

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

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RE: H498/S262 The Language Opportunities for Our Kids (LOOK)

DT: 12 May 2015

Dear Honorable Chairs and Members of the Joint Committee on Education,

Thank you for considering bill *H498/S262 The Language Opportunities for Our Kids (LOOK)* before your committee today. I am a co-sponsor of this important piece of legislation and I respectfully request that you report it out favorably and expeditiously.

This bill would help close the gap for students with English as their second language and increase opportunities for all students. This bill would create a "State Seal of Biliteracy" that would recognize student who can speak, read, and write in two different languages, which is a valuable skill to have in today's increasingly globalized economy. This bill would also enable school districts to choose the best ELL (English Language Learners) program for their students.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Once again, I urge you to report out favorably *H498/S262 The Language Opportunities for Our Kids (LOOK)*.

Sincerely,

Paul Heroux