

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 123

BY DANIELSON

A Resolution designating a Technology and Science Day
in Iowa.

WHEREAS, in the 21st century, growth and
development in Iowa will increasingly depend on a
technologically sophisticated workforce; and

WHEREAS, information technology is a highly
innovative industry in Iowa that is increasingly
becoming the backbone of commerce, as scientists,
engineers, and programmers develop new, faster, and
more proficient methods of transferring and processing
data and have become driving forces for promoting
growth in Iowa's economy; and

WHEREAS, information technology is an important
sector for Iowa's economic future, providing well-
paying jobs and the fundamental technological
underpinning for advancement in a broad range of other
sectors, from finance and insurance to manufacturing
and the biosciences; and

WHEREAS, Iowa's information technology sector shows
significant promise for growth and has proven itself
to be more robust than the national information
technology sector in weathering downturns and
challenges; and

WHEREAS, a thriving technology sector relies on a
skilled and productive workforce, and the availability
of human capital will be a key factor in the success
of the industry; and

WHEREAS, future demand for computer specialists and

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1 engineers in Iowa will far outstrip supply, and
2 production will move where these professionals are
3 located; and

4 WHEREAS, interest among students in becoming
5 scientists or engineers has steadily declined, and the
6 proportion of college students earning science and
7 engineering degrees in the United States is lower than
8 in almost all of its major trading partners; and

9 WHEREAS, Iowa's middle and high school students
10 will comprise the bulk of the future workforce and
11 must be highly educated in the areas of science and
12 technology, and aware of career opportunities in those
13 areas; NOW THEREFORE,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate
15 declares Friday, May 19, 2006, as Technology and
16 Science Day in Iowa and urges all schools, educators,
17 and guidance counselors to use this day to offer a
18 competition, activity, or initiative to build student
19 awareness and interest in science and technology and
20 in the varied careers these fields offer students who
21 will be tomorrow's workforce leaders.

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