

Texas woman fights bilingualism

by UPI

FORT WORTH, Texas - A Texas woman is refusing to allow her fifth-grade daughter to study Spanish because, she said, she is worried about the future of English in the United States. Instead of learning Spanish with the rest of her class, Ashleigh Allison prepares reports in the library at the Timberline Elementary School in Grapevine, Texas, the Fort Worth (Texas) Star-Telegram reported Wednesday. Texas' curriculum requires a school district to offer languages other than English to elementary and middle school students. Leigh Allison, Ashleigh's mother, told the newspaper that Timberline's choice of Spanish impedes the children of Hispanic immigrants in the community from learning to speak English. Allison's view was supported by the Virginia-based group Pro-English, which works to preserve English as the common language of the United States. "On the one hand, we're all for teaching foreign languages," K.C. McAlpin, Pro-English executive director, told the Star-Telegram. "But it would be naive to think that the country does not face the growing threat of bilingualism because of the massive influx of mostly Spanish-speaking immigrants."

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