

The Language Education, Acquisition and Readiness Now (LEARN) initiative better known as Prop 58 was one of the propositions that passed on November 8, 2016!

What does that mean for English Learner programs?

Here are a few facts:

Prop 58 is also known as the California Multilingual Education Act of 2016.

Law becomes effective on July 2017, CDE will develop and release guidelines. In the meantime, know that possibilities are now open for Multilingual program offerings for ALL students in California.

Before Prop 58	What changed?
English language requirements in place to meet proficiency	No change
English learners in dual/bilingual programs were to have a waiver on file that needed to be renewed yearly	The parent waiver is no longer a requirement for any bilingual program
English learners in dual/bilingual programs were required to attend 30 days of English-only instruction prior to entering a multilingual program	This is no longer a requirement
Consideration for bilingual program required to have 20 English Learners of the same language and the same grade level	Consideration for a multilingual program includes 30 students schoolwide or 20 students per grade level –English Learners, English only or bilingual students
Education was under an “English Only” instruction for English learners	Encourages multilingual pathways to literacy skills for ALL students such as offering of dual immersion programs
Parents needed to initiate request for a multilingual program	Schools have the flexibility to design the program that will best serve their students in attaining English or multilingual skills, the proposition requires that districts discuss their program with parents
Legislation required to make changes to the law?	Amend by majority ruling?

The California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) has created a website with pertinent information for LEAs to use as needed to inform their stakeholders, such as administrators, staff, parents and students. The website contains guidelines to lay the foundation and reviews several model options:

<http://www.gocabe.org/index.php/communications/legislative-updates/prop-58-has-passednow-what/>