By: González of El Paso   H.B. No. 2871

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1   AN ACT

2   relating to the establishment of a program at the University of

3   Texas at Austin to promote computer science education capacity in

4   public schools.

5   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6   SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 67, Education Code, is

7   amended by adding Section 67.04 to read as follows:

8   Sec. 67.04. COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION CAPACITY PROMOTION

9   PROGRAM. (a) Using appropriated funds, the University of Texas at

10   Austin shall design, develop and implement a program connecting

11   local education agencies and institution of higher education with

12   evidence-based and accredited computer science professional

13   development resources provided by institutions of higher

14   education, nonprofit organizations, or other accredited providers.

15   (b) The program shall direct particular focus on public

16   school campuses that lack a certified computer science educator as

17   well as other underserved geographic locations and demographic

18   communities.

19   (c) Program funds may be used:

20   (1) to recruit new educators to the field of computer

21   science education by providing continued professional development

22   for existing and aspiring educators and certification stipends for

23   newly certified educators; and

24   (2) to provide stipends to educators who gain new

1 skills through professional development or successfully achieve an

2 accredited   or   evidence-based   computer   science   education

3 certification.

4   SECTION 2.   This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

8 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.