

**AMENDMENT TO**  
**RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-54**  
**OFFERED BY MS. BROWNLEY OF CALIFORNIA**

At the end of title LVIII, add the following:

1 **SEC. 5806. BILITERACY EDUCATION SEAL AND TEACHING**

2 **ACT.**

3 (a) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANTS FOR  
4 STATE SEAL OF BILITERACY PROGRAMS.—

5 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made  
7 available under paragraph (6), the Secretary of  
8 Education shall award grants, on a competitive  
9 basis, to States to enable the States to establish  
10 or improve, and carry out, Seal of Biliteracy  
11 programs to recognize student proficiency in  
12 speaking, reading, and writing in both English  
13 and a second language.

14 (B) INCLUSION OF NATIVE AMERICAN LAN-  
15 GUAGES.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A),  
16 each Seal of Biliteracy program shall contain  
17 provisions allowing the use of Native American  
18 languages, including allowing speakers of any  
19 Native American language recognized as official

1 by any American government, including any  
2 Tribal government, to use equivalent proficiency  
3 in speaking, reading, and writing in the Native  
4 American language in lieu of proficiency in  
5 speaking, reading, and writing in English.

6 (C) DURATION.—A grant awarded under  
7 this subsection shall be for a period of 2 years,  
8 and may be renewed at the discretion of the  
9 Secretary.

10 (D) RENEWAL.—At the end of a grant  
11 term, a State that receives a grant under this  
12 subsection may reapply for a grant under this  
13 subsection.

14 (E) LIMITATIONS.—A State shall not re-  
15 ceive more than 1 grant under this subsection  
16 at any time.

17 (F) RETURN OF UNSPENT GRANT  
18 FUNDS.—Each State that receives a grant  
19 under this subsection shall return any unspent  
20 grant funds not later than 6 months after the  
21 date on which the term for the grant ends.

22 (2) GRANT APPLICATION.—A State that desires  
23 a grant under this subsection shall submit an appli-  
24 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such man-

1           ner, and containing such information and assurances  
2           as the Secretary may require, including—

3                   (A) a description of the criteria a student  
4                   must meet to demonstrate the proficiency in  
5                   speaking, reading, and writing in both lan-  
6                   guages necessary for the State Seal of  
7                   Biliteracy program;

8                   (B) a detailed description of the State’s  
9                   plan—

10                           (i) to ensure that English learners  
11                           and former English learners are included  
12                           in the State Seal of Biliteracy program;

13                           (ii) to ensure that—

14                                   (I) all languages, including Na-  
15                                   tive American languages, can be test-  
16                                   ed for the State Seal of Biliteracy  
17                                   program; and

18                                   (II) Native American language  
19                                   speakers and learners are included in  
20                                   the State Seal of Biliteracy program,  
21                                   including students at tribally con-  
22                                   trolled schools and at schools funded  
23                                   by the Bureau of Indian Education;  
24                                   and

1 (iii) to reach students, including eligi-  
2 ble students described in paragraph (3)(B)  
3 and English learners, their parents, and  
4 schools with information regarding the  
5 State Seal of Biliteracy program;

6 (C) an assurance that a student who meets  
7 the requirements under subparagraph (A) and  
8 paragraph (3) receives—

9 (i) a permanent seal or other marker  
10 on the student's secondary school diploma  
11 or its equivalent; and

12 (ii) documentation of proficiency on  
13 the student's official academic transcript;  
14 and

15 (D) an assurance that a student is not  
16 charged a fee for providing information under  
17 paragraph (3)(A).

18 (3) STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN A SEAL OF  
19 BILITERACY PROGRAM.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—To participate in a Seal  
21 of Biliteracy program, a student shall provide  
22 information to the State that serves the student  
23 at such time, in such manner, and including  
24 such information and assurances as the State  
25 may require, including an assurance that the

1 student has met the criteria established by the  
2 State under paragraph (2)(A).

3 (B) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPA-  
4 TION.—A student who gained proficiency in a  
5 second language outside of school may apply  
6 under subparagraph (A) to participate in a Seal  
7 of Biliteracy program.

8 (4) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds made avail-  
9 able under this subsection shall be used for—

10 (A) the administrative costs of establishing  
11 or improving, and carrying out, a Seal of  
12 Biliteracy program that meets the requirements  
13 of paragraph (2); and

14 (B) public outreach and education about  
15 the Seal of Biliteracy program.

16 (5) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after  
17 receiving a grant under this subsection, a State shall  
18 issue a report to the Secretary describing the imple-  
19 mentation of the Seal of Biliteracy program for  
20 which the State received the grant.

21 (6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—  
22 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
23 this subsection \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
24 2023 through 2027.

25 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1           (1) The terms “English learner”, “secondary  
2 school”, and “State” have the meanings given those  
3 terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-  
4 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

5           (2) The term “Native American languages” has  
6 the meaning given the term in section 103 of the  
7 Native American Languages Act (25 U.S.C. 2902).

8           (3) The term “Seal of Biliteracy program”  
9 means any program described in subsection (b)(1)  
10 that is established or improved, and carried out,  
11 with funds received under this section.

12           (4) The term “second language” means any  
13 language other than English (or a Native American  
14 language, pursuant to subsection (b)(1)(B)), includ-  
15 ing Braille, American Sign Language, or a Classical  
16 language.

17           (5) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
18 of Education.

