



March 26, 2026

The Honorable Dr. Darshana Patel
Chair, Assembly Education Committee
1020 N Street, Room 159
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2555 (Patel)
Position: Co-Sponsor

Dear Chair Patel:

The California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) is pleased to co-sponsor AB 2555 (Patel), as amended on March 16, 2026, which updates provisions in state law governing the assessment and reclassification of English learners to ensure that English language development assessments and reclassification procedures are implemented consistently and in alignment with current federal requirements.

CABE's vision is biliteracy, multicultural competency, and educational equity for all students, and our mission is to strengthen California's capacity to create caring and highly effective learning environments that promote multiliteracy and support English learners and culturally diverse communities. California's schools serve a large and diverse population of multilingual learners whose academic success depends on effective language development instruction, culturally relevant curriculum, and appropriate assessment practices. State policies governing English learner identification, assessment, ongoing monitoring, and reclassification play a critical role in ensuring that students receive the support they need while also recognizing when they have achieved proficiency and are ready to transition fully into mainstream academic programs if they are in an educational program that leads to English-only instruction. If they are in a K-12 pathway to bilingualism/multilingualism, reclassification is a celebration of success leading to earning the Seal of Biliteracy.

AB 2555 would establish an effective solution to monitor and support reclassified students and change the framework for serving California's English learners by reframing reclassification through the lens of student milestones on their overall journey to biliteracy.

CABE appreciates the leadership of Asm. Patel to strengthen the overall reclassification process to create better alignment, transparency, and support for the diverse typologies of English learner students during their linguistic voyage. Further, CABE looks forward to collaborating with the author and co-sponsors as this measure becomes further defined and clarified.

For these reasons, CABE respectfully urges your support when the bill is heard in the committee. Should you have any questions, please reach out to CABE's Legislative Advocate Jennifer Baker at jbaker@m-w-h.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edgar Lampkin".

Dr. Edgar Lampkin
CABE Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Baker".

Jennifer Baker
CABE Legislative Advocate

cc: The Honorable Dr. Darshana Patel, California State Assembly
Members, Assembly Education Committee
Tanya Lieberman, Chief Consultant, Assembly Education Committee
Bob Becker, Republican Caucus, Assembly Education Committee