

What is the Proposed Unz Initiative...

- Eliminates bilingual education programs
- English learners from different ages and grade levels, but similar degrees of English proficiency will be taught together in English for up to 1 year
- Schools will be encouraged to mix together in the same classroom different language groups with the same degree of English proficiency
- After 1 year of instruction in a so called "sheltered English immersion" students would be mainstreamed in English only classrooms
- Teachers need to have no other qualification than a good knowledge of the English language
- Parents would have to request a waiver if they want bilingual instruction for their children (only applies to children 10 years or older, unless parents can prove that there is a special need)
- Schools will only be required to offer bilingual instruction when parents request a waiver and the school has 20 or more students of a given grade level
- If the parents request a waiver and the school is not mandated to offer the program, the school will transfer the student to a public school where the program is offered
- There are specific restrictions for parents requesting a waiver for the child to receive bilingual instruction, and waivers for children under 10 years are restricted to special circumstances only
- \$50 million per year for a 9 year period would be appropriated from the General Fund to subsidize programs for adult English instruction
- Adults participating in these English classes must pledge to provide English tutoring to English learners
- School Board members, elected officials, teachers and administrators may be held personally liable for fees and actual damages for not implementing the terms of the proposed statute.

(This piece was developed by CAFE to be duplicated for educational purposes)



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