AN ACT concerning [high school graduation requirements] computer science education and supplementing chapter 7C of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. a. No later than the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year, each public school enrolling students in grades nine through twelve other than a county vocational school district shall offer a course in computer science. The course shall include, but need not be limited to, instruction in computational thinking, computer programming, the appropriate use of the Internet and development of Internet web pages, data security and the prevention of data breaches, ethical matters in computer science, and the global impact of advancements in computer science. The course shall be informed by the review undertaken by the Department of Education pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2015, c.229.

b. Beginning with the 2022-2023 grade nine class school year, the State Board of Education shall require each student to complete a course in computer science that includes instruction in the various areas specified in subsection a. of this section as part of the high school graduation requirements. In the case of a student enrolled in a county vocational school district, instruction in a career-specific application that is delivered as part of an approved career and technical education program shall satisfy this requirement. DOE to adopt any appropriate changes to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and graduation requirements based upon the review undertaken by the Department of Education pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2015, c.229.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Provides school districts to offer course in computer science and DOE to adopt changes to NJ Student Learning Standards in computer science.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

1Senate floor amendments adopted June 19, 2017.
2Senate floor amendments adopted June 26, 2017.