

Making the Legislative Process Work FOR Immersion Learning

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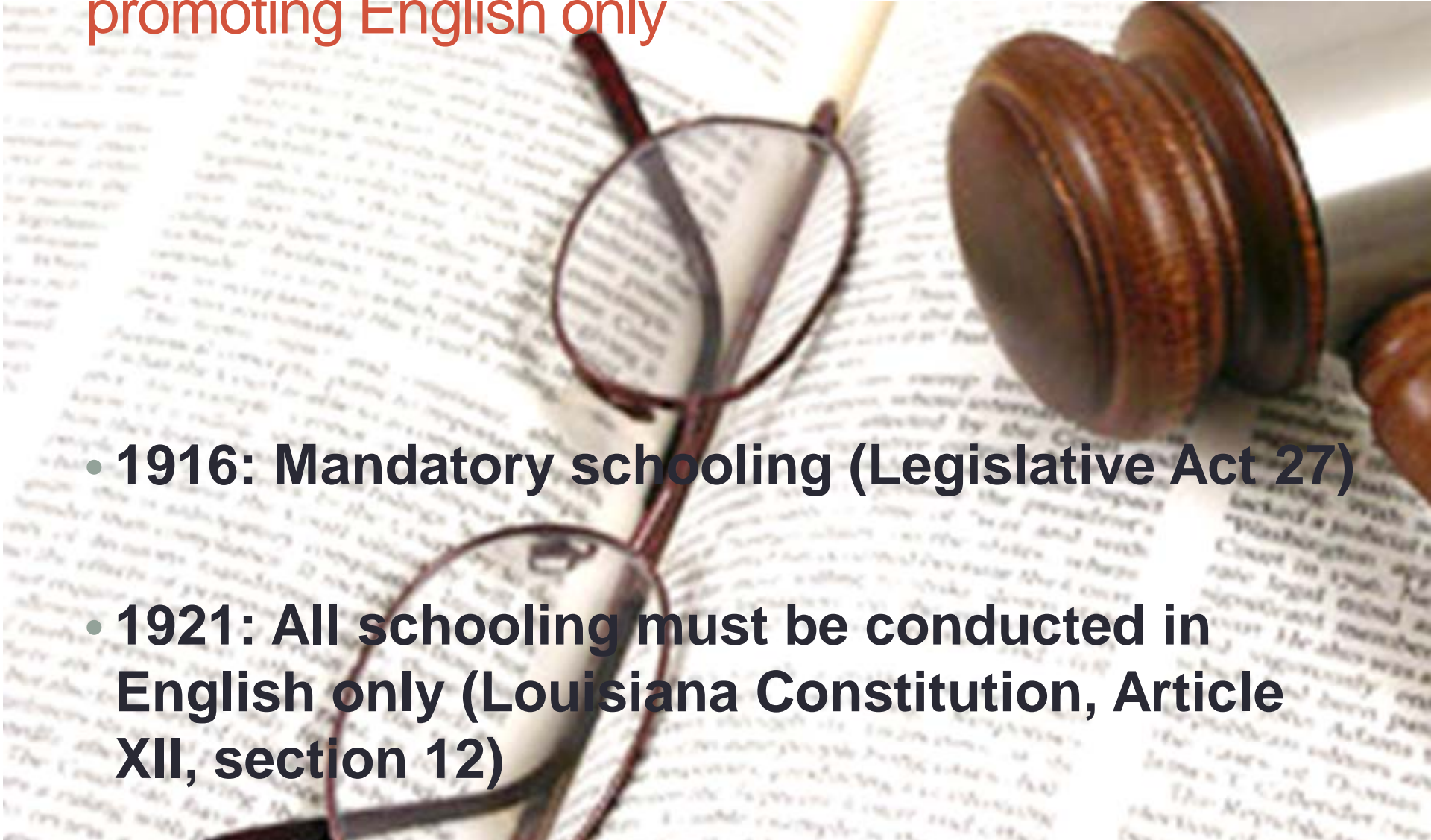
Utah International Immersion Conference, October 2014

Goals of this Session

- You will learn:
 - about 9 Louisiana laws or policies that have had a direct impact on immersion learning
 - about how these laws were developed
 - about how the laws affected stakeholders' perceptions of immersion
- You will review strategies for partnering with decision makers to create environments favorable to strong immersion pathways.

First legislative actions: promoting English only

- **1916: Mandatory schooling (Legislative Act 27)**
- **1921: All schooling must be conducted in English only (Louisiana Constitution, Article XII, section 12)**



1968/2010 CODOFIL Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

- Creation and first mission (1968)
- Int'l accords
- Reorganization and new mission (2010)
 - It's the economy, stupide!
 - 12% cocodrie
 - New mission = immersion



2013/14
Immersion
Choice Act

Obligation for districts to open immersion pathways upon reception of 25 kindergarten or first grade parents' signatures.



2002/2013 Funding

The Minimum
Foundation
Program (MFP)

\$20,000 per
foreign / *Escadrille*
teacher for his/her
LEA



2008 License Plate

Assists in funding
French immersion
pathways.

Funds transferred
to the Louisiana
Consortium of
Immersion
Schools.



**"Would you buy this license plate for the benefit
of French Immersion in Louisiana?"**

**Let us know what you think by filling
out the forms on the table.**

2011 Renaissance Louisiane

Increases the number of immersion pathways and/or improves existing pathways.

The LDOE offers grant opportunities to districts or individual schools.

*2013-14 Application
Information*



*Louisiana Renaissance
Language Immersion
Program*

2011
State-
Certified
Language
Status

2 schools in Baton Rouge
Baton Rouge FLAIM
Westdale Middle School

3 schools in New Orleans
Int'l School of Louisiana (3
campuses)



2012 Escadrille Louisiane

Partnership
between:

- CODOFIL
- Académie de
Rennes
(France)
- Centenary
College
(Shreveport,
LA)



Seal of Biliteracy (2014)

Eligible students
receive a
Biliteracy Seal
on their High
School Diploma.





Strategies For Partnering

- **How can we partner with decision makers in creating environments favorable to strong immersion programs?**

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