

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 5
OFFERED BY MS. BROWNLEY OF CALIFORNIA**

At the end of title VIII of the bill, add the following
new section:

1 SEC. 802. STATE SEAL OF BILITERACY PROGRAM.

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Education
3 shall award grants to States to establish or improve a Seal
4 of Biliteracy program to recognize student proficiency in
5 speaking, reading, and writing in both English and a sec-
6 ond language.

7 (b) GRANT APPLICATION.—In order to receive a
8 grant under this section, a State shall submit an applica-
9 tion to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
10 containing such information and assurances as the Sec-
11 retary may require, including—

12 (1) a description of the criteria a student must
13 meet to demonstrate proficiency in speaking, read-
14 ing, and writing in both English and a second lan-
15 guage;

16 (2) assurances that a student who meets the re-
17 quirements under paragraph (1)—

1 (A) receives a permanent seal or other
2 marker on the student's secondary school di-
3 ploma or its equivalent; and

4 (B) receives documentation of proficiency
5 in the student's official academic transcript;
6 and

7 (3) assurances that a student is not charged a
8 fee for submitting an application under subsection
9 (c).

10 (c) STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN A SEAL OF
11 BILITERACY PROGRAM.—To participate in a Seal of
12 Biliteracy program, a student must submit an application
13 to the State that serves the student at such time, in such
14 manner, and containing such information and assurances
15 as the State may require, including assurances that the
16 student—

17 (1) will receive a secondary school diploma or
18 its equivalent in the year the student submits an ap-
19 plication; and

20 (2) has met the criteria established by the State
21 under subsection (b)(1).

22 (d) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR APPLICATION.—A
23 student who gained proficiency in a second language out-
24 side of school may apply to participate in a Seal of
25 Biliteracy program under subsection (c).

1 (e) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds made available
2 under this section shall be used for administrative costs
3 of establishing or improving and carrying out a Seal of
4 Biliteracy program and for public outreach and education
5 about that program.

6 (f) GRANT TERMS.—

7 (1) DURATION.—A grant awarded under this
8 section shall be for a period of 2 years, and may be
9 renewed at the discretion of the Secretary.

10 (2) RENEWAL.—At the end of a grant term, the
11 recipient of such grant may reapply for a grant
12 under this section.

13 (3) LIMITATIONS.—A grant recipient under this
14 section shall not have more than 1 grant under this
15 section at anytime.

16 (4) RETURN OF UNSPENT GRANT FUNDS.—Not
17 later than 6 months after the date on which a grant
18 term ends, a recipient of a grant under this section
19 shall return any unspent grant funds to the Sec-
20 retary.

21 (g) REPORT.—Not later than 9 months after receiv-
22 ing a grant under this section, a grant recipient shall issue
23 a report to the Secretary describing the implementation
24 of the Seal of Biliteracy program.

25 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) ESEA DEFINITIONS.—The terms “sec-
2 ondary school”, “Secretary”, and “State” have the
3 meanings given those terms in section 6101 of the
4 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
5 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

6 (2) SECOND LANGUAGE.—The term “second
7 language” means any language other than English,
8 including Braille and American Sign Language.

9 (3) SEAL OF BILITERACY PROGRAM.—The term
10 “Seal of Biliteracy program” means any program es-
11 tablished under this section.

12 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
13 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary
14 \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2021
15 to carry out this section.

