

September 27, 2017

Chair Lehner and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

TECH CORPS was pleased to learn of the pending legislation before the Senate Education Committee that will help establish Computer Science standards and model curriculum for K-12 schools in Ohio. We strongly urge you to support Sub. H.B. No. 170.

TECH CORPS is a national nonprofit organization headquartered in Columbus, Ohio and founded in 1995 by Gary Beach, Publisher Emeritus of CIO Magazine and author of *The U.S. Technology Skills Gap*. TECH CORPS is dedicated to ensuring K-12 students have equal access to Computer Science programs, skills and resources that enhance early learning and prepare them for college and career.

TECH CORPS develops Computer Science programs and deploys tech-savvy talent to assist K-12 schools and youth-serving organizations across the country. Over the years, partners such as JPMorgan Chase, Nordson Corporation, Progressive Insurance and IBM have provided TECH CORPS with the fuel to deliver much-needed technology resources to K-12 students and teachers. This year, TECH CORPS provided high-quality Computer Science learning experiences to more than 1,000 students in Ohio.

We believe studying Computer Science, regardless of a student's ultimate occupation, provides the critical computational thinking, knowledge and practices necessary to be ready for college or career. We have observed first-hand how access to high-quality Computer Science learning puts students in the role of actively creating and designing *with* technology - not just passively using and consuming it.

Computer Science is a foundational skill for the 21st century and focusing on broadening access to Computer Science in Ohio's K-12 schools has never been more important. We strongly urge you to support the bill being brought forth by Representatives Carfagna and Duffey.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lisa M. Chambers".

Lisa M. Chambers, National Director
TECH CORPS