

By: Alonzo

H.B. No. 921

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to establishing the Texas State Seal of Bilingualism and
3 Biliteracy for recognition of high school graduates who attain a
4 high level of proficiency in both English and another language.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 28, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 28.0256 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 28.0256. TEXAS STATE SEAL OF BILINGUALISM AND
9 BILITERACY. (a) In this section, "seal" means the Texas State Seal
10 of Bilingualism and Biliteracy established under Subsection (b).

11 (b) The agency shall establish a seal to recognize high
12 school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in
13 comprehending, speaking, reading, and writing in both English and a
14 language other than English.

15 (c) The agency shall:

16 (1) determine minimum requirements for earning the
17 seal; and

18 (2) prepare and deliver to a participating school
19 district an insignia that can be affixed or stamped on the diploma
20 or transcript of a student who has satisfied requirements for
21 earning the seal.

22 (d) The board of trustees of a school district may choose
23 whether to offer the seal to students who satisfy the requirements
24 for earning the seal as determined by the agency.

1 (e) Each school district that offers the seal to an eligible
2 student shall:

3 (1) maintain appropriate records to identify students
4 who have earned the seal; and

5 (2) affix the seal's insignia to the diploma or
6 transcript of each student who has satisfied requirements for
7 earning the seal.

8 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2013-2014
9 school year.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.