

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Article
5 14D as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/Art. 14D heading new)

7 ARTICLE 14D. DUAL LANGUAGE EDUCATION

8 (105 ILCS 5/14D-5 new)

9 Sec. 14D-5. Statewide guidance.

10 (a) By December 15, 2026, the State Board of Education
11 shall adopt comprehensive guidance for school districts
12 regarding the establishment of new dual language education
13 programs and the expansion of existing dual language education
14 programs.

15 (b) The guidance adopted under this Section shall cover
16 the following topics:

17 (1) program structure;

18 (2) curriculum;

19 (3) instruction;

20 (4) assessment and accountability;

21 (5) staff quality and professional development;

22 (6) family and community engagement; and

1 (7) support and resources.

2 (105 ILCS 5/14D-10 new)

3 Sec. 14D-10. Equity Journey Continuum. By July 1, 2029,
4 the State Board of Education's Equity Journey Continuum shall
5 integrate the following components into the comprehensive
6 strategic plan developed by the State Board of Education under
7 Section 2-3.47a:

8 (1) Dual language education into the broader framework
9 of student learning to ensure it is considered an
10 essential part of educational equity and excellence.

11 (2) Specific provisions for dual language teachers,
12 focusing on recruitment, professional development, and
13 retention of bilingual educators.

14 (105 ILCS 5/14D-15 new)

15 Sec. 14D-15. Biliteracy recognition. By July 1, 2027, the
16 State Board of Education shall establish recognition pathways
17 for biliteracy at various levels before high school. School
18 districts may choose to participate in the pathways to
19 biliteracy program. The pathways recognition shall include:

20 (1) a recognition pathway for biliteracy for
21 prekindergarten or kindergarten students;

22 (2) a recognition pathway for biliteracy for 5th grade
23 students; and

24 (3) a recognition pathway for biliteracy for 8th grade

1 students.

2 The State Board of Education may adopt rules to implement

3 the requirements of this Section.