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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill

Referred to Committee: House 1

Authors: Hayden Hoover, Nick Wooldridge, Hunter Arnett, Cy Stutzenberger	Action on the Bill	
School: Western Hills HS	House	Senate
City: Frankfort	□ Passed	□ Passed

An act to require all Kentucky public school systems to begin the teaching of a foreign language in elementary or primary schools.

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: This bill requires the foreign language learning opportunity to be taught in all public schools at all levels up to the 12th grade and should be taken at all levels by all students.

Section 2: If this bill were to pass into law then it would create more job opportunities across the state of Kentucky.

Section 3: According to Lynn Redmond, Director of Foreign Language at Wake Forest University, and Executive Secretary of the National Network for Early Language Learning, students should start learning foreign languages as early as kindergarten and continue learning them through High School because they help improve skills like listening ability, memory, creativity, and critical thinking as well.

Section 4: According to Lynn Redmond, Director of Foreign Language at Wake Forest University, and Executive Secretary of the National Network for Early Language Learning, students with several years of foreign language have higher average scores on the SATs.

Section 5: According to Ryan McMunn, language expert, and CEO of BRIC Language Systems, "Those entering the work force in 2014 with a second language fluency can expect an additional 10 to 15 percent pay increase."

Section 6: As stated by Lynn Redmond, demand in the work force for knowledge of a second language has become an increasingly more valuable skill that many companies would like them to have. With that said, having this second language on your resume will make you stand out much more as compared to fellow applicants.

- Section 7: The class would be treated as a core content class just as Math, English, and Science.
- Section 8: The class would not be required for students with special needs.

Section 9: This bill would require extra funding for teachers not in place, and any materials that the prospective school deems necessary for the class to operate. These numbers will vary by school due to number of teachers needed, and students to be provided for.

Section 10: This bill will go into effect on July 1, 2016 for those starting their primary education in the 2016–2017 school year.