

By Senator Soto

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to English language instruction;
3 amending s. 1002.20, F.S.; providing that a student's
4 parent has the right to request that the student be
5 exempted from instruction in English language
6 proficiency; amending s. 1003.56, F.S.; requiring a
7 school district to exempt a student from participating
8 in instruction in English language proficiency if the
9 student's parent requests the exemption in writing;
10 providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Subsection (10) of section 1002.20, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public
17 school students must receive accurate and timely information
18 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed
19 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12
20 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory
21 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

22 (10) LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT STUDENTS.—In accordance
23 with ~~the provisions of~~ s. 1003.56, a limited English proficient
24 student has ~~students have~~ the right to receive English for
25 Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) ~~ESOL (English for Speakers of~~
26 ~~Other Languages)~~ instruction designed to develop the student's
27 mastery of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English
28 as rapidly as possible. ~~and The student's parent has~~ students'
29 parents have the right to be involved ~~of parental involvement~~ in

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30 the ESOL program and a right to request that the child be
31 exempted from participating in the ESOL program.

32 Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 1003.56, Florida
33 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (6), and a new subsection
34 (5) is added to that section, to read:

35 1003.56 English language instruction for limited English
36 proficient students.—

37 (5) A school district shall exempt a student who is
38 assessed as a limited English proficient student from
39 participating in ESOL instruction if the student's parent
40 requests the exemption in writing.

41 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.