NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature recognizes the benefit of computer science and computational thinking in education, not only with respect to educational development, but also in cultivating the skills needed to compete and excel in our state's career landscape. The legislature also recognizes the heightened importance of providing access to computer science education to youth in secure facilities, where access to innovative and engaging learning experiences can: (1) Build in-demand skills to prepare students for future employment; (2) help students transition back to their communities following incarceration; and (3) prevent recidivism. However, the legislature understands that state long-term juvenile institutions have unique environmental and facility limitations that affect the ability to deliver some components of computer science instruction in a secure manner. Therefore, the legislature intends to require school districts that operate institutional education programs in state long-term juvenile institutions to provide access...
to computer science courses, while allowing the flexibility to adjust
curriculum and instructional activities when necessary.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 28A.190
RCW to read as follows:

(1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
specific purpose, each school district operating an institutional
education program for youth in state long-term juvenile institutions
must provide an opportunity to access an elective computer science
course in accordance with RCW 28A.230.300.

(2) If, due to facility or technology security limitations, a
school district cannot provide a computer science course that is
fully aligned with all state computer science learning standards, the
school district must adapt the course curriculum and instructional
activities to align with as many state computer science learning
standards as possible.

(3) Each school district operating an institutional education
program for youth in state long-term juvenile institutions must
annually report the following information to the office of the
superintendent of public instruction:

(a) Data indicating the number of students who enrolled in a
computer science course in the prior school year, disaggregated by
gender, race, ethnicity, and age;

(b) A brief description of each computer science course and
whether the course is fully aligned to state computer science
learning standards; and

(c) A brief description of any facility or technology security
limitations that prevent the school district from offering a course
fully aligned with state computer science learning standards, and the
actions the district is taking to address those limitations.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. If specific funding for the purposes of
this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
provided by June 30, 2022, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
act is null and void.

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