

# ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 170

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 2, 2014

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman NANCY J. PINKIN**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman TROY SINGLETON**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Assemblywoman CAROLINE CASAGRANDE**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

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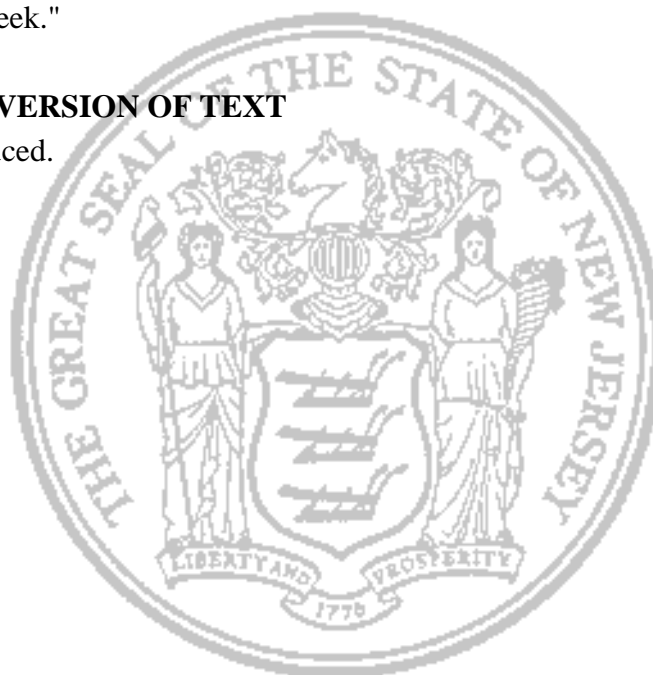
**Assemblymen Coughlin, Wisniewski, Lagana, Assemblywomen Spencer,  
Quijano, Tucker, Assemblymen Caputo and Wimberly**

**SYNOPSIS**

Recognizes week of December 8 through 14, 2014 as "Computer Science Education Week."

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/14/2014)**

1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** recognizing the week of December 8  
2 through 14, 2014 as "Computer Science Education Week."  
3  
4 **WHEREAS**, Computing technology is an integral part of our culture  
5 and daily life in almost every occupation and is transforming  
6 industry, creating new fields of commerce, driving innovation in all  
7 fields of science, and bolstering productivity in established  
8 economic sectors; and  
9 **WHEREAS**, Computer science education develops students'  
10 computational and critical thinking skills, and encompasses the  
11 study of computers and algorithmic processes, including their  
12 principles, hardware and software designs, applications, and overall  
13 impact on society; and  
14 **WHEREAS**, There are seven big ideas at the core of computer  
15 science—creativity, abstraction, data, algorithms, programming,  
16 Internet, and impact—that are applicable to many academic  
17 disciplines; and  
18 **WHEREAS**, The outlook for computer science occupations is bright as  
19 more than half of all new science, technology, engineering, and  
20 mathematics (STEM) jobs in the United States are in computer  
21 science occupations; and  
22 **WHEREAS**, The College Board states that studying Advanced  
23 Placement computer science in high school can set students on a  
24 path to 130 different career areas and 48 college majors; and  
25 **WHEREAS**, The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates  
26 150,000 new job openings annually in computer science  
27 occupations with these jobs typically paying 75 percent more than  
28 the national median average salary; and  
29 **WHEREAS**, The number of computer science jobs is rising three times  
30 faster than the number of computer science graduates, and experts  
31 predict there will be one million unfulfilled computer science jobs  
32 in the United States by 2020; and  
33 **WHEREAS**, Despite the proliferation of computer science occupations  
34 in our economy, roughly 90 percent of schools do not offer  
35 computer science courses and admission policies for most colleges  
36 and universities do not include computer science coursework for  
37 meeting the mathematic or science entrance requirements; and  
38 **WHEREAS**, Of the 3.4 million Advanced Placement exams given in  
39 2011, only about 20,000 of those were in computer science,  
40 accounting for two percent of the science exams and one percent of  
41 all Advanced Placement exams; and  
42 **WHEREAS**, In the 2012-2013 school year, only nine states allowed  
43 computer science courses to count towards secondary school  
44 graduation requirements, chilling student interest in computer  
45 science courses; and  
46 **WHEREAS**, "Computer Science Education Week" highlights the  
47 crucial role that computer science plays in transforming our society

1 and how computer science enables innovation and creates economic  
2 opportunities; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Participating in an Hour of Code during "Computer  
4 Science Education Week," during which students are introduced to  
5 computer science through a game-like, self-directed tutorial, can  
6 serve to demystify the field of computer science and encourage  
7 more students to take up further studies of computer science; and

8 **WHEREAS**, The week of December 8 through 14, 2014 is recognized  
9 as "Computer Science Education Week" in honor of the birthday of  
10 Grace Murray Hopper, one of the first women involved in the field  
11 of computer science; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Exposing middle and high school students to computer  
13 science education in New Jersey would give them a deeper  
14 knowledge of the fundamentals of computing, yielding critical  
15 thinking skills that will serve them throughout their lives in  
16 numerous fields; now, therefore,

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18 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New  
19 Jersey:

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21 1. This House recognizes the week of December 8 through 14,  
22 2014 as "Computer Science Education Week" in the State of New  
23 Jersey.

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25 2. This House further urges the public officials and citizens of  
26 this State to observe "Computer Science Education Week" with  
27 appropriate activities and programs.

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STATEMENT

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32 This resolution recognizes the week of December 8 through 14,  
33 2014 as "Computer Science Education Week" in the State of New  
34 Jersey.

35 "Computer Science Education Week" highlights the crucial role  
36 that computer science plays in transforming our society and how  
37 computer science enables innovation and creates economic  
38 opportunities. The week of December 8 through 14, 2014 is  
39 recognized as "Computer Science Education Week" in honor of the  
40 birthday of Grace Murray Hopper, one of the first women involved  
41 in the field of computer science. One of the activities emphasized  
42 during "Computer Science Education Week" is the Hour of Code,  
43 which introduces students to computer science through a game-like,  
44 self-directed tutorial. Participating in "Computer Science Education  
45 Week" and the Hour of Code can serve to demystify the field of  
46 computer science and encourage more students to take up further  
47 studies of computer science.

1       Computing technology is an integral part of culture and daily life  
2 in just about every occupation and is transforming industry, creating  
3 new fields of commerce, driving innovation in all fields of science,  
4 and bolstering productivity in established economic sectors. The  
5 outlook for computer science occupations is bright. More than half  
6 of all new science, technology, engineering, and mathematics  
7 (STEM) jobs in the United States are in computer science  
8 occupations. Coursework in Advanced Placement computer science  
9 can open a path to 130 different career areas and 48 college majors.  
10 The number of computer science jobs is rising three times faster  
11 than the number of computer science graduates, with 150,000 new  
12 job openings annually in computer science occupations that  
13 typically pay 75 percent more than the national median average  
14 salary.

15       Despite the proliferation of computer science occupations in our  
16 economy, roughly 90 percent of schools do not offer computer  
17 science courses and only nine states allowed computer science  
18 courses to count towards secondary school graduation requirements  
19 in the 2012-2013 school year. Further exposure to computer  
20 science education by middle and high school students in New Jersey  
21 would benefit the State's economy and open up new career options  
22 for students.

23       This House recognizes the week of December 8 through 14, 2014  
24 as "Computer Science Education Week" in the State of New Jersey  
25 and urges the public officials and citizens of this State to observe  
26 "Computer Science Education Week" with appropriate activities  
27 and programs.