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Appropriations Committee

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Chair

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Vice-Chair Transportation and the Environment



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The Maryland House of Delegates Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Larry Hogan Governor of Maryland 100 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401

October 31, 2017

Re: Moving Forward on Computer Science Education in Maryland

Dear Governor Hogan,

I am following up on my letter dated December 21, 2016 where members of the Montgomery County Delegation and I requested you to join the national Governors' Partnership for K-12 Computer Science. I am so pleased that you decided to join this important initiative in July.

Let us work together to ensure that all Maryland's high schools are provided with the resources needed to integrate computer science education from K-12. Priority should be placed on school districts that may not have the resources needed to invest in teacher training and to individual schools with particularly large percentages of students who are currently underrepresented in computer science fields.

To make the goals of this partnership a reality for all Maryland students, I recommend that resources be committed to 1) enabling all high schools to offer at least one rigorous computer science course, 2) funding professional learning opportunities so that teachers can be prepared to teach these courses, and 3) creating a set of high-quality academic K-12 computer science standards to guide local course implementation.

To accomplish these goals, I am also requesting you to commit \$5.0 million to fund the Maryland Center for Computer Education (MCCE). The MCCE will create and provide the professional development, teacher resources, mentoring, private industry partnerships, and programs needed to offer quality computer science education across the State and sustain these efforts over time. Idaho, for example is setting aside at least \$4 million but it has a public-school population of one-third the number of Maryland students and a state budget one-seventh that of our State.

I encourage you to work in a bi-partisan effort with legislators, educators, advocates, and private industry to move forward on making computer science education a priority whereby our collective goal is to make Maryland a national leader in computer science education and in creating the job opportunities and the skilled workforce of the 21st century.

Kind Regards,

Aruna Miller

Enclosure:

Governors' K-12 Computer Science Partnership Letter

CC: Michael E. Busch, Speaker of House of Delegates

Marie DeJardins, Associate Dean, Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, UMBC

Patrick N. Hogan, Vice Chancellor for Government Relations, USM

Anne R. Kaiser, House of Delegates

Eric G. Luedtke, House of Delegates

Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate

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Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D., State Superintendent of Schools

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Andrew P. Smarick, Ph.D., President, State Board of Education