

news

For Immediate Release

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TESOL outlines preliminary recommendations for ESEA reauthorization

Alexandria, Virginia (November 2006) – At its recent meeting, the Board of Directors of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL), approved the association's preliminary recommendations for the upcoming reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), otherwise known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The association's preliminary recommendations include

- Allowing local educational agencies the authority to determine at what stage in their English development English language learners must take reading, math, and science assessments in English.
- Tracking individual English language learner's language proficiency and aggregating by age group for adequate yearly progress (AYP), i.e., growth model.
- Expanding the definition of Highly Qualified Teacher to recognize the training of English as a second language (ESL) and bilingual specialists.
- Re-instituting federal grants for graduate study in ESL and bilingual education.

TESOL's full *Statement of Principles and Preliminary Recommendations for the Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)* is available at www.tesol.org.

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Founded in 1966, Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL) is a global education association with more than 13,000 members and 90 affiliates in over 120 countries. TESOL is recognized as a nongovernmental organization (NGO) of the United Nations Department of Public Information. TESOL's mission is to ensure excellence in English language teaching to speakers of other languages.

