

S 3595

BEST Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Jan 17, 2024

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Jan 17, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/3595>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]

Party: Democratic • **State:** HI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 17, 2024
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 17, 2024
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 17, 2024
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 17, 2024
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 17, 2024
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 17, 2024
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 24, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 17, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 7007	Identical bill	Jan 17, 2024: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Biliteracy Education Seal and Teaching Act or the BEST Act

This bill directs the Department of Education to award renewable two-year grants to states to establish or improve, and carry out, Seal of Biliteracy programs and early language programs to recognize student proficiency in both English and a second language. Student proficiency shall be demonstrated through proficiency in speaking and writing in both languages and may also be demonstrated through reading and listening in both languages.

Further, these programs must allow speakers of any official Native American language to use equivalent proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in such language in lieu of proficiency in English.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 17, 2024:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 17, 2024:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.