BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

S.B. 2066 focuses on strengthening emergent bilingual students' education by changing out-of-date terms like "limited English proficient" student and "English learner" to "emergent bilingual" students. Over one million emergent bilingual students are currently enrolled in Texas public schools. Texas educates the highest percentage of emergent bilinguals in the United States. This bill will change all references in statute to update them to the more appropriate term.

S.B. 2066 amends current law relating to emergent bilingual students in public schools.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 21.0452(b), Education Code, to require the State Board of Education to make available at least certain information regarding each educator preparation program, including the extent to which the program prepares teachers, including general education teachers and special education teachers, to effectively teach, among others, emergent bilingual students, rather than students of limited English proficiency, as defined by Section 29.052 (Definitions).

SECTION 2. Amends Sections 21.054(d) and (e), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 3. Amends Section 21.4551(b), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 4. Amends Section 21.457, Education Code, as follows:

Sec. 21.457. New heading: TRAINING FOR TEACHERS OF EMERGENT BILINGUAL STUDENTS. Makes conforming changes to this section.

SECTION 5. Amends Section 29.051, Education Code, as follows:

Sec. 29.051. STATE POLICY. Makes conforming changes to this section.

SECTION 6. Amends Section 29.052(1), Education Code, to define "emergent bilingual student," rather than "student of limited English proficiency."

SECTION 7. Amends Sections 29.053(b), (c), and (d), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 8. Amends Sections 29.054(b) and (d), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 9. Amends Section 29.055(c), Education Code, to make a conforming change.

SECTION 10. Amends Sections 29.056(a), (c), (d), and (g), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

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SECTION 11. Amends Section 29.059(b), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 12. Amends Sections 29.060(a) and (d), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 13. Amends Section 29.062(a), Education Code, to make a conforming change.

SECTION 14. Amends Sections 29.063(b) and (c), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 15. Amends Sections 29.066(a) and (b), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 16. Reenacts Section 29.081(d), Education Code, as amended by Chapters 403 (S.B. 1746), 597 (S.B. 668), and 1060 (H.B. 1051), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, and amends it to make conforming and nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 17. Amends Section 29.091(f), Education Code, to make a conforming change.

SECTION 18. Amends Section 39.023(1), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 19. Amends Section 39.0241(d), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 20. Amends Sections 39.027(a) and (e), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 21. Amends Section 39.034(b), Education Code, to make a conforming change.

SECTION 22. Amends Sections 39.301(c) and (d), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 23. Amends Section 39.309(c), Education Code, to make a conforming change.

SECTION 24. Amends Section 39.332(d), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 25. Amends Section 48.105(a), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 26. Amends Section 48.108(a), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 27. Provides that, to the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails over another Act of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.

SECTION 28. Effective date: September 1, 2021.