



League of United Latin American Citizens

SUPPORTING THE ENGLISH LEARNER PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is dedicated to the advancement of the Hispanic community in the United States through education, economic empowerment, and civil rights;

WHEREAS, English language proficiency is essential for full participation in American society and access to educational and economic opportunities;

WHEREAS, the newly published report titled "The State of English Learners in California Public Schools" by the nonprofit organization Californians Together highlights a concerning decline in academic achievement indicators for English learners. The report reveals that the percentage of English learners reclassified as fluent and proficient in English has dropped to its lowest level since 2016.

WHEREAS, persistent disparities exist between English learners and monolingual English-speaking students in A-G course completion rates and participation in college-level coursework, such as dual enrollment and AP courses plus the rate of English learners who are chronically absent from class has more than doubled since the pandemic, further exacerbating educational inequities; as the report also indicates that California has significant progress to make to meet the goals set forth in the Global California 2030 initiative and Manuel Buenrostro, Policy Director for Californians Together, emphasizes the need for more efforts to ensure multilingualism is celebrated and all students receive the necessary support.

WHEREAS, the report recommends that the state make more data on English learners publicly available, including high school graduation rates for reclassified students, the number of preschoolers learning English alongside their home language, and the overall number of teachers with bilingual credentials and also advises for improving accountability by disaggregating data on the achievement of English learners and students recently reclassified as fluent, and setting higher expectations for districts regarding English learner achievement and reclassification.



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THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that LULAC strongly supports the recommendations outlined in "The State of English Learners in California Public Schools" and calls for their implementation to improve outcomes for English learners;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LULAC calls upon local, state, and federal government officials to allocate sufficient funding and resources to English Learner Programs to ensure their effectiveness and sustainability;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LULAC urges educational institutions to provide ongoing professional development for educators working with English learners, to implement evidence-based instructional strategies, and to foster an inclusive and supportive learning environment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LULAC advocates for greater transparency and accountability in reporting data on English learners, including high school graduation rates, preschool and Transitional Kindergarten participation, and teacher qualifications;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LULAC encourages the state to set higher expectations for school districts in terms of English learner achievement and reclassification, and to monitor progress closely;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that LULAC will work collaboratively with other organizations, community leaders, and policymakers to advocate for the rights and needs of English learners and to promote the value of multilingualism.

Submitted by: Anthony Noriega, Director, District Five LULAC Empire and Miriam Aguilar Escobar, CA Deputy State Director for Women, Endorsed by San Diego Education LULAC Council #3190. Voted and approved by the National Assembly of the 2024 LULAC National Convention on June 29, 2024.

Roman Palomares
LULAC National President