



ACTION ALERT

HELP CONVINCING THE ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO VOTE “YES” ON 3 BILLS CRITICAL TO THE ACADEMIC SUCCESS OF ENGLISH LEARNERS!!!

The California Association for Bilingual Education and Californians Together are moving through the legislative process, 3 sponsored bills critical to the success of English learners. Your signature on a letter of support for each bill is requested. Let us get these 3 bills through the legislative process and ultimately on the Governor’s desk. **SIGN THE ATTACHED LETTERS OF SUPPORT NOW!!!**

AB 124 (Fuentes) Academic Core Content Standards: English Language Development Standards

AB 124 (Fuentes) establishes the English Language Development (ELD) Standards Advisory Committee for the purpose of aligning the ELD standards to the English Language Arts common core standards adopted by the State Board of Education in August 2010. The ELA frameworks, curriculum, assessment and instructional materials will need to be revised in order to reflect the new ELA common core standards. It is critical therefore that the ELD standards be revised and aligned to the ELA common core standards in order to ensure that the aforementioned resources reflect the appropriate instruction of English learners. This bill is co-sponsored with ACSA & CATESOL.

AB 532 (V. Manuel Perez) Pupil Assessments

AB 532 (V. Manuel Perez) would require that the existing assessment and accountability system and its successor system include elements that provide for valid, reliable and accurate data on the academic performance of English learners. Such elements include: 1) specified accommodations such as bilingual glossaries, 2) inclusion of primary language assessments that are valid and reliable; 3) inclusion of the primary language assessment scores in any measure or index of the accountability system, and 4) authorizing the administration of primary language assessments to specified eligible English learners and students who are not English learners and enrolled in dual language programs in public schools. This bill would change California’s flawed accountability system by providing teachers and schools (especially schools with significant numbers of English learners) with data that accurately measures the academic performance of English learners.

AB 815 (Brownley) State Seal of Biliteracy

AB 815 (Brownley) establishes the state Seal of Biliteracy program to recognize high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English. Upon high school graduation, these students would be given a state insignia that can either be affixed to their diploma and or their transcript. School districts interested in participating in this program do so on a voluntary basis. This program is a critical first step in recognizing and promoting the value of acquiring another language in addition to English; an essential 21st century skill. This bill is co-sponsored with the Californian Federation of Teachers.

