

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 166—ASSEMBLYMEN BENITEZ-THOMPSON,  
DIAZ, ELLIOT ANDERSON, BUSTAMANTE ADAMS,  
CARRILLO; ARAUJO AND JOINER

FEBRUARY 17, 2015

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS DENIS AND KIHUEN

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Provides for the establishment of the State Seal of  
Biliteracy Program. (BDR 34-526)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; providing for the establishment of  
the State Seal of Biliteracy Program to recognize pupils  
who have attained a high level of proficiency in one or  
more languages in addition to English; and providing  
other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

1 **Section 2** of this bill provides for the establishment of the State Seal of  
2 Biliteracy Program to recognize pupils who have attained a high level of  
3 proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English by affixing the State  
4 Seal of Biliteracy to the diploma and transcript of each pupil who meets certain  
5 requirements. **Section 3** of this bill prescribes the requirements that a pupil must  
6 meet in order to be awarded the State Seal of Biliteracy.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 388 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

3 **Sec. 2. 1. *The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall***  
4 ***establish a State Seal of Biliteracy Program to recognize pupils***  
5 ***who graduate from a public high school, including, without***



1 *limitation, a charter school and a university school for profoundly*  
2 *gifted pupils, who have attained a high level of proficiency in one*  
3 *or more languages in addition to English.*

4 2. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall:

5 (a) Create a State Seal of Biliteracy that may be affixed to the  
6 diploma and transcript of a pupil to recognize that the pupil has  
7 met the requirements of section 3 of this act; and

8 (b) Deliver the State Seal of Biliteracy to each school district,  
9 charter school and university school for profoundly gifted pupils  
10 that participates in the program.

11 3. Any school district, charter school and university school  
12 for profoundly gifted pupils may participate in the State Seal of  
13 Biliteracy Program by notifying the Superintendent of Public  
14 Instruction of its intent to participate in the Program.

15 4. Each board of trustees of a school district and governing  
16 body of a charter school or university school for profoundly gifted  
17 pupils that participates in the State Seal of Biliteracy Program  
18 shall:

19 (a) Identify the pupils who have met the requirements to be  
20 awarded the State Seal of Biliteracy; and

21 (b) Affix the State Seal of Biliteracy to the diploma and  
22 transcript of each pupil who meets those requirements.

23 5. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may adopt  
24 regulations as necessary to carry out the provisions of this section  
25 and section 3 of this act.

26 **Sec. 3.** A school district, charter school and university school  
27 for profoundly gifted pupils that participates in the State Seal of  
28 Biliteracy Program established pursuant to section 2 of this act  
29 must award a pupil, upon graduation from high school, a high  
30 school diploma with a State Seal of Biliteracy if the pupil:

31 1. Successfully completes all courses of study in English  
32 language arts that are required for graduation with at least a 2.0  
33 grade point average, on a 4.0 grading scale;

34 2. Passes the end-of-course examinations in English  
35 language arts required pursuant to NRS 389.805;

36 3. Demonstrates proficiency in one or more languages other  
37 than English:

38 (a) By passing an advanced placement examination in a world  
39 language with a score of 3 or higher or passing an international  
40 baccalaureate examination in a world language with a score of 4  
41 or higher; or

42 (b) By passing an examination in a world language, if the  
43 examination is approved by the board of trustees of a school  
44 district or the governing body of a charter school or university  
45 school for profoundly gifted pupils, as applicable; and



- 1        *4. If the primary language of the pupil is not English,*  
2        *demonstrates proficiency in English on an assessment designated*  
3        *by the Department.*  
4        **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015.

