



THE PROENGLISH Advocate

The Window Of Opportunity For Official English Legislation



The result of the November mid-term elections was a split decision with the Republicans adding to their majority in the U.S. Senate and the Democrats taking control of the U.S. House of Representatives.

At the same time, official English advocates have in the White House perhaps the most pro-English president since Theodore Roosevelt. President Donald Trump frequently has stated: "We have a country where to assimilate, you have to speak English." As well, Vice President Mike Pence always was a strong and loyal supporter when he served as a representative from Indiana, and Pence co-sponsored the English Language Unity Act five times in Congress.

As a result, and given the split decision result of the mid-term elections, White House support for official English legislation and executive orders becomes even more important, even as we continue to work closely with our allies in Congress to increase support for passage of the English Language Unity Act.

The recent Rasmussen Reports poll sponsored by ProEnglish showed that 81% of Americans believe that English should be the official language of the United States.

That poll result shows overwhelming national support for English as the official language of this nation.

As a result, it would behoove the White House to have President Trump undergird his support for official English through executive orders, and as quickly as possible.

ProEnglish urges President Trump to sign a new Executive Order that would effectively repeal former President Clinton's onerous Executive Order ("EO") 13166. EO 13166 mandates foreign language translations and interpretations for all federally-funded agencies and contractors, and it costs Americans at least \$2 billion a year, if not more, according to a government study.

A repeal of EO 13166 through a new Executive Order by President Trump would have huge economic benefits and it would save Americans billions of dollars every year.

The government must stop placing this onerous and costly translation and interpretation burden on Americans, and President Trump has the ability to do so on a speedy basis via a new Executive Order.

Frankly, President Trump also could make English the official language of the United States by Executive Order as well.

As a result, and particularly given the potential for gridlock in the new 116th Congress, with Democrats in control of the House and Republicans in control of the Senate, the time has come for President Trump to follow through on his support of official English via Executive Order, in order to repeal the costly, onerous foreign language translation and interpretation mandate and to make English the official language of the nation.

The window of opportunity for official English is open right now, and the window of opportunity for official English may be as wide open as it has ever been since the days of the Theodore Roosevelt administration more than a century ago.

The window of opportunity is wide open. The time to act is now. We urge President Trump to take out his pen and sign new Executive Orders backing official English as soon as possible.

The following information applies to the enclosed package in its entirety. ProEnglish is a project of U.S., Inc. U.S., Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and as such, can expend only a specific portion of its overall resources on lobbying activities. While your contribution will not be earmarked for a specific campaign, its availability at this time will assist us in meeting all of our goals. A copy of our latest financial report may be obtained from either the Secretary of State of New York, Albany, NY 12231 or from U.S., Inc. 445 East Mitchell St., Petoskey, MI 49770-2623. The official registration and financial information of U.S. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305

Trump Rule Rejects Migrants Who Cannot Speak English



Federal officials will likely reject legal migrants' requests for visas or green cards if they cannot speak English, according to a draft regulation from President Donald Trump's Department of Homeland Security.

"English language proficiency is a skill that also is relevant in determining whether an alien is likely to become a public charge in the future," said the draft "public charge" regulation. The regulation is intended

to help officials exclude migrants who will likely rely on American taxpayers for their health care, welfare, housing, and wages.

The draft regulation stated: "People with the lowest English speaking ability tend to have the lowest employment rate, lowest rate of full-time employment, and lowest median earnings. According to U.S. Census Bureau data, people who spoke a language other than English at home were less likely to be employed, and less likely to find full-time work, when employed."

The draft regulation also noted that people who cannot speak English are more likely to rely on welfare.

The new draft regulation was posted just after a report showed that nearly half of the residents in the USA's top 5 cities do not speak English at home, and nearly 67 million people nationwide do not speak English at home as well.

State Department Report: Majority Of Refugees Do Not Speak English Well Or At All

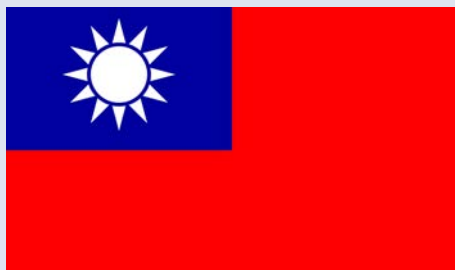


A recently-released State Department report about refugees noted that a majority of them are lacking in English language proficiency.

The State Department report said that among refugees age 18 or older who had lived in the USA between 4.5 and 6.5 years, a majority of them, 53%, spoke English "not well" or "not at all" based on self-assessments.

This English language deficiency information was included in a larger State Department report which disclosed that Americans spent almost \$100 billion to support 606,000 refugees in the 10 years leading up to 2014, and the amount of spending then rose to \$126 billion when officials added extra costs associated with paying for the refugees' spouses and children.

Taiwan To Make English An Official Language



Taiwan will make English an official language in an attempt to help citizens pursue opportunities abroad, Premier William Lai announced.

Lai stated that the move would encourage Taiwanese people to learn English, which would then allow them to pursue greater opportunities abroad.

Lai observed: "Culture is our root, and the English language is our tool – or see it as our foot, if you will. Given that language is the primary tool of communication, a lack of English proficiency hampers one from gaining an advantageous position in international competitiveness."

Approximately 85% of United Nations member nations have official languages, and 53 of those nations have adopted English as their official language. Taiwan would be the 54th nation to do so. The United States remains to be added to that list.



ACLU Sues Indiana BMV Over English Language Driver's Manual

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) is suing the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (“BMV”), alleging that while driver’s exams are available in 14 different languages in the state, the driver’s manual exists only in English.

The ACLU filed the lawsuit in federal court in Indianapolis on behalf of Neighbor To Neighbor, a South Bend non-profit organization that works with immigrants and refugees.

The ACLU alleges that the Indiana BMV is in violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The English-language driver’s manual in Indiana is 95 pages.

With regard to the separate issue of driver’s license exams, a recent national survey by ProEnglish showed that just 3 states out of 50 now offer their driver’s license exams only in English.

The 3 states that offer driver’s license exams only in English, and with no additional translation or interpretation assistance available to those who do not speak English, are South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

47 other states offer their driver’s license exams in a variety of different languages beyond English.

California is the state that offers its driver’s license exams in the most languages, as it has 32 different language options available. Massachusetts ranks 2nd by offering its driver’s license exams in 26 different languages.

Taco Bell Employee Fired For Refusing To Serve English-Speaking Customer



A Spanish-speaking Taco Bell employee in Hialeah, Florida, was fired after a video was circulated on social media that showed her refusing to serve an English-speaking customer.

Customer Alexandria Montgomery attempted to place a drive-thru order in English, and the Taco Bell employee responded, “No habla ingles!”

The employee continued to speak to Montgomery in Spanish. Two other Taco Bell employees also appeared at the drive-thru window, but nobody offered to help Montgomery with her order, and soon the window was closed on her and she left without purchasing any food.

A Taco Bell spokesperson later told El Nuevo Herald that “this does not meet our customer service expectations... We have worked quickly to resolve with the customer to ensure this doesn’t happen again... This individual no longer works for the brand.”

Montgomery’s Facebook post garnered several thousand comments, mainly in support of her, including one which stated: “Hialeah is still part of Florida and, as far as I remember, correct me if I’m wrong, Florida is part of the United States of America, it’s a country where English is the language we speak.”

ProEnglish recommends that Taco Bell do what McDonald’s has done. McDonald’s is investing \$150 million in its “Archways To Opportunity” global education program, which includes the “English Under The Arches” (“EUA”) language learning program specifically designed for its managers and manager trainees.

McDonald’s has found that in order to continue helping some employees take on more responsibilities, it must help them improve their English language skills. The McDonald’s EUA program currently operates at more than 30 sites across the country and is expected to expand in coming years. EUA courses include Shift Basics, Shift Conversation, Shift Writing, and Conducting Performance Reviews.

On average, 86% of McDonald’s EUA students have progressed one or more English language levels after completing each conversation course, and since the program began in 2007 over 95% of participants who completed an EUA course have received a pay raise due to the increased responsibilities that they are able to take on.

ProEnglish heartily recommends that Taco Bell adopt a similar program in order to avoid further situations like the one that happened in Hialeah.

Author Johanna Haver Writes New Book About English Immersion



Author Johanna J. Haver has written a new book entitled “Vindicated: Closing The Hispanic Achievement Gap Through English Immersion.”

The new book features a forward by Dr. Rosalie Pedalino Porter, the Chair of the Board of Directors of ProEnglish.

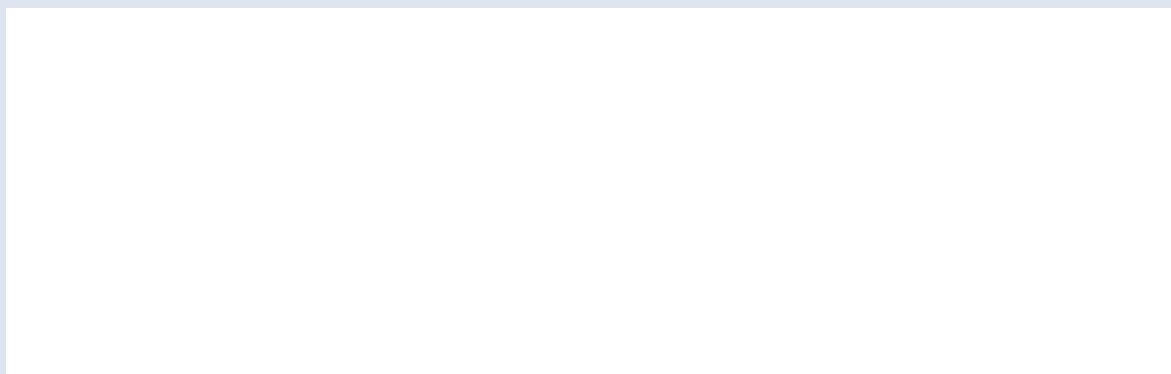
Lance Izumi, JD, former president, Board of Governors, California Community Colleges, remarked: “Johanna Haver’s book is an excellent resource for anyone interested in understanding the politics of the bilingual education wars in the United States over the last several decades. Haver lays out the results of the different policies pursued in various states: the abysmally low reclassification rates to English fluency in states and school districts that have stuck to bilingual education versus the improved rates in jurisdictions that adopted structured English immersion models.”

Roy Miller, co-founder of the Goldwater Institute, observed: “‘Vindicated’ makes a compelling case that the citizen’s initiatives, replacing bilingual education with immersion techniques... have resulted in excellent outcomes... Yet, as Haver warns, the national trend is again favoring bilingual education and all the federal dollars that go with it. This is a must-read for anyone who cares about whether Hispanic kids ever learn to speak English.”

Joseph Guzman, PhD, assistant professor and interim director, Chicano/Latino Studies Program, Michigan State University, commented: “Never again should we permit the segregation of Hispanic children in our public schools, whether for bilingual education or any other pretext.”

Linda Chavez, former White House Director of Public Liaison under President Ronald Reagan, former Staff Director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights under President Reagan, and Chairman of the National Commission on Migrant Education under President George H. W. Bush, concluded: “Haver’s ‘Vindicated’ demonstrates in full detail why delaying English acquisition harms the very children the system is supposed to help.”

ProEnglish
P.O. Box 98117
Washington, DC 20090-8117



“We have but one flag; we must also learn one language, and that language is English.”

- President Theodore Roosevelt

The ProEnglish Advocate

Board

Rosalie Porter, Chairwoman
Asgar Asgarov
Cliff Colwell
Dale Herder
Phil Kent
K.C. McAlpin

Executive Director

Stephen Guschov, Esq.

The ProEnglish Advocate is published quarterly by ProEnglish. ProEnglish is a non-profit membership-based organization dedicated to educating the American people about the importance of preserving English as our common language and making it the official language of the U.S. All contributions to ProEnglish are tax-deductible.



20 F Street NW, 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 507-6283
Website: www.proenglish.org

Permission is here by granted to copy or distribute any or all of The ProEnglish Advocate

Keep up the good work. Here is my donation:

\$25 \$50 \$100 Other _____

I would like to become a member of ProEnglish

Please send a \$25 gift membership to:

Name

Street

City, State, Zip

Email

IMPORTANT If this is a gift membership, please print your name here:

 Check

AMEX

MasterCard

Visa

Card No.

Exp. Date

Authorization Signature

Send to: ProEnglish* A Project of U.S., Inc.
20 F Street NW 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20001

Please remember ProEnglish in your estate planning and please contact ProEnglish directly at 202-507-6283 to discuss all of your planned giving options, including wills and trusts. You also may contribute safely and securely online at www.ProEnglish.org. All contributions are tax-deductible.