

**SUBJECT:** Requiring TEKS for the technology applications curriculum

**COMMITTEE:** Public Education — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 12 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Allison, Ashby, K. Bell, Dutton, M. González, K. King, Meyer, Sanford, Talarico, VanDeaver

0 nays

1 absent — Allen

**WITNESSES:** For — Alexis Harrigan, Code.org; Carol Fletcher, Pflugerville ISD; Jennifer Bergland, Texas Computer Education Association; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Jennifer Rodriguez, Apple Inc; Dana Harris, Austin Chamber of Commerce; Robin Painovich, Career and Technical Association of Texas; Dana Chiodo, CompTIA; Priscilla Camacho, Dallas Regional Chamber; Daniel Womack, Dow; Deborah Caldwell, North East Independent School District; Holli Davies, North Texas Commission; Allison Brooks, Project Lead the Way; Caroline Joiner, Rackspace; Seth Rau, San Antonio ISD; David Edmonson, TechNet; Mike Meroney, Texas Association of Manufacturers; Shannon Noble, Texas Industrial Vocational Association; Chris Frandsen, Texas League Of Women Voters; Kyle Ward, Texas PTA; Lisa Dawn-Fisher, Texas State Teachers Association; Jarod Love, The College Board)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Terri Hanson and Monica Martinez, Texas Education Agency)

**BACKGROUND:** Education Code sec. 28.002 requires school districts to offer an enrichment curriculum that includes technology applications to kindergarten through 12th grade students.

**DIGEST:** HB 2984 would require the State Board of Education (SBOE) to adopt essential knowledge and skills (TEKS) for the state technology

applications curriculum that included coding, computer programming, computational thinking, and cybersecurity for students in kindergarten through 8th grade.

The SBOE would have to review and revise the technology applications TEKS every five years to ensure the curriculum was relevant to student education and aligned with current or emerging professions. The first review and revision of the technology applications curriculum would have to be completed by December 31, 2020.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2019.

**NOTES:**

According to the Legislative Budget Board, the bill would have a negative impact of about \$253,000 in general revenue related funds through fiscal 2020-21, with a decreased impact in subsequent biennia.