



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-fifth Legislature
First Regular Session

Senate: ED DPA/SE 7-0-1-0 | 3rd Read 29-0-1-0

SB 1404: state seal of biliteracy; assessment

Sponsor: Senator Boyer, LD 20

Committee on Education

Overview

Modifies the English language arts examinations a student must pass to receive a high school diploma with a state seal of biliteracy.

History

The [State Seal of Biliteracy Program](#) (Program) recognizes students who graduate from an Arizona public school and who have attained a high level of proficiency in one or more languages that are in addition to English. Students are awarded, upon high school graduation, a high school diploma with a state seal of biliteracy if the student: 1) completes all English language arts requirements with a 2.0 grade point average or higher; 2) passes the end-of-course examination in English language arts; 3) demonstrates proficiency in one or more languages other than English; and 4) obtains a proficient or higher score if the student's primary language is not English.

The SPI creates and delivers to each public school a state seal of biliteracy that is affixed to the diploma and noted on the transcript of the student who meets the requirements. Any public school may voluntarily participate in the Program by notifying their intent to participate to the SPI ([A.R.S. § 15-258](#)).

A standardized, nationally-normed written test of academic subject matter must be administered at least once each year to all Arizona public school children who are in the 2nd-12th grades in order to ensure educational progress in academic subjects and learning in English is properly monitored ([A.R.S. § 15-755](#)).

Provisions

1. Allows a student to pass an English language arts examination to receive a high school diploma with a state seal of biliteracy, rather than only the English language arts end-of-course examination. (Sec. 1)
2. Contains a retroactivity clause of July 1, 2020. (Sec. 2)
3. Makes technical changes. (Sec. 1)

<input type="checkbox"/> Prop 105 (45 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Prop 108 (40 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency (40 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal Note
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