

Bilingual / Foreign Language Education

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H.R.2111 Foreign Language Education Partnership Program Act

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Title: To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a partnership program in foreign languages.

Sponsor: [Rep Holt, Rush D.](#) [3] [D-NJ-12] (introduced 5/2/2007) Cosponsors (30)

Latest Major Action: 7/17/2007 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.

Highlights: Amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to replace the program providing incentive payments to public elementary schools for foreign language instruction with a partnership program in foreign languages that provides matching incentive payments to partnerships composed of state or local educational agencies and institutions of higher education. Requires each model program to have a dimension allowing the student to gain an understanding of the historic, geographic, cultural, economic, and other contextual factors of countries whose people speak the language studied. Conditions a partnership's continued funding, for an initial four-year period and two additional five-year periods, on its demonstrating its program effectiveness based on nationally recognized standardized foreign language assessments.

ASPIRA Policy Position

ASPIRA supports efforts to promote second language acquisition and cultural understanding. However, ASPIRA is concerned about the unintended consequences of this amendment, as it could result in an overall reduction of funding for foreign language acquisition.

H.R.2861 Language Education for Success Act of 2007

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Title: To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a partnership program in foreign languages.

Sponsor: [Rep Holt, Rush D.](#) [3] [D-NJ-12] (introduced 5/2/2007) Cosponsors (30)

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ASPIRA Policy Position

ASPIRA supports loan forgiveness for teachers that serve limited English proficient students. It also support increased research on the educational attainment of English learners.

H.R.3842 Providing Resources to Improve Dual Language Education Act of 2007 or the PRIDE Act

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Title: To establish dual-language education programs in low-income communities.

Sponsor: [Rep Solis, Hilda L.](#) [6] [CA-32] (introduced 10/16/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (3)

Latest Major Action: 10/16/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

Highlights: Enhance the biliteracy, bilingualism, and multicultural skills for children in impoverished communities, including limited-English-proficient and minority children, through the use and longitudinal evaluation of dual language programs beginning in preschool through the fifth grade.

ASPIRA Policy Position

ASPIRA supports efforts to promote second language acquisition and cultural understanding.

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