



# Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis

## PROVIDING RESOURCES TO IMPROVE DUAL LANGUAGE EDUCATION (PRIDE) ACT (H.R. 3842)

Approximately one in every five students who enters school in the U.S. speaks a language other than English at home, the majority (80 percent) of whom are native Spanish speakers. English language learners (ELLs) represent more than 5 million students in the K-12 public schools and over 2 million are in pre-kindergarten to grade 3. The National Task Force on Early Childhood Education for Hispanics cites that of Hispanic ELLs who knew little to no English at the start of kindergarten, only 23 percent score at high levels of reading comprehension in fifth grade. Despite the growing evidence that dual language program are effective, many low-income communities have less access to these programs with true commitment to the dual language model.

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### *Support Legislation to Improve Dual Language Education*

- Serves children in economically disadvantaged communities and limited-English-proficiency students from preschool through fifth grade.
- Establishes an infrastructure that supports a rigorous assessment system, including dedicated staff time and professional development in assessment, a data collection plan, and the collection of multiple measures of academic progress, bilingualism, biliteracy, and multiculturalism.
- Implements and aligns a curriculum that promotes the development of bilingual, biliterate, and multicultural competencies for all students through at least grade five.
- Recruits, trains, and continuously develops staff to implement high-quality, dual language programs with an emphasis on instruction, second language acquisition, and content knowledge.
- Establishes a responsive infrastructure for positive, active, and ongoing relationships with students' families and the community that is reflective of the needs of the community and goals of the program.

**This legislation has been endorsed by over 30 organizations, including:**

- **National Council of La Raza**
- **National Education Association**
- **Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund**
- **California Association for Bilingual Education**

For more information about this legislation or to provide support, please contact Liz Muro in my Washington, D.C. office at 202-225-5464 or [liz.muro@mail.house.gov](mailto:liz.muro@mail.house.gov). \*\*\*[www.house.gov/solis](http://www.house.gov/solis)\*\*\*



