**South Carolina General Assembly**

119th Session, 2011-2012

**H. 3613**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Rep. Toole

Document Path: l:\council\bills\ms\7109bh11.docx

Introduced in the House on February 8, 2011

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Education and Public Works**

Summary: Students whose first language is not English

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

2/8/2011 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 49](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2011\02-08-11.docx))

2/8/2011 House Referred to Committee on **Education and Public Works** ([House Journal‑page 49](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2011\02-08-11.docx))

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[2/8/2011](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\3613_20110208.docx)

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑63‑170 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT STUDENTS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THIS STATE WHO DO NOT RECOGNIZE ENGLISH AS THEIR FIRST LANGUAGE MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE ORDINARY COURSE OF STUDY APPROPRIATE FOR THEIR GRADE LEVEL UNTIL THEY HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED AN ESTABLISHED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PROGRAM, TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH BY REGULATION AN ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PROGRAM DESIGNED TO INSTRUCT STUDENTS WHO DO NOT RECOGNIZE ENGLISH AS THEIR FIRST LANGUAGE IN THE BASICS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE SO THAT THEY BECOME PROFICIENT IN THE LANGUAGE, AND TO REQUIRE THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF THIS STATE TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT BEGINNING WITH THE 2012‑2013 SCHOOL YEAR.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 63, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑63‑170. Students in the public schools of this State who do not recognize English as their first language may not participate in the ordinary course of study appropriate for their grade level until they have successfully completed an established English proficiency program. By January 1, 2012, the State Department of Education shall promulgate regulations necessary to establish an English proficiency program designed to instruct students on the basics of the English language so that they may become proficient in the language. The school districts of this State shall implement the program designed by the department beginning with the 2012‑2013 school year.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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