Re: Computer Science bill (S.B 957)

Fully Fund Computer Science Education.

Fully funding computer science instruction in our public schools is vital to ensure our children's relevancy in the modern world economy they are entering. In my, over two decades in the technology field, I have witnessed employers become increasingly reliant on skilled information systems and technology workers. Those skills are now a prerequisite to employment and have contributed to shortages in domestically sourced skilled technology workers and have created an alarming reliance on offshore resources. With the advent of artificial intelligence and advanced learning systems reaching viability for business applications, there is a significant shift in investment being allocated to research and development of these disruptive technologies. The automated workforce of the future will be designed, developed, programmed and serviced by workers that have the requisite specialized skills. As a practical matter, our society needs to produce these skilled laborers that have had a strong early foundation in computer science education. Including computer science instruction at an early age will develop active creators instead of passive consumers. We must provide our children every advantage to compete on the world stage. These future taxpayers deserve gainful employment that is currently at risk from other nations that are fully committed to funding their children’s modern education. This funding should be considered as a down payment towards all our futures, not just today’s students. The power of compounding educational interest will ensure that our countries leadership in technology isn’t surpassed by nations who are today challenging both our vision and commitment by fully funding their public computer science programs. We cannot lose this race, please fully support computer science instruction in our public schools.

Sincerely,

David A. Lanza