



# H.B. 154: ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER AMENDMENTS

## THE UTAH LEGISLATURE'S SUPPORT FOR MULTILINGUAL FAMILIES

Codified in law and reflected in action, the Utah Legislature has a long tradition of celebrating and supporting Utah's multilingual families.

In 2021, the Utah Legislature unanimously passed H.C.R. 22: "Celebrating the Contributions of Multilingual and Multicultural Families to Utah Schools," recognizing the impact of multilingual and multicultural families and the efforts of the UT Legislature to support multilingual Utahns. Last year, the Legislature unanimously passed H.B. 302 "Educational Language Service Amendments," establishing the Educational Interpretation and Procurement Advisory Council and instructing Utah's Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to adopt a policy for communicating and assisting students learning English and their families.

1 in 7 Utahns speak a language other than English at home

85K+

Students in UT schools are non-native English speakers

1 in 3 members of UT's workforce are multilingual

Support for measures addressing multilingual families and schools H.C.R. 22 (2021) and H.B. 302 (2022)

UNANIMOUS

Sources: American Community Survey, American Immigration Council, Economic Development Corporation of Utah

## WHAT WILL H.B. 154 DO?

While H.B. 302 (2022) required LEAs to develop language access policies, it did not project the costs associated with implementation. Representative Dan Johnson's bill H.B. 154, "English Language Learner Amendments," requires the Utah State Board of Education (USBE) to submit the estimated annual and one-time costs associated with LEAs' implementation of language access policies to the Interim Education Committee.

## HOW DOES H.B. 154 HELP UTAH?

H.B.154 will allow the state, USBE, and educators to understand the costs associated with upholding Utah's commitments to multilingual students and families in our schools. Promoting the success of all Utahn families, H.B. 154 helps ensure language access becomes a reality across the beehive state.