

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative Fresen offered the following:

2  
3 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

4 Between lines 330 and 331, insert:

5 Section 7. Section 1003.432, Florida Statutes, is created  
6 to read:

7 1003.432 Florida Seal of Biliteracy Program for high  
8 school graduates.-

9 (1) As used in this section, the term:

10 (a) "Biliteracy" means attainment of a high level of  
11 competency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in one  
12 or more foreign languages in addition to English, which is  
13 signified on a high school graduate's diploma and transcript as  
14 either a Gold Seal of Biliteracy or a Silver Seal of Biliteracy.

113851

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Amendment No.

15 (b) "Foreign language" means a language other than English  
16 and includes American Sign Language, classical languages, and  
17 indigenous languages.

18 (c) "Gold" means the highest level of competency certified  
19 by the Florida Seal of Biliteracy Program.

20 (d) "Silver" means the second-highest level of competency  
21 certified by the Florida Seal of Biliteracy Program.

22 (2) The Florida Seal of Biliteracy Program is established  
23 to recognize a high school graduate who has attained a high  
24 level of competency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing  
25 in one or more foreign languages in addition to English. The  
26 Commissioner of Education shall award the Seal of Biliteracy  
27 upon graduation to a high school student who meets the  
28 qualifications in this section. The seal must differentiate  
29 between two levels of competency, designated as Gold and Silver,  
30 which must be at least as rigorous as is recommended in the  
31 biliteracy seal guidelines established by national organizations  
32 supporting foreign languages instruction.

33 (3) The purpose of the Florida Seal of Biliteracy Program  
34 is to:

35 (a) Encourage students to study foreign languages.

36 (b) Certify attainment of biliteracy.

37 (c) Provide employers with a method of identifying an  
38 individual with biliteracy skills who is seeking employment.

39 (d) Provide a postsecondary institution with a method of  
40 recognizing an applicant with biliteracy skills who is seeking

113851

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Amendment No.

41 admission to the postsecondary institution.

42 (e) Recognize and promote foreign language instruction in  
43 public schools.

44 (f) Affirm the value of diversity, honor multiple cultures  
45 and foreign languages, and strengthen the relationships between  
46 multiple cultures in a community.

47 (4) Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, the Gold  
48 Seal of Biliteracy or the Silver Seal of Biliteracy must be  
49 awarded to a high school student who has earned a standard high  
50 school diploma and who:

51 (a) Has earned four foreign language course credits in the  
52 same foreign language with a cumulative 3.0 grade point average  
53 or higher on a 4.0 scale;

54 (b) Has achieved a qualifying score on a foreign language  
55 assessment; or

56 (c) Has satisfied alternative requirements as determined  
57 by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (8).

58 (5) The Commissioner of Education shall:

59 (a) Prepare and provide to each school district an  
60 appropriate insignia to be affixed to the student's diploma  
61 indicating that the student has been awarded the Gold Seal of  
62 Biliteracy or the Silver Seal of Biliteracy.

63 (b) Provide information necessary for a school district to  
64 successfully implement the program.

65 (6) Each school district shall:

66 (a) Maintain appropriate records to identify a student who

113851

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Amendment No.

67 has met the requirements to receive the Gold Seal of Biliteracy  
68 or the Silver Seal of Biliteracy.

69 (b) Provide the Commissioner of Education with the number  
70 of students who have met the requirements to receive the Gold  
71 Seal of Biliteracy or the Silver Seal of Biliteracy.

72 (c) Affix the appropriate insignia to the student's  
73 diploma and indicate on the student's transcript that the  
74 student has earned the Gold Seal of Biliteracy or the Silver  
75 Seal of Biliteracy.

76 (7) A school district or the Department of Education may  
77 not charge a fee for the Gold Seal of Biliteracy or the Silver  
78 Seal of Biliteracy.

79 (8) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to  
80 implement this section. Such rules, at a minimum, must include:

81 (a) A process to confirm a student's successful completion  
82 of the requirements in subsection (4).

83 (b) The assessments and corresponding passing scores  
84 required to earn the Gold Seal of Biliteracy or the Silver Seal  
85 of Biliteracy, which may not be lower than the passing scores on  
86 at least one of the following:

87 1. An International Baccalaureate examination in the  
88 foreign language;

89 2. An Advanced Placement examination in the foreign  
90 language;

91 3. An SAT Subject Test examination in the foreign  
92 language; or

113851

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Amendment No.

93 4. An Advanced International Certificate of Education  
94 examination in the foreign language.

95 (c) Alternative requirements a student may satisfy to  
96 demonstrate equivalent competency in a foreign language,  
97 including requirements a student whose native language is not  
98 English may satisfy to demonstrate competency in his or her  
99 native language to earn the Gold Seal of Biliteracy or the  
100 Silver Seal of Biliteracy.

101 (d) A process to award foreign language course credits to  
102 a student who was not enrolled in a foreign language course or  
103 who did not complete the course but has demonstrated competency  
104 in a foreign language as provided in this subsection.

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107 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

108 Remove line 2 and insert:  
109 An act relating to education; amending s.

110  
111 Remove line 28 and insert:  
112 students; creating s. 1003.432, F.S.; defining terms;  
113 establishing the program to recognize a high school  
114 graduate who has attained a high level of competency  
115 in one or more foreign languages; providing the  
116 purpose of the program; specifying criteria to earn a  
117 Gold Seal of Biliteracy or a Silver Seal of  
118 Biliteracy; requiring the Commissioner of Education

113851

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Amendment No.

119 | and school districts to perform specified duties to  
120 | administer the program; prohibiting a school district  
121 | or the Department of Education from charging a fee for  
122 | the seals; requiring the State Board of Education to  
123 | adopt rules; amending s. 1004.04, F.S.; revising core

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