HOUSE FILE 252
BY INGELS

A BILL FOR

1 An Act incorporating preparation in computer science, artificial
2   intelligence, and computational thinking into the preparation
3   required in approved practitioner preparation programs, and
4   including applicability provisions.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1   Section 1. Section 256.16, subsection 1, Code 2025, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:
3   <u>NEW PARAGRAPH</u>. *o.* Beginning July 1, 2026, include
4 preparation in computer science, artificial intelligence, and
5 computational thinking that is appropriate to the grade level and
6 subject area in which the practitioner preparation student will
7 teach. A higher education institution providing practitioner
8 preparation may satisfy this requirement by requiring a
9 practitioner preparation student to complete a dedicated course
10 or module, or by integrating such preparation into the existing
11 program.
12   Sec. 2. Section 262.9, Code 2025, is amended by adding the
13 following new subsection:
14   <u>NEW SUBSECTION</u>. 39. Develop and distribute to all higher
15 education institutions in this state that provide approved
16 practitioner preparation programs guidance related to how to
17 incorporate preparation related to computer science, artificial
18 intelligence, and computational thinking into the practitioner
19 preparation program, as required under section 256.16, subsection
20 1, paragraph "o".
21   Sec. 3. APPLICABILITY. The following applies to students
22 admitted to an approved practitioner preparation program on or
23 after July 1, 2026:
24   The section of this Act amending section 256.16.
25   EXPLANATION
26   The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
27   the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
28   This bill requires approved practitioner preparation programs
29 to include preparation in computer science, artificial
30 intelligence, and computational thinking that is appropriate to
31 the grade level and subject area in which the practitioner
32 preparation student will teach, beginning July 1, 2026.
33 The bill allows a higher education institution providing
34 practitioner preparation to satisfy this requirement by requiring
35 a practitioner preparation student to complete a dedicated course

1 or module, or by integrating such preparation into the existing
2 program. These provisions apply to students admitted to an
3 approved practitioner preparation program on or after July 1,
4 2026.
5   The state board of regents is required to develop and
6 distribute to all higher education institutions in this state
7 that provide approved practitioner preparation programs guidance
8 related to how to incorporate preparation related to computer
9 science, artificial intelligence, and computational thinking into
10 the program.