

**Representative Eric K. Hutchings** proposes the following substitute bill:

**WORLD LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY RECOGNITION**

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Howard A. Stephenson**

House Sponsor: Eric K. Hutchings

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill enacts and amends provisions relating to world language requirements for secondary students.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ provides for the State Board of Education to establish a biliterate proficiency seal;
- ▶ establishes requirements for a student to receive a biliterate proficiency seal on the student's high school diploma;
- ▶ requires the State Board of Education to make rules;
- ▶ requires a local education agency to place a biliterate proficiency seal on the high school diploma of a qualifying student;
- ▶ requires a local education agency to indicate on a qualifying student's high school transcript that the student has received a biliterate proficiency seal; and
- ▶ requires the State Board of Education to study proficiency in a world language as a graduation requirement.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**



26 None

27 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

28 ENACTS:

29 **53A-13-108.1**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



31 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

32 Section 1. Section **53A-13-108.1** is enacted to read:

33 **53A-13-108.1. World language proficiency -- Biliterate proficiency seal --**

34 **Graduation requirement study.**

35 (1) As used in this section:

36 (a) "Biliterate proficiency seal" means a seal placed on a student's high school diploma  
37 that indicates a student has achieved:

38 (i) in a world language, a level of proficiency described in Subsection (2)(c)(i) in one  
39 of the following three categories:

40 (A) novice;

41 (B) intermediate; or

42 (C) advanced; and

43 (ii) proficiency in English.

44 (b) "Board" means the State Board of Education.

45 (c) "Local education agency" or "LEA" means:

46 (i) a school district;

47 (ii) a charter school; or

48 (iii) the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

49 (d) "World language" means a language other than English, including:

50 (i) American Sign Language;

51 (ii) a classical language; or

52 (iii) an indigenous language.

53 (e) "Utah Performance Assessment System for Students" means the same as that term  
54 is defined in Section **53A-1-602**.

55 (2) The board shall:

56 (a) establish a biliterate proficiency seal for placement on a student's high school

57 diploma;  
58 (b) prepare appropriate insignias for an LEA to place on a student diploma to indicate  
59 each of the proficiency levels described in Subsection (1)(a)(i); and  
60 (c) make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative  
61 Rulemaking Act, that:  
62 (i) establish the requirements a student shall meet to achieve:  
63 (A) a high level of proficiency in a novice category;  
64 (B) at least a moderate level of proficiency in an intermediate category; and  
65 (C) at least a low level of proficiency in an advanced category; and  
66 (ii) require an LEA to determine whether a student meets the requirements for a  
67 biliterate proficiency seal described in Subsection (3).  
68 (3) A student shall receive a biliterate proficiency seal if the student demonstrates  
69 proficiency in:  
70 (a) a world language by meeting the proficiency requirements described in Subsection  
71 (2)(c)(i); and  
72 (b) English by:  
73 (i) completing all English language arts graduation requirements with an overall grade  
74 point average of 2.0 or above in English language arts classes; and  
75 (ii) scoring at the proficient level or above on the Utah Performance Assessment  
76 System for Students test in English language arts and literacy administered in grade 11.  
77 (4) If a student qualifies to receive a biliterate proficiency seal, an LEA shall:  
78 (a) place a biliterate proficiency seal on the student's high school diploma, indicating  
79 the student's category of world language proficiency; and  
80 (b) indicate on the student's high school transcript:  
81 (i) that the student received a biliterate proficiency seal; and  
82 (ii) the category of biliterate proficiency seal the student received.  
83 (5) The State Board of Education shall study world language proficiency as a  
84 graduation requirement.