

Committee Action:
Do Pass _____
Amend & Do Pass _____
Other _____

Senate Committee on Education

This measure may be considered for action during today's work session.

May 15, 2015

ASSEMBLY BILL 166 (First Reprint)

**Provides for the establishment of the State Seal of Biliteracy Program.
(BDR No. 34-526)**

Sponsored by: Assembly members Benitez-Thompson, Diaz, E. Anderson,
Bustamante Adams, Carrillo, and Senators Denis and Kihuen

Joint Sponsors: Assembly members Araujo and Joiner

Date Heard: April 30, 2015

Fiscal Impact: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

Assembly Bill 166 establishes the State Seal of Biliteracy Program. The program provides that a special seal denoting biliteracy be affixed to the high school diploma or transcript of a pupil who has achieved a high level of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English. School districts, charter schools, and university schools for profoundly gifted pupils may choose to participate in the program. The bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to design and distribute the special seal to the participating school districts and schools. Further, the measure specifies the academic performance criteria that must be met for the pupil to qualify for the program.

Amendments:

The sponsors propose an amendment to clarify that the biliteracy seal would be noted on a student's transcript, rather than affixed to the transcript.

Special Note: There is a fiscal note for this bill. There was no testimony in opposition.

**EXECUTIVE AGENCY
 FISCAL NOTE**

AGENCY'S ESTIMATES

Date Prepared: February 18, 2015

Agency Submitting: Nevada Department of Education

Items of Revenue or Expense, or Both	Fiscal Year 2014-15	Fiscal Year 2015-16	Fiscal Year 2016-17	Effect on Future Biennia
Total	0	0	0	0

Explanation

(Use Additional Sheets of Attachments, if required)

This measure establishes 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. The Department of Education will designate the existing ACCESS (English Language Proficiency) assessment to qualify students whose primary language is not English and develop the design of the State Seal of Biliteracy to be affixed to the diploma with existing resources. This seal can then be transmitted electronically to participating school districts to be printed on those diplomas for the students who qualify. Therefore, as written this bill has no fiscal impact on the Department of Education.

Name Mindy Martini

Title Deputy, Business & Support

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION'S COMMENTS

The agency's response appears reasonable.

Date Tuesday, February 17, 2015

Name Julia Teska

Title Director