



**House  
Legislative  
Analysis  
Section**

Washington Square Building, Suite 1025  
Lansing, Michigan 48909  
Phone: 517/373-6466

SCHOOLS: BILINGUAL INSTRUCTION OPTIONAL

**RECEIVED**

**APR 17 1989**

House Bill 4465  
Sponsor: Rep. William R. Keith  
Committee: Education

Mich. State Law Library

Complete to 3-20-89

**A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4465 AS INTRODUCED 3-16-89**

The School Code specifies that if a school district has at least 20 limited-English speaking students enrolled in the district's K-12 schools, the school board must establish and operate a bilingual instruction program in the district for those pupils. The act makes the program optional for districts having fewer than 20 limited-English speaking students, with corresponding state-aid reimbursement. If a child lives in a district which does not operate an appropriate bilingual instruction program, the child can opt to enroll in an appropriate program in another district or intermediate district, and all costs associated with attending an out-of-district program (tuition, transportation) must be reimbursed by the district in which the child lives. Intermediate districts that provide bilingual instruction programs receive a proportionate share of state funds in return.

The bill would amend the act to make the program optional for school districts, regardless of the number of limited-English speaking students enrolled in the district. Further, the bill would remove school district responsibility to reimburse the host school district for the costs associated with students who decided to attend an out-of-district bilingual instruction program, and would deny an intermediate district from receiving state aid on the basis of bilingual instruction programs offered.

MCL 380.1153

House Bill 4465 (3-20-89)