

Zaragoza-Diaz & Associates

Martha Zaragoza-Diaz

MEMORANDUM

To: CABE Legislative Committee Members

From: Martha Zaragoza Diaz, Lobbyist

Subject: Sponsored Bills

Date: January 18, 2018

Cc: Jan Gustafson Corea, Executive Director

Attached are copies of two bills to be co-sponsored with Californians Together. Please note that the State Superintendent of Public Instruction will also co-sponsor the State Seal of Biliteracy bill as he has done in the past.

State Seal of Biliteracy: Would add to the section referring to the English Arts assessment (Section 51461 (a)(2) language referring to the CAASPP and any successor assessment and to the section (Section 51461 (b)(1)) referring to the English language proficiency assessment language referring to the new ELPAC and any successor assessment.

Rationale: Current law makes reference to obsolete assessments specific to English language arts and English language proficiency. Added language would delete reference to these assessments and instead add language referring to the SBAC language arts and any successor assessment) and added language referring to the new English language proficiency assessment (ELAC) or any successor assessment. This change to current law will make it clear to districts what assessments need to be used

Bilingual Teacher Pipeline: In light of the various reports that have been published on the critical teacher shortage faced by California and the passage of Proposition 58 promoting the establishment of multilingual/bilingual programs, the need to build capacity of bilingual teachers has been highlighted. The bilingual teacher shortage issue is also of concern to Senator Lara and several conversations have been held with legislative staff on how best to address this problem.

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Our Legislative Committee Chairperson, Karen Cadiero Kaplan, was contacted by legislative staff of Senator Lara to help address the issue of what can be done to provide the necessary resources to Schools of Education within the IHE's so that they can begin to establish once again in their schools, bilingual teacher preparation programs. Ms. Cadiero Kaplan can provide an update on this piece.

CABE and Californians Together are looking at long-term strategies and short-term strategies. Long-term strategies include establishing a teacher pipeline starting from high school and a para educator pipeline. A short-term strategy is establishing a pilot program that would provide professional development for teachers who already possess bilingual certification but who have not provided instruction in bilingual classrooms but who are interested in returning to a bilingual instructional program. Very draft language is available for the first piece but not for the pilot program. Work is still being done on this one. Comments and input on the draft language is appreciated.

These approaches will require two separate bills. Legislators have not been identified yet to author these two separate pieces of legislation. Please do not share with others or other organizations because it has not been decided whether the high school and para educator piece will be pursued this year.

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