



IBM
600 14th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

June 1, 2016

Senator Roy Blunt
US Senate
135 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

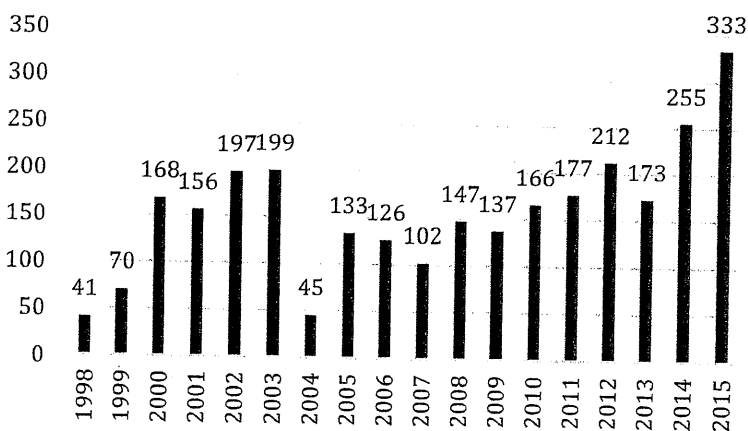
Dear Chairman Blunt,

IBM urges you to support funding for K-12 computer science education in the FY 2017 Labor Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

With just one out of four schools in the United States offering computer science, we are not doing enough to align the skills taught by our education system with today's job market.

Unfortunately, Missouri reflects the poor alignment of education and jobs found across the nation. Last year, a total of 333 students took the AP Computer Science test in Missouri. Yet, Monster.com lists over 1000 Software Jobs in Saint Louis County as of this week.

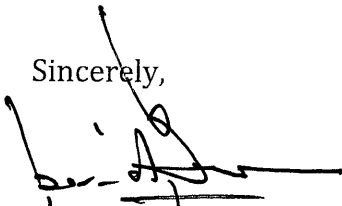
Number of Missouri Students Taking 2015
AP Computer Science Test



Aligning our school systems with jobs is necessarily an ongoing process that should be funded. The additional funding would improve the pipeline of students with computer science skills needed both in the information technology sector and by other key sectors in your state such as manufacturing.

We urge you to support an additional \$250 million for computer science in the FY 2017 Labor Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies FY appropriations bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David N. Barnes', written over a horizontal line.

David N. Barnes
Vice President
Global Workforce Policy