SENATE FILE 2224
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3050)

(As Amended and Passed by the Senate February 24, 2026)

[= New Language by the Senate

A BILL FOR

An Act relating to computer science education, including by modifying provisions related to standards for computer science education, the curriculum provided to students enrolled in grades nine through twelve, and practitioner preparation programs, and including applicability provisions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph a, subparagraph (4), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

(4) The rules shall provide for the establishment of high-quality standards for computer science education taught by elementary, middle, and high schools, in accordance with the goal established under section 284.6A, subsection 1, setting a foundation for personal and professional success in a high-technology, knowledge-based Iowa economy. The high-quality standards for computer science education must require that all levels and grades of computer science instruction include instruction related to the fundamental concepts of evolving computer science technologies and artificial intelligence, including instruction that explains what artificial intelligence is, how artificial intelligence works, and the societal and ethical impacts of artificial intelligence.

Sec. 2. Section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

1. (1) One-half unit of computer science ~~commencing with the school year beginning July 1, 2022~~.

(2) The one-half unit of computer science shall incorporate the standards established pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph *"a"*, subparagraph (4), and may be offered online in accordance with rules adopted pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 32, paragraph *"a"*.

(3) The one-half unit of computer science may include instruction related to applied sciences, technology, engineering, or manufacturing, including transportation, distribution, logistics, architecture, and construction, which may be offered and taught through dedicated units of coursework or through units of coursework that also meet the requirements of the coursework required under paragraph *"h"*, subparagraph (1), subparagraph division (c). The state board shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to implement this subparagraph.

Sec. 3. Section 256.16, subsection 1, Code 2026, is amended

by adding the following new paragraph:

NEW PARAGRAPH. *p.* Include preparation in computer science, artificial intelligence, and computational thinking that is appropriate to the grade level and subject area in which the student who is enrolled in the practitioner preparation program will teach. A higher education institution providing practitioner preparation may satisfy this requirement by requiring a student who is enrolled in the practitioner preparation program to complete a dedicated course or module, or by integrating such preparation into the existing practitioner preparation program.

Sec. 4. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, paragraph h, Code 2026, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (4) The educational standards established in section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph *"l"*, related to the use of instruction related to applied sciences, technology, engineering, or manufacturing to fulfill a portion of the unit requirements related to computer science.

Sec. 5. Section 256F.4, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

NEW PARAGRAPH. *0s.* Be subject to and comply with the requirements of section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph *"l"*, relating to the use of instruction related to applied sciences, technology, engineering, or manufacturing to fulfill a portion of the unit requirements related to computer science in the same manner as a school district.

Sec. 6. APPLICABILITY. The following applies to students admitted to an approved practitioner preparation program on or after July 1, 2028:

The section of this Act amending section 256.16.