

PROPOSITION 58

“LEARN (Language Education, Acquisition and Readiness Now) Initiative”

To ensure that all California school children have an opportunity to excel and advance in all subjects, including the opportunity to develop fluency and literacy in English and other languages, our board supports Proposition 58 (LEARN Initiative), a repeal of provisions of Proposition 227.

Key Points on Proposition 58:

- In 1998, California voters approved Proposition 227, which required that all California students be taught in English.
- Since Prop 227 was passed, the state has taken on a new direction in multilingual education for all students, as well as instruction for students who are not native English speakers.
- English language development standards are now aligned to the State Standards – the Prop 227 laws do not reflect this alignment.
- Proposition 58:
 - Amends and repeals portions of Prop 227 that require all classes to be taught in English.
 - Amends and repeals portions of Prop 227 that require English learners to be taught in sheltered immersion courses.
 - Provides greater flexibility for students who are native English speakers to participate in programs to learn another language.
- This measure provides greater access to multilingual and multicultural education.
- Proposition 58 is an important step to better prepare California’s students for college and career.
- Better access to multilingual education better prepares students to meet the demands of an increasingly diverse global workforce.
- Proposition 58 is supported by the California School Boards Association and several other groups and individuals.