September 1, 2016

TechNet Applauds California Legislature for Approving Bill to Develop Computer Science Strategic Plan

Sacramento — TechNet, the national, bipartisan network of innovation economy CEOs and senior executives, today applauded the California state legislature for approving AB 2329, legislation which would develop a comprehensive plan for computer science education across the state.

"Computer science holds the key to addressing America's skills crisis," said Linda Moore, president and CEO of TechNet. **"By passing this legislation, California has taken a huge step toward ensuring it has a plan for scaling CS to every school and every community in the state. On behalf of our membership, we thank the legislature for its leadership on this critical issue and call on Governor Brown to sign this bill into law."**

Sponsored by Assemblywoman Susan Bonilla, Assembly Bill 2329 would establish a diverse advisory panel to develop a statewide computer science plan.

The Importance of Computer Science
By 2018, more than half of all science and technology jobs are projected to be in computer science-related fields. Yet only one in four high schools offers computer science, and in many schools, girls and students of color are underrepresented.

Across the country, there is a sense of urgency to expand computer science education. Large urban school districts, including Chicago, New York and Oakland, have unveiled ambitious plans to integrate computer science in K-12 education. And, states, including Arkansas and Idaho, are allowing students to count computer science toward high school graduation requirements.

AB 2329
This legislation ensures that California will have a statewide strategic plan that considers the following issues:
*   Who can teach computer science and with what credentials;
*   How to increase the pool of teachers;

- What computer science standards drive instruction; and
- How to encourage students to take computer science classes.

This legislation also ensures that there is engagement from multiple stakeholders, including parents, teachers, students, advocates, policymakers, and leaders from state and local government.

TechNet's California Executive Director Andrea Deveau co-authored an op-ed in the Sacramento Bee on the importance of passing this legislation with Julie Flapan, executive director of the Alliance for California Computing Education for Students and Schools. Linda Moore published an op-ed in TechCrunch on the need for computer science education across the country.

AB 2329 Support
- TechNet (Sponsor)
- Accenture
- Alliance for California Computing Education for Students and Schools
- American Association of University Women of California
- Amazon Web Services
- Bay Area Council
- Bloom Energy
- California Chamber of Commerce
- California Federation of Teachers
- CA Technologies
- California Manufacturers & Technology Association
- CalInnovates
- Children Now
- Cisco
- Code.org
- Dell
- Ebay
- Entertainment Software Association
- Facebook
- General Motors
- Hewlett Packard
- Intel
- Intuit
- Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce
- Los Angeles Unified School District

- Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom
- Lyft
- Microsoft Corporation
- Million Women Mentors – California
- Oracle
- Paypal
- Qualcomm
- San Diego Chamber of Commerce
- San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
- San Jose Chamber of Commerce
- Silicon Valley Leadership Group
- SolarCity
- Valley Industry and Commerce Association
- Yahoo!

About TechNet

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50-state level. TechNet's diverse membership includes dynamic startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents more than two million employees in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, advanced energy, biotechnology, venture capital, and finance. TechNet has offices in Washington, D.C., Silicon Valley, San Francisco, Sacramento, Austin, Boston, Seattle, Albany, and Tallahassee.

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