

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1709**

Chapter 150, Laws of 2014

(partial veto)

63rd Legislature  
2014 Regular Session

EDUCATION--INTERPRETER TRAINING PROGRAM--STUDY

EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/12/14

Passed by the House March 10, 2014  
Yeas 81 Nays 17

FRANK CHOPP

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 7, 2014  
Yeas 43 Nays 4

BRAD OWEN

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**President of the Senate**

Approved March 31, 2014, 2:40 p.m., with  
the exception of Section 1 which is  
vetoed.

JAY INSLEE

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of  
the House of Representatives of  
the State of Washington, do hereby  
certify that the attached is  
**SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1709**  
as passed by the House of  
Representatives and the Senate on  
the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chief Clerk**

FILED

March 31, 2014

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1709

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2014 Regular Session

State of Washington                      63rd Legislature                      2014 Regular Session

By House Appropriations Subcommittee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Dahlquist, Santos, Magendanz, Moscoso, Fagan, Ryu, Maxwell, Pollet, and Bergquist)

READ FIRST TIME 02/11/14.

1            AN ACT Relating to training for volunteer foreign language  
2 interpreters in K-12 public schools; adding a new section to chapter  
3 28A.320 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; creating new  
4 sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

6            ***\*NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds that:***

7            ***(1) The number of foreign language speakers has substantially***  
8 ***increased in Washington's public schools over the last decade. The***  
9 ***office of the superintendent of public instruction reports that nine***  
10 ***percent of the state's total student population was enrolled in the***  
11 ***transitional bilingual instruction program as of May 2013, and more***  
12 ***than two hundred different languages are spoken in students' homes.***

13            ***(2) The office of the education ombuds reports an increased number***  
14 ***of complaints from English language learner students and limited***  
15 ***English proficient parents regarding schools' lack of provision of***  
16 ***accurate education interpretation and the use of students as***  
17 ***interpreters for their own families.***

18            ***(3) There are no training programs in the state specifically for***  
19 ***foreign language education interpreters. The lack of qualified***

1 *individuals causes public schools to use untrained bilingual adults or*  
2 *students themselves as interpreters for parents in high-stakes*  
3 *situations where decisions about a student's academic future are being*  
4 *made.*

5 *(4) Communicating effectively with limited English proficient*  
6 *students and families presents a challenge for Washington public*  
7 *schools, and the inability to meet this challenge leads to inequities*  
8 *and increased gaps in student achievement, along with increased student*  
9 *dropouts.*

*\*Sec. 1 was vetoed. See message at end of chapter.*

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) By February 1, 2015, the office of the  
11 education ombuds must submit to the education committees of the  
12 legislature a feasibility study for development of a state foreign  
13 language education interpreter training program designed to create a  
14 pool of trained interpreters for public schools, including volunteer  
15 interpreters.

16 (2) The study must include:

17 (a) An overview of current need for and availability of foreign  
18 language education interpreters in public schools, as well as current  
19 practices for providing these interpreters;

20 (b) An inventory of interpreter training programs in Washington and  
21 examples from other states;

22 (c) An examination of state and federal laws that apply to the  
23 provision of interpretation in public schools, including how laws  
24 pertaining to family and student privacy apply to interpreters, and  
25 including Title VI of the civil rights act of 1964 as it applies to  
26 national origin discrimination affecting limited English proficient  
27 parents and guardians; and

28 (d) An inventory of community resources for interpreter training,  
29 including for volunteer interpreters.

30 (3) As used in this section:

31 (a) "Interpreter" means a bilingual or multilingual individual who  
32 provides oral translation for others.

33 (b) "Foreign language education interpreter" means an individual  
34 who provides oral translation for limited English proficient students  
35 and parents in public schools.

