

Every student in America should have this opportunity.

Dear Members of Congress and fellow Americans,

As business leaders, elected officials, and educators, we join forces to deliver a bipartisan message about opportunity and the American Dream. Technology is transforming society at an unprecedented rate. Whether it's smartphones or social networks, self-driving cars or personalized medicine, nothing embodies the American Dream so much as the opportunity to change or even reinvent the world with technology. And participating in this world requires access to computer science in our schools. We ask you to provide funding for **every student in every school to have an *opportunity* to learn computer science.**

Support for this idea is sweeping our nation. Ninety percent of parents want their children to have access to computer science education at school, and teachers agree. They know that technology opens doors. A hundred thousand teachers have taken matters into their own hands and already begun teaching computer science. Over 100 school districts are rolling out courses, from New York to Chicago to Los Angeles, from Miami to Las Vegas. Twenty states have passed policies and are now looking to support professional training for new computer science teachers. Private donors have collectively committed tens of millions of dollars to solving this problem, including \$48 million of new commitments announced today by many of the undersigned.

Despite this groundswell, **three-quarters of U.S. schools do not offer meaningful computer science courses.** At a time when every industry in every state is impacted by advances in computer technology, our schools should give all students the opportunity to understand how this technology works, to learn how to be creators, coders, and makers — not just consumers. Instead, what is increasingly a basic skill is only available to the lucky few, leaving most students behind, particularly students of color and girls.

How is this acceptable? America leads the world in technology. We invented the personal computer, the Internet, e-commerce, social networking, and the smartphone. This is our chance to position the next generation to participate in the new American Dream.

Not only does computer science provide every student foundational knowledge, it also leads to the highest-paying, fastest-growing jobs in the U.S. economy. There are currently over 500,000 open computing jobs, in every sector, from manufacturing to banking, from agriculture to healthcare, but only 50,000 computer science graduates a year. Whether a student aspires to be a software engineer, or if she just wants a well-rounded education in today's changing world, access to computer science in school is an economic imperative for our nation to remain competitive. And with the growing threat of cyber warfare, this is even a critical matter of national security. Despite this growing need, targeted federal funding to carry out these efforts in classrooms is virtually non-existent. **This bipartisan issue can be addressed without growing the Federal budget.**

We urge you to amplify and accelerate the local efforts in classrooms, unlock opportunity in every state, and give an answer to all the parents and teachers who believe that every student, in every school, should have a chance to learn computer science.

Join us to sign your name in support: www.Change.org/computerscience

Business leaders

Arne Sorenson
CEO, Marriott

Barry Diller
Chairman, IAC and Expedia

Bill and Melinda Gates

Bobby Kotick
CEO, Activision Blizzard

Brad Smith
President, Microsoft

Brian Chesky
CEO, Airbnb

Brian Cornell
Chairman and CEO, Target

Doug McMillon
CEO, Walmart

Daniel Schulman
CEO, Paypal. Chairman, Symantec

Dara Khosrowshahi
CEO, Expedia

Devin Wenig
CEO, eBay

Doug Parker
Chairman and CEO, American Airlines

Edward Breen
Chairman and CEO, DuPont

Eric Schmidt
Executive Chairman, Alphabet, Inc.

Ginni Rometty
Chairman and CEO, IBM

Grant Verstandig
CEO, Rally Health

Herb Allen
President, Allen & Company

Jack Dorsey
CEO, Twitter and Square

James Murdoch
CEO, 21st Century Fox

James P. Gorman
Chairman and CEO, Morgan Stanley

Jeff Bezos
Chairman and CEO, Amazon

Jessica Alba
CEO, The Honest Company

Joe Lonsdale
Partner, 8VC. Founder, Palantir

John Donahoe
Chairman, Paypal

Julie Sweet
Chief Executive, Accenture North America

Larry Fink
Chairman and CEO, BlackRock

Lowell McAdam
Chairman and CEO, Verizon

Marc Benioff
Chairman and CEO, Salesforce

Mark Cuban
Owner, Dallas Mavericks, Magnolia Pictures, Landmark Theatres

Mark Zuckerberg
Chairman and CEO, Facebook

Rami Rahim
CEO, Juniper Networks

Randall Stephenson
Chairman and CEO, AT&T

Reid Hoffman
Chairman, LinkedIn

Rich Barton
Chairman, Zillow

Richard Anderson
CEO, Delta Airlines

Robert A. Iger
Chairman and CEO, The Walt Disney Company

Sam Altman
President, Y Combinator

Samuel Allen
Chairman and CEO, John Deere

Satya Nadella
CEO, Microsoft

Sheryl Sandberg
COO, Facebook

Terry J. Lundgren
Chairman and CEO, Macy's, Inc

Tim Cook
CEO, Apple

Vishal Sikka
CEO, Infosys

Governors

Asa Hutchinson
Governor, Arkansas (R)

Brian Sandoval
Governor, Nevada (R)

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor, Idaho (R)

Charlie Baker
Governor, Massachusetts (R)

Dannell P. Malloy
Governor, Connecticut (D)

David Y. Ige
Governor, Hawaii (D)

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor, West Virginia (D)

Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor, California (D)

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor, Rhode Island (D)

Jack Dalrymple
Governor, North Dakota (R)

Jack Markell
Governor, Delaware (D)

Jay Inslee
Governor, Washington (D)

John Hickenlooper
Governor, Colorado (D)

Kate Brown
Governor, Oregon (D)

Maggie Hassan
Governor, New Hampshire (D)

Mark Dayton
Governor, Minnesota (D)

Mary Fallin
Governor, Oklahoma (R)

Matt Bevin
Governor, Kentucky (R)

Matt Mead
Governor, Wyoming (R)

Mike Pence
Governor, Indiana (R)

Peter Shumlin
Governor, Vermont (D)

Phil Bryant
Governor, Mississippi (R)

Rick Snyder
Governor, Michigan (R)

Steve Bullock
Governor, Montana (D)

Susana Martinez
Governor, New Mexico (R)

Terry Branstad
Governor, Iowa (R)

Terry McAuliffe
Governor, Virginia (D)

K-12 Leaders

Antwan Wilson
Superintendent, Oakland

Bob Runcie
Superintendent, Broward County Public Schools

Carmen Fariña
Chancellor, NYC Department of Education

Forrest Claypool
CEO, Chicago Public Schools

Kimberly Hill
Superintendent, Charles County Public Schools

Michelle King
Superintendent, Los Angeles Unified School District

Pat Skorkowsky
Superintendent, Clark County School District

Richard Carranza
Superintendent, San Francisco Unified School District

Susan Enfield
Superintendent, Highline Public Schools

Tom Torlakson
State Superintendent, California

Education & Nonprofit leaders:

Bobby Schnabel
CEO, Association for Computing Machinery

Cornell Brooks
President and CEO, NAACP

Daniel A. Domenech
Executive Director, AASA, The School Superintendents Association

David Coleman
CEO, College Board

Elisa Villanueva Beard
CEO, Teach For America

Gail Connelly, ED
National Association of Elementary School Principals

Hadi Partovi
CEO, Code.org

Lee Hood, MD, PhD
President, Institute for Systems Biology. Co-founder, Amgen

Linda D. Hallman
CEO, American Association of University Women

Lucy Sanders
CEO, National Center for Women and IT

Mark Nelson
Executive Director, CS Teachers Association

Matthew Randazzo
CEO, National Math & Science Initiative

Peggy Brookins
CEO, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards

Telle Whitney
CEO, Anita Borg Institute for Women and Technology

Thomas J. Gentzel
Executive Director, National School Boards Association