

SAMPLE LETTER TO GOVERNOR BROWN
Place on your own organization's letterhead

September 16, 2015

Hon. Governor Jerry Brown
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 750: (Mendoza) English Language Education, Amended
September 1, 2015.**

Dear Governor Brown,

(Name of Organization/ I) strongly support(s) Senate Bill 750 (Mendoza) English Language Education, amended September 1, 2015. We/I urgently request your signature on the bill. State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson is a co-sponsor of the bill along with Californians Together and the California Association for Bilingual Education.

SB 750 (Mendoza) addresses several problems identified by the California Department of Education upon implementation of the the Long Term English Learner statute which you approved in 2012. The bill does the following:

- Clarifies the criteria to be used to identify English learner students as Long Term English learners or at risk of becoming an LTEL regarding: 1) which assessment scores are to be used [Smarter Balanced Assessment in English Language Arts instead of the previous assessment] and 2) when assessment scores are unavailable, allows the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to determine the score on any successor test.
- Encourages the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to revisit a score determined for any successor test after three years of assessment data on the successor test.
- Requires the California Department of Education to provide the information on Long Term English Learners and English Learner students at risk of becoming a Long Term English Learner on its Web Site.

These changes do not effect any current policy but are critical in order for the California Department of Education to accurately identify pupils who are Long Term English Learners and at risk of becoming LTELs so that school districts may provide appropriate instructional services to these students. The California Department of Education has also determined there are no substantial costs to SB 750 (Mendoza).

We respectfully request your **signature on SB 750 (Mendoza)**. In so doing, California will continue to be the leader in the nation addressing the educational needs of Long Term English Learners and pupils at risk of becoming Long Term English Learners.

Sincerely,

Name & Title (if applicable)
Name of Organization (if applicable)