



# HOUSE BILL 581: Computer Coding Course Elective

2015-2016 General Assembly

**Committee:** House Education - K-12  
**Introduced by:** Reps. Cotham, Saine  
**Analysis of:** Second Edition

**Date:** April 28, 2015  
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**SUMMARY:** *House Bill 581 directs the SBE to develop and identify courses in computer programming and coding to be offered as electives for middle and high school students.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Under current law, the Basic Education Program broadly describes the education program to be offered to every child in the public schools. The North Carolina Standard Course of Study, adopted as policy by the State Board of Education, sets content standards and describes what should be taught to every child in North Carolina's public schools.

The computer science standards are developed by the SBE. The decision to provide instruction for students in computer science coding is that of local boards of education.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 581 would require the SBE to develop and identify computer programming and coding elective courses for middle and high school students to be offered statewide. The courses must provide opportunities for students to learn about the coding process.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the 2015-2016 school year.

O. Walker Reagan  
Director



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