

May 14, 2024

Dear Chair Abney and Members of the House Finance Committee:

My name is George Nippo and I am writing in support of House Bill No. [7594](#). I am the father of bilingual children who attend public school in Cranston, Rhode Island. While they have been in classes with other Spanish speakers, the district does not offer any bilingual or dual language programming. Cranston is the second largest city in the state, with a growing Spanish speaking population, yet it does not offer children the opportunity to build on their multi-lingual strengths by reinforcing the languages spoken at home.

I believe one of the reasons that the bilingual programs are not offered has to do with staffing of certified teachers. My hope is that by passing House Bill Number 7594 the number of bilingual, dual language and world language teachers in the state will increase and as a result such programs will become more available to the young people of the state who deserve it.

Please join me in supporting House Bill No. [7594](#).

Thank you,  
George Nippo  
Cranston, RI