Dr. LaShae Sharp- Collins
79th Assembly District

AB 2652: Expanding Diverse Bilingual Teacher Pathways

SUMMARY

AB 2652 helps schools recruit more bilingual educators by expanding options for state recognized language exams for dual immersion teaching credentials.

BACKGROUND

California's dual immersion and bilingual education programs are critical to preparing students for success in a diverse, global economy. Research consistently shows that multilingual learning environments improve academic outcomes, support cultural understanding, and strengthen students' long-term career opportunities.

Yet, the rapid growth of these programs is being blocked by a shortage of credentialed bilingual teachers—particularly in high-demand languages such as Mandarin, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Arabic.

California has only approved language testing for a select group of languages; those most commonly spoken in the state. As our state continues to diversify, more tests should be offered allowing for teacher credentials and dual immersion programs in more languages.

AB 2652 allows California to recognize language exams already offered in other states, thereby significantly increasing the potential credentials educators can earn.

A shortage in credentialing opportunities disproportionately impacts multilingual communities where dual immersion programs are essential for English learners and heritage language speakers. Modernizing certification to recognize equivalent out-of-state language tests ensures that public investments in bilingual education translate into classrooms staffed by qualified teachers.

THIS BILL

AB 2652 allows California to accept approved out-of-state language competency exams toward dual immersion certification.

SUPPORT

Alameda County Office of Education
Black ECE
Los Angeles County Office of Education
San Diego County Office of Education

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