



Rep. Tom Emmer on Emmer Introduces His New Bill, the App Act

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****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Hello, Congressman Tom Emmer here. This week is Computer Science Education Week, a week designated to inspire our nation's students to become interested and involved in computer science. It's quite fitting that this week is Computer Science Education Week because I'm also introducing a bill that has a similar goal. It's called the Advancing and Promoting Programming, or APP, Act. The federal government has largely ignored the worldwide digital revolution that began in this country. The internet and the app economy have diminished the barriers between people and have become a major component of our financial system. In order for our nation to remain competitive, the next generation must be well-versed in all areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, otherwise known as STEM skills. The APP Act will provide a simple website where individuals and small businesses can access funding that's already available in the form of grants, programs, prizes, and requests for proposals for the creation of mobile and computer applications. Educating the younger generations in these areas has been something I have been dedicated to since taking office in 2015. The APP Act will also promote these next generation skills by featuring successful educational programs and non-profit resources that can provide computer science education. Finally, the APP Act will create an app store for the federal government applications where Americans can rate and comment on the different government apps and retire old and obsolete ones. Technology is no longer an extravagance in this world. Everybody uses it and nearly every job requires it. It has become a way of life and a key ingredient to our nation's success. I remain committed to that success by continuing to promote the APP Act as well as other reforms to advance STEM skills for future generations. If you have any questions about the APP Act, please don't hesitate to contact our office. Thanks for listening and have a great week!

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