

## HR 2549

### BEST Act

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Education

**Introduced:** Jun 27, 2013

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education. (Sep 13, 2013)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/2549>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Jun 27, 2013
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Jun 27, 2013
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Jul 11, 2013
Rep. Enyart, William L. [D-IL-12]	D · IL		Jul 18, 2013
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Jul 19, 2013
Rep. Garcia, Joe [D-FL-26]	D · FL		Jul 19, 2013
Rep. Nolan, Richard M. [D-MN-8]	D · MN		Jul 19, 2013
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		Jul 19, 2013
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Jul 22, 2013
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Jul 22, 2013
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Jul 31, 2013
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Sep 9, 2013
Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Sep 17, 2013
Rep. Hinojosa, Ruben [D-TX-15]	D · TX		May 29, 2014

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 13, 2013

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Education

## Related Bills

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No related bills are listed.

### Summary (as of Jun 27, 2013)

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Biliteracy Education Seal and Teaching Act or the BEST Act - Directs the Secretary of Education to award renewable two-year grants to states to establish or improve a Seal of Biliteracy program to recognize student proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in both English and a second language.

Requires students who wish to participate in such a program to submit an application to their state that includes assurances that they: (1) will receive a secondary school diploma or its equivalent in the year they apply; and (2) have met the state's criteria for demonstrating proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in both English and a second language.

Requires states to provide participating students who demonstrate that proficiency: (1) a permanent seal or other marker on their secondary school diploma or its equivalent, and (2) documentation of that proficiency on their official academic transcript.

Allows students who gain proficiency in a second language outside of school to participate in such programs.

Prohibits states from charging students an application fee.

### Actions Timeline

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- **Sep 13, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.
- **Jun 27, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 27, 2013:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.