
HOUSE BILL 1673

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Dunn, Bush, Boldt, Koster, Thompson, Mielke, Chandler, Wensman, Alexander, Clements, Skinner, Mulliken and Johnson

Read first time 02/04/97. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the transitional bilingual program; and amending
2 RCW 28A.180.040.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.180.040 and 1984 c 124 s 3 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Every school district board of directors shall:

7 (1) Make available to each eligible pupil transitional bilingual
8 instruction to achieve competency in English, in accord with rules of
9 the superintendent of public instruction.

10 (2) Wherever feasible, ensure that communications to parents
11 emanating from the schools shall be appropriately bilingual for those
12 parents of pupils in the bilingual instruction program. Before
13 providing eligible students with transitional bilingual education
14 instruction, the district shall consult with the pupil's parent or
15 legal guardian regarding instruction services provided to the student
16 while in the program. The parent may decline participation by his or
17 her child and may remove his or her child from the program at any time
18 if he or she feels the program is no longer meeting the child's needs.

1 (3) Determine, by administration of an English test approved by the
2 superintendent of public instruction the number of eligible pupils
3 enrolled in the school district at the beginning of a school year and
4 thereafter during the year as necessary in individual cases. If,
5 however, a preliminary interview indicates little or no English
6 speaking ability, eligibility testing shall not be necessary.

7 (4) Before the conclusion of each school year, measure each
8 eligible pupil's improvement in learning the English language by means
9 of a test approved by the superintendent of public instruction.
10 Results of the test shall be provided to each eligible pupil's parent
11 or legal guardian.

12 (5) Provide in-service training for teachers, counselors, and other
13 staff, who are involved in the district's transitional bilingual
14 program. Such training shall include appropriate instructional
15 strategies for children of culturally different backgrounds, use of
16 curriculum materials, and program models.

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