
SENATE BILL 5714

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senators Roach, Prentice, Rasmussen, Oemig, Clements, Rockefeller, Tom, Fairley, Hobbs, Shin, Swecker, Holmquist, Benton, Stevens, Parlette, Delvin and Kline

Read first time 01/29/2007. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to instruction in Spanish and Chinese languages;
2 amending RCW 28A.410.025; adding new sections to chapter 28A.630 RCW;
3 and declaring an emergency.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A majority of students in Washington do not
6 have the opportunity to study any language other than English until
7 they are in middle school, or more often, in high school. Educational
8 systems of other nations, some of which are much less economically
9 developed than the United States, begin second language study in the
10 early elementary grades. Washington's economy is tied to world trade.
11 To enable Washington citizens to more effectively compete in the world
12 marketplace and develop a greater sense of the world's culture and
13 geography, we should explore ways for our students, at all levels, to
14 be provided the opportunity to develop fluency in a second language.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.630
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 A Spanish and Chinese language instruction pilot program is
18 created. A maximum of two school districts may participate. Each

1 school district shall provide a sequentially, articulated world
2 language program from elementary through secondary levels that provides
3 instruction in Spanish and a Chinese language. Interested districts
4 shall apply no later than May 15, 2007, to the superintendent of public
5 instruction to participate in the pilot program established by this
6 section. The superintendent shall make a decision no later than June
7 15, 2007, regarding which school districts may participate in the pilot
8 program. School districts participating in the program must agree to:

9 (1) Assure that parents are informed of the availability of the
10 language classes offered as a pilot program; and

11 (2) Participate in an evaluation of the program as determined by
12 the superintendent of public instruction.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.630
14 RCW to read as follows:

15 Beginning in June 2008 and continuing for the life of the pilot
16 program, the superintendent of public instruction shall submit an
17 annual report to the governor and the legislature that summarizes the
18 pilot program and its effectiveness. The report shall also include a
19 recommendation as to whether or not the pilot program should be
20 continued, expanded, or otherwise modified.

21 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.410.025 and 1969 ex.s. c 223 s 28A.67.010 are each
22 amended to read as follows:

23 No person shall be accounted as a qualified teacher within the
24 meaning of the school law who is not the holder of a valid teacher's
25 certificate or permit issued by lawful authority of this state, except
26 that a school district may use noncertificated staff or school
27 volunteers to provide the language instruction in the programs or
28 classes taught in accordance with section 2 of this act. However, the
29 noncertificated staff or volunteers providing the language instruction
30 must: (1) Be able to speak and write the language fluently; and (2)
31 speak English.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
33 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the

1 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
2 immediately.

--- END ---