



AB-952 Teachers: Bilingual Teacher Professional Development Program: bilingual teacher shortage pathways. (2017-2018)

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ENROLLED SEPTEMBER 15, 2017

PASSED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 11, 2017

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AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 22, 2017

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 18, 2017

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2017

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 21, 2017

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2017–2018 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

NO. 952

Introduced by Assembly Member Reyes

February 16, 2017

An act to add Section 52203 to the Education Code, relating to teachers.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 952, Reyes. Teachers: Bilingual Teacher Professional Development Program: bilingual teacher shortage pathways.

Existing law establishes a system of public elementary and secondary schools in this state and authorizes local educational agencies throughout the state to operate schools and provide instruction to pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive. Existing law requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to, among other duties, establish standards for the issuance and renewal of credentials, certificates, and permits. Existing law requires the commission to issue an authorization for a teacher who meets specified requirements to provide instruction to English learners.

Existing law establishes the Bilingual Teacher Professional Development Program and requires the State Department of Education to allocate grant funding to local educational agencies or a consortia of local educational agencies for purposes of providing professional development services to specified teachers and paraprofessionals to provide instruction to English learners.

This bill would require the commission, on or before July 1, 2020, in consultation with the Committee on Accreditation, to develop a process for the purpose of identifying short-term, high-quality pathways to address the shortage of bilingual education teachers, as provided. The bill would require the commission, on or before July 1, 2021, to provide recommendations to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature regarding the development of pathways for the preparation of bilingual education teachers. The bill would make these provisions operative only if an appropriation or private funding is made available for these purposes.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 52203 is added to the Education Code, to read:

52203. (a) On or before July 1, 2020, the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, in consultation with the Committee on Accreditation established pursuant to Section 44373, shall develop a process for the purpose of identifying short-term, high-quality pathways to address the shortage of bilingual education teachers.

(b) Pathways developed pursuant to subdivision (a) shall include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Online professional development certificate programs relating to English language development and dual language instruction.

(2) The establishment of a recruitment center with a focus on recruiting high school seniors awarded the State Seal of Biliteracy pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 51460) of Chapter 3, bilingual paraprofessionals, and credentialed teachers prepared in countries other than the United States who speak at least one of the top 10 primary languages spoken by English learners in California, as identified by the department.

(3) Opportunities for California teachers to develop academic language proficiency in languages other than English.

(4) A career ladder for early childhood education paraprofessionals and high school career pathways in bilingual teaching.

(5) Incentives for enabling existing schools of education to establish, maintain, or expand a bilingual education program of professional preparation.

(c) On or before July 1, 2021, the Commission on Teacher Credentialing shall provide recommendations to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature regarding the development of pathways for the preparation of bilingual education teachers pursuant to this section.

(d) This section shall become operative only if an appropriation is made for these purposes in the annual Budget Act or other statute, or if private funding is made available for these purposes.