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On Behalf Of:  
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Glassdoor recently published the list of the 50 best jobs in America for 2022. 25 of those jobs required computer science backgrounds including all of the top 12 jobs. Computer science is a critical life skill in the same way as grammar or mathematics. There are few jobs that don't require some level of computer expertise. Furthermore, these skills are not easy to master. We need to be teaching computer science at all levels from kindergarten through high school throughout the state.

According to Code.org, there are currently 7,634 open computing jobs in Oregon with an average salary of \$89,697. Yet, there were only 1,123 graduates in computer science.

Few of Oregon's high schools teach any computer science courses. These schools are concentrated in Portland and Bend. Large parts of Oregon, including most rural areas are being neglected.

Code.org ranks states by how many of their nine key policies states have enacted to promote computer science education. Sadly, Oregon is the worst state in the country (tied with Kansas) since we've only adopted a single policy -- to allow computer science courses to count towards high school graduation requirements.

We can do much better. Across the country, more than \$65M was allocated by states for computer science education. 54% of states have dedicated funding. 23 states require all high schools to offer computer science. Three states require students to take a computer science course to graduate from high school. 60% of states already have a state plan for K-12 computer science education.

We need a plan for Oregon. Our children's futures depend on it.