from the 2016-2017 grade nine class to the 2022-2023 grade nine class.

STATEMENT TO
[First Reprint]
ASSEMBLY, No. 2873

with Assembly Floor Amendments
(Proposed by Assemblywoman JONES)

ADOPTED: JUNE 8, 2017

These floor amendments exempt county vocational school districts from the requirement of offering a course in computer science, and stipulate that instruction in a career-specific application that is delivered as part of an approved career and technical education program will satisfy the requirement that a student complete a course in computer science as part of the high school graduation requirements.

STATEMENT TO
[Second Reprint]
ASSEMBLY, No. 2873

with Assembly Floor Amendments
(Proposed by Assemblywoman JONES)

ADOPTED: JUNE 29, 2017

These floor amendments:

- Eliminate the bill's requirement that beginning with the 2022-2023 grade nine class, students complete a course in computer science in order to graduate high school;
- Require that the computer science course required to be offered by public schools be informed by the work being done by the Department of Education pursuant to P.L.2015, c.229, which provides that the department review the New Jersey Student Learning Standards to ensure that modern computer science standards are incorporated, where appropriate; and
- Provide that by the 2022-2023 school year the State Board of Education will adopt appropriate changes to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and to high school graduation requirements that reflect the work being done by the Department of Education pursuant to P.L.2015, c.229.