



Legislative Council Staff Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 8/18/2016

Bill Number

House Bill 16-1198

Sponsors

*Representatives Pabon and
Wilson
Senators Tate and Kerr*

Short Title

*Computer Courses Fulfill
Graduation Requirements*

Research Analyst

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Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill, which became effective on August 10, 2016.

Summary

This bill requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt standards for computer science education, including courses that qualify as graduation requirements in either mathematics or science, by July 1, 2018. Local education providers may choose whether or not to implement the standards.

Background

Colorado currently has no standards for computer science courses in secondary schools.

House Action

House Education Committee (March 9, 2016). At the hearing, representatives of Microsoft, the Colorado Technology Association, and Colorado Succeeds spoke in support of the bill. The committee passed amendment L.002, which set July 1, 2018 as the deadline for the SBE to set the new standards, and amendment L.001, which eliminated the resource bank from the bill. The committee referred the bill, as amended, to the House Committee of the Whole.

House second reading (March 15, 2016). The House Committee of the Whole adopted the

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Education Committee report and passed the bill with no amendments.

House third reading (March 16, 2016). The House passed the bill with no amendments.

House consideration of Senate amendments (April 1, 2016). The House concurred with Senate amendments to the bill.

Senate Action

Senate Education Committee (March 24, 2016). At the hearing, representatives of Microsoft, Colorado Succeeds, Galvanize, and the Colorado Technology Association spoke in support of the bill. The committee adopted a conceptual amendment to add a safety clause and referred the bill, as amended, to the Senate Committee of the Whole.

Senate second reading (March 29, 2016). The Senate Committee of the Whole adopted the Education Committee report and passed the bill.

Senate third reading (March 30, 2016). The Senate passed the bill with no amendments.