

By: LaMantia, Blanco

S.B. No. 2231

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to teacher certification examinations in bilingual target
3 language proficiency and to certification requirements for
4 teachers in bilingual education.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 29.061, Education Code, is amended by
7 adding Subsections (b-3), (b-4), and (b-5) to read as follows:

8 (b-3) For a bilingual target language proficiency
9 certification examination prescribed under Section 21.048(a), the
10 commissioner shall adopt satisfactory levels of performance
11 differentiated for each grade level based on the level of language
12 proficiency required to teach that language in a bilingual
13 education program at that grade level. An educator preparation
14 program may not be penalized under Section 21.045 for a candidate
15 who meets the lowest satisfactory level of performance adopted
16 under this subsection on a bilingual target language proficiency
17 certification examination, regardless of the grade level for which
18 the candidate was seeking certification.

19 (b-4) Except as provided by Subsection (b-5), a teacher may
20 only be assigned to a bilingual education program, or, for a
21 bilingual education program described by Subsection (b-1), for the
22 component of the program provided in a language other than English,
23 at:

24 (1) a grade level for which the teacher has achieved on

1 the applicable bilingual target language proficiency certification
2 examination the satisfactory level of performance for that grade
3 level adopted by the commissioner under Subsection (b-3); or

4 (2) a grade level below the grade level described by
5 Subdivision (1).

6 (b-5) Notwithstanding Subsection (b-4), a teacher
7 appropriately certified in bilingual education before January 1,
8 2024, may be assigned to a bilingual education program at any grade
9 level.

10 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2024, the commissioner
11 of education shall adopt the satisfactory levels of performance as
12 required by Section 29.061(b-3), Education Code, as added by this
13 Act.

14 SECTION 3. Section 29.061(b-4), Education Code, as added by
15 this Act, applies beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.

16 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.