

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0170

Public schools-foreign language pilot project.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Hageman, Berger, McOmie and Robinson and Senator(s) Devin and Scott

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to public schools; establishing a pilot  
2 project for expansion of foreign language instruction  
3 through grade six (6); prescribing project components;  
4 imposing requirements upon participant schools; providing  
5 for program implementation and administration through the  
6 state superintendent; delegating rulemaking authority;  
7 imposing reporting requirements; providing an  
8 appropriation; authorizing a position; and providing for  
9 effective dates.

10

11 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

12

13 **Section 1.**

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1           (a) The state superintendent of public instruction  
2 shall establish a pilot project for elementary foreign  
3 language instruction. The project shall:

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5           (i) Be administered by the state superintendent  
6 through the department of education;

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8           (ii) Operate for a period of five (5) school  
9 years, commencing with school year 2004-2005 and  
10 terminating school year 2009-2010;

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12           (iii) Expand existing foreign language  
13 instruction in fifty (50) elementary schools within the  
14 state from kindergarten through grade two (2) as required  
15 under W.S. 21-9-101(g), to kindergarten through grade six  
16 (6);

17  
18           (iv) Develop technology-supported program  
19 materials for grades three (3) through six (6) to be  
20 implemented in the participating pilot project schools in  
21 at least one (1) grade level each year beginning in school  
22 year 2004-2005 with grade three (3);

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1           (v) In cooperation with the University of  
2 Wyoming, establish initial and on-going training and  
3 professional development for teachers and teacher  
4 assistants;

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6           (vi) Develop and implement an assessment of  
7 student foreign language skills;

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9           (vii) Develop distance-learning capability for  
10 development of foreign language instruction demonstration  
11 programs for participating schools unable to acquire  
12 qualified teachers and teacher assistants.

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14           (b) Participation in the pilot project shall be based  
15 upon application submitted to the department of education  
16 not later than July 1, 2004, on a form and in a manner  
17 prescribed by the state superintendent, indicating the  
18 commitment and capability of the school to provide expanded  
19 foreign language instruction, including:

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21           (i) Provision of weekly foreign language  
22 instruction at minimum levels prescribed by the state  
23 superintendent;

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1           (ii) Training and development of classroom  
2 teachers and language specialist assistants;

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4           (iii) Assessment and data collection efforts  
5 measuring and describing student foreign language  
6 achievement;

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8           (iv) School administration and board support for  
9 project participation.

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11           (c) The state superintendent shall as soon as  
12 reasonably possible following the effective date of this  
13 act, notify school districts of the pilot project  
14 established under this section and the eligibility  
15 requirements for project participation. The state  
16 superintendent shall select schools participating in the  
17 pilot project from among applicants without regard to  
18 school size, location or district, and shall notify  
19 applicants of the decision by not later than August 1,  
20 2004.

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22           (d) The state superintendent shall promulgate rules  
23 and regulations establishing and implementing the pilot  
24 project in accordance with this section.

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2 (e) Each participating school shall provide necessary  
3 information and other assistance required by the state  
4 superintendent to develop and implement elementary foreign  
5 language instruction and shall prepare and submit reports  
6 required by the state superintendent to administer, review  
7 and evaluate the pilot project.

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9 (f) Not later than November 1, 2005, the state  
10 superintendent shall report to the joint appropriations  
11 interim committee and the joint education interim committee  
12 on project development and implementation, findings  
13 resulting from project review, student achievement and  
14 shall provide recommendations for continuance of the  
15 project and if continued, future project enhancement and  
16 effective operation. The report shall also include a  
17 detailed explanation of project expenditures and the  
18 position filled for project administration and the status  
19 of the position.

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21 **Section 2.** Two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) is  
22 appropriated from the general fund to the state  
23 superintendent of public instruction to commence  
24 development and implementation of section 1 of this act for

1 two (2) of five (5) years of the pilot project, school  
2 years 2004-2005 through 2005-2006. In addition, this  
3 appropriation includes funding and authorization for one  
4 (1) additional full-time position within the department of  
5 education.

6

7 **Section 3.**

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9 (a) Except as provided under section (b) of this  
10 section, this act is effective immediately upon completion  
11 of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided  
12 by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

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14 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section,  
15 section 2 of this act is effective July 1, 2004.

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(END)