
SENATE BILL 6746

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2004 Regular Session

By Senators Roach, Prentice, Fairley, Johnson and Rasmussen

Read first time . Referred to .

1 AN ACT Relating to providing instruction in Spanish and a Chinese
2 language; amending RCW 28A.410.025; adding a new section to chapter
3 28A.320 RCW; and creating a new section.

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 chance to study any language other than English until they are
7 in middle school, or more often, high school. Education systems of
8 other nations, some of them much less economically developed than the
9 United States, begin second language study in the early elementary
10 grades or even in preschool. Washington's economy is tied to world
11 trade. If we want future Washington citizens to more effectively
12 compete in the world marketplace and develop a greater sense of the
13 world's culture and geography, then we must provide our students, at
14 all levels, the opportunity to develop fluency in a second language.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 Beginning with the 2004-05 school year:

1 (1) Each school district shall administer elementary, middle, and
2 high school classes or programs that provide instruction in Spanish and
3 a Chinese language. The classes or programs shall be offered in grades
4 four through ten and may be offered outside the regularly scheduled
5 school day as an after or before-school or weekend class or program.

6 (2) Each student shall be required to take a class or participate
7 in a program established under subsection (1) of this section and
8 receive instruction in Spanish or a Chinese language.

9 (3) Each school district shall provide every student the
10 opportunity to purchase, at a minimal cost, workbooks to supplement the
11 instruction received by the student in a class or program established
12 under subsection (1) of this section.

13 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.410.025 and 1969 ex.s. c 223 s 28A.67.010 are each
14 amended to read as follows:

15 No person shall be accounted as a qualified teacher within the
16 meaning of the school law who is not the holder of a valid teacher's
17 certificate or permit issued by lawful authority of this state, except
18 that a school district may use noncertificated staff to provide the
19 language instruction in the programs or classes taught in accordance
20 with section 2 of this act. However, the noncertificated staff
21 providing the language instruction must: (1) Be able to speak and
22 write the language fluently; and (2) speak English.

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