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Substitute Bill Comparative Synopsis

Sub. H.B. 623

135th General Assembly

House Primary and Secondary Education

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This table summarizes how the latest substitute version of the bill differs from the immediately preceding version. It addresses only the topics on which the two versions differ substantively. It does not list topics on which the two bills are substantively the same.

Previous Version (As Introduced)	Latest Version (I_135_1860-8)
Computer science as a graduation requirement	
<p>Requires a public school student who enters ninth grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2028, to complete one unit of computer science instruction, taken in any of grades 8-12. The course must be completed as one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For a student that does not take advance computer science in lieu of Algebra II, one unit of Mathematics that is not Algebra II; 2. One science unit; or 3. One elective unit (R.C. 3313.603(C)(10)(a)). <p>No provision.</p>	<p>Same, but requires the course to be completed as one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One science unit; 2. One elective unit; 3. If the unit is advanced computer science, one unit of math in lieu of Algebra II; or 4. If the unit is not advanced computer science, one unit of math that is not Algebra II (R.C. 3313.603(10)(a)). <p>Requires the Department of Education and Workforce to develop and publish guidance for high schools to use regarding the use of computer science courses in lieu of a unit of science or a unit of math (R.C. 3313.603(C)(10)(a)).</p>

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<p>Exempts from the computer science course graduation requirement (1) a student enrolled in a chartered nonpublic school and (2) a student who was enrolled in high school in a different state but transfers to an Ohio high school as a senior <i>(R.C. 3313.603(C)(10)(c))</i>.</p>	<p>Only exempts a student who was enrolled in high school in a different state but transfers to an Ohio high school as a senior <i>(R.C. 3313.603(C)(10)(c))</i>.</p>
List of satisfactory courses	
<p>Requires the Department to adopt by July 1, 2028, a list of courses that can be used to satisfy the computer science instruction requirement <i>(R.C. 3313.608(C)(10)(b))</i>.</p>	<p>Same, but requires the Department to adopt the list by July 1, 2026 <i>(R.C. 3313.608(C)(10)(b))</i>.</p>
<p>Requires the course list to include any course that contains at least 20 hours of programming and satisfies the bill's other requirements <i>(R.C. 3313.608(C)(10)(b))</i>.</p>	<p>Same, but removes the requirement for the course to contain at least 20 hours of programming <i>(R.C. 3313.608(C)(10)(b))</i>.</p>
<p>Requires the Department to update the course list on a regular basis to respond to new course offerings established by schools <i>(R.C. 3313.608(C)(10)(b))</i>.</p>	<p>Requires the Department to update the course list on a regular basis to respond to educational and industry trends <i>(R.C. 3313.608(C)(10)(b))</i>.</p>
Computer science as a required course offering	
<p>Requires each school district and other public school to offer in each school building that enrolls students in any of grades 9-12:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At least one-half unit of computer science instruction for the 2026-2027 through 2031-2032 school years; and 2. At least one unit of computer science instruction for the 2032-2033 school year and each school year thereafter <i>(R.C. 3313.6030(B), 3314.03, 3326.15, and 3328.22)</i>. 	<p>Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, requires each school district and other public school to offer at least one unit of computer science instruction in each school building that enrolls students in any of grades 9-12 <i>(R.C. 3313.6030(B), 3314.03, 3326.15, and 3328.22)</i>.</p>
<p>Requires any district or school that is unable to offer an in-person course by the 2026-2027 school year to submit an action plan outlining how it plans to meet the bill's requirements no later than 120 days after the bill's effective date <i>(R.C. 3313.6030(D))</i>.</p>	<p>Same, but requires the action plan to be submitted no later than June 30, 2026, and on June 30 for each year thereafter that the plan is necessary <i>(R.C. 3313.6030(D))</i>.</p>

Previous Version (As Introduced)	Latest Version (I_135_1860-8)
Annual computer science education report	
<p>Beginning July 1, 2027, requires each district and school to submit an annual report to the Department that includes the following for the prior academic year:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The names and course codes of computer science courses offered in each school, including course description and which state computer science standards are covered; 2. The number and percentage of students who enrolled in each computer science course, disaggregated by gender, race and ethnicity, special education status, English learner status, free and reduced-price meals eligibility, grade level (except where a category contains fewer than five students); and 3. The number of computer science course instructors at each school, disaggregated by certification or license as applicable, gender, race and ethnicity, and highest academic degree completed (<i>R.C. 3313.6030(G)</i>). 	<p>No provision.</p>
<p>Requires the Department, using data it collects in its usual course of operations, to publish a report on computer science education in the state for the 2026-2027 school year, which must include information on student enrollment and teachers teaching the courses (<i>R.C. 3313.6030(F)(1)</i>).</p>	<p>No provision.</p>
<p>Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, requires the Department to annually publish a report on computer science education in the state, containing, at a minimum information on specified topics, the data for which must be reported by districts and schools, disaggregated by school and aggregated at the state level. (<i>R.C. 3313.6030(F)(2) and (G)</i>).</p>	<p>Same, but requires the Department to publish the report on computer science education in the prior academic year, requires the report to include whether each course is offered in an in-person traditional classroom setting or by virtual or distance course option, and removes the reporting requirement for districts and schools (<i>R.C. 3313.6030(F) and (G)</i>).</p>

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Community college partnership	
No provision.	Permits a public school to partner with a community college to establish a program under which the college offers computer science instruction that provides the school's students with a full school year of in-person content, which includes the Ohio Code-Scholar Program (<i>R.C. 3313.6032(B)</i>).
No provision.	Permits any instruction offered by a program to satisfy the public school's requirement to offer a computer science course, provided the instruction is available to all students and meets or exceeds state computer science standards (<i>R.C. 3313.6032(C)(1)</i>).
No provision.	Permits a student to use instruction offered by a program to satisfy a computer science graduation requirement, provided the instruction meets or exceeds state computer science standards (<i>R.C. 3313.6032(C)(2)</i>).
No provision.	Requires the public school to annually certify to the Department that the instruction meets state requirements for the program to be used as a unit of instruction for the purposes of the computer science graduation requirement (<i>R.C. 3313.6032(C)</i>).