

ENROLLED ACT NO. 73, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2004 BUDGET SESSION

AN ACT relating to public schools; establishing a pilot project for expansion of foreign language instruction through grade six (6); prescribing project components; imposing requirements upon participant schools; providing for program implementation and administration through the state superintendent; delegating rulemaking authority; imposing reporting requirements; imposing a limitation on the pilot project; providing an appropriation; authorizing a position; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) The state superintendent of public instruction shall offer a pilot project for elementary foreign language instruction. The project shall:

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

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

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

(iv) Identify and develop technology-supported program materials for grades three (3) through six (6) to be implemented in a portion of the participating pilot

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project schools in at least one (1) grade level each year beginning in school year 2004-2005 with grade three (3);

(v) Include alternate programs including ones that build on the methods found to be promising at the kindergarten through grade 2 level and, if possible, ones involving classroom instruction by teachers certified in foreign language instruction;

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

(vii) Identify, develop and implement an assessment of the foreign language skills of participating students;

(viii) Develop and implement a distance-learning demonstration program for schools unable to acquire qualified teacher assistants.

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

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

(ii) Participation in assessment and data collection efforts measuring and describing student foreign language achievement; and

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(iii) Indication of school administration and board support for project participation.

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

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

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

(f) Not later than November 1, 2005, the state superintendent shall report to the joint appropriations interim committee and the joint education interim committee on project development and implementation, findings resulting from project review and student achievement and shall provide recommendations for continuance of the project. The report shall also include a detailed explanation of project expenditures and administration.

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(g) If fewer than ten (10) elementary schools in the state apply to participate in this pilot project by July 1, 2004, or if fewer than ten (10) elementary schools are actively participating in the pilot project by July 1, 2005, the superintendent shall discontinue the pilot project offered under this act.

Section 2. Two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) is appropriated from the school foundation program account to the state superintendent of public instruction to commence development and implementation of section 1 of this act for two (2) of five (5) years of the pilot project, school years 2004-2005 through 2005-2006. In addition, this appropriation includes funding and authorization for one (1) additional full-time position within the department of education or the equivalent of one (1) full-time position administered by the department of education.

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Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _____
DATE APPROVED: _____

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

Chief Clerk