

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 12, 2005

SENATE BILL

No. 368

Introduced by Senator Escutia

February 17, 2005

An act to ~~amend Section 400 of~~ *add Section 314 to* the Education Code, relating to ~~pupils~~ *English language learners*.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 368, as amended, Escutia. English language learners: *database*.

~~Existing law establishes the English Language Acquisition Program under which English Language Development Professional Institutes provide instruction to school teams from each school participating in the program serving English language learners in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, the English Learner and Immigrant Pupil Federal Conformity Act, provides for the provision of instructional services to pupils with limited English proficiency and immigrant pupils in conformity with federal requirements that are designed to ensure that all pupils have reasonable access to educational opportunities with regard to English and other core curriculum areas of instruction. Existing law also requires a school district to assess each pupil's language proficiency, with certain requirements.~~

This bill would require the State Department of Education to develop and maintain a database to track the educational progress of English language learners in 4 school districts that elect to participate in the development of this database, with specified requirements.

~~This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to those provisions.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 ~~SECTION 1. Section 400 of the Education Code is amended~~
2 ~~to read:~~

3 ~~SECTION 1. Section 314 is added to the Education Code, to~~
4 ~~read:~~

5 ~~314. (a) The department shall develop and maintain a~~
6 ~~database to track the educational progress of English language~~
7 ~~learners that shall include information related to all of the~~
8 ~~following elements:~~

9 ~~(1) The educational progress of English language learners~~
10 ~~from kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive.~~

11 ~~(2) The identification of factors that promote or impede the~~
12 ~~educational progress of English language learners.~~

13 ~~(3) The assessment of the impact of educational policies and~~
14 ~~reform on English language learners.~~

15 ~~(4) The development of assessment instruments for English~~
16 ~~language learners.~~

17 ~~(b) Participation in the collection of data is voluntary on the~~
18 ~~part of a school district and shall be limited to four school~~
19 ~~districts that the department deems sufficient in size to facilitate~~
20 ~~the development of this database. The department shall permit~~
21 ~~participating school districts to access data contained in this~~
22 ~~database.~~

23 ~~400. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that English~~
24 ~~language proficiency is critical to academic success. It is,~~
25 ~~therefore, the intent of the Legislature to enact the English~~
26 ~~Language Acquisition Program to improve the English~~
27 ~~proficiency of California pupils, so that those pupils are better~~
28 ~~able to meet the academic content and performance standards of~~
29 ~~the state. It is the intent of the Legislature that the pupils~~
30 ~~participating in this program meet grade level English language~~
31 ~~development standards established pursuant to Section 60811, as~~
32 ~~well as grade level standards in reading, writing, mathematics,~~
33 ~~science, and history/social science established pursuant to~~
34 ~~Section 60605.~~

35 ~~(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the English Language~~
36 ~~Acquisition Program be administered consistent with~~
37 ~~research-based strategies for teaching English language learners,~~

1 as well as the program set forth in Chapter 3 (commencing with
2 Section 300), as applicable.
3 ~~(e) It is further the intent of the Legislature that the data~~
4 ~~developed through this program be used to inform curriculum,~~
5 ~~instruction, assessment, research, inservice staff development,~~
6 ~~and teacher preparation regarding use of the most effective~~
7 ~~practices for teaching English language learners.~~