



**ROBERT A. WAGNER**  
**SENATE MAJORITY LEADER**

Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Thomsen and members of the committee,

For the record, I'm State Senator Rob Wagner. I represent Senate District 19, which includes Lake Oswego, SW Portland, Tualatin, and West Linn.

Thank you to State Senator Sollman for introducing Senate Bill 1590, which requires the Department of Education to work with the STEM investment Council to develop a statewide plan for computer science education.

The legislation requires that the plan:

- Be based on national frameworks
- Prioritize equitable and inclusive implementation, especially for students experiencing academic disparities
- Identify standards and strategies for computer science education prior to the 9th grade
- Support access to computer science learning opportunities for educators; and
- Align standards and curriculum with courses at Oregon's community colleges and universities.

Oregon has a strong technology sector, but far fewer graduates in computer science than the open jobs available.

Computer Science skills are no longer just needed for high tech jobs. These skills are needed in virtually all aspects of the job market. We have a responsibility to ensure that the education children receive in this state recognizes the opportunities of the future and the skills needed to succeed in those fields.

Thank you for holding a public hearing on Senate Bill 1590. I urge the committee's support for the legislation.

Sincerely,

Oregon Senate Majority Leader Rob Wagner

