



THE PROENGLISH Advocate

Official English As A 2020 Election Issue



Official English legislation has the potential to emerge as a very important issue in advance of the Nov. 3 presidential and congressional elections.

Even with the great challenges that have been posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and shutdowns, ProEnglish has diligently remained in regular communications with the offices of countless senators and representatives on Capitol Hill in an effort to continue to build support for H.R. 997 and S. 678 – The English Language Unity Act. The bill designates English as the nation's official language of governmental operations and establishes a uniform language requirement for the citizen naturalization process.

ProEnglish also is urging senators on Capitol Hill to support the RAISE Act, as sponsored by Sen. David Perdue of Georgia, Sen. Tom Cotton of Arkansas, and Sen. Josh Hawley of Missouri. The RAISE Act will establish a point-based system that will help select skilled immigrants who have the most to offer to this nation, and applicants will earn points in part based on their proficiency in English.

ProEnglish also has been regularly engaging President Donald Trump to effectively repeal and replace Executive Order (EO) 13166, as signed by former President Bill Clinton, which requires every federal agency and every recipient of any federal funds to provide translation services, interpreters, and documents in any foreign language which is requested. It is an onerous Executive Order that must be repealed and replaced by President Trump as soon as possible with a new Executive Order. ProEnglish already has had 7 White House meetings to discuss a repeal and replacement of EO 13166 with several aides to President Trump and Vice President Pence, and we hope to have the President sign a new Executive Order very soon.

ProEnglish also is supporting official English efforts in various states across the nation as we seek to add to the 32 states across the USA that already have passed official English legislation. Wisconsin and New York are two states that have been pursuing official English legislation in 2020.

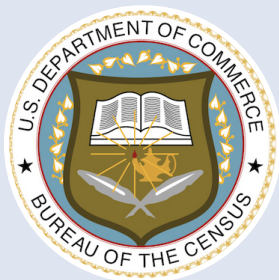
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ProEnglish Working With Congress To Determine U.S. Census Translation Costs



ProEnglish is working with members of Congress to determine the translation costs associated with the 2020 U.S. Census.

Rep. Virginia Foxx (NC) in the past has asked the U.S. Government Accountability Office (“GAO”) to account for all census translation costs, and Rep. Sam Graves (MO) has introduced H.R. 1728, The Cost of Services and Translations Act (“COST Act”), in the current 116th Congress.

The COST Act is designed to “end speculation on the current cost of multilingual services provided by the Federal Government, and for other purposes.”

The purposes of the COST Act are: (1) to create a new appendix within each agency’s annual performance and accountability report detailing any cost associated with providing multilingual services, such as verbal, written, or other services in languages other than English; (2) to end speculation on the current cost of providing multilingual services; (3) to provide for more transparency in the Federal Government’s accounting practices, and to determine the effectiveness of agency programs, policies, and procedures; and (4) to provide for more accountability with the use of taxpayer money.

The 2020 United States Census announced that its Internet Self-Response Instrument and questionnaire assistance will be available in 12 non-English languages and, in addition, that its language guides, language glossaries, and language identification cards will be available in a whopping 59 non-English languages.

ProEnglish believes that there are 5 key reasons to oppose census materials in 59 non-English languages, similar to the reasons to oppose multilingual ballots and election materials: (1) there is no justification for the need to produce census materials in 59 non-English languages; (2) it is arbitrary and wasteful to produce census materials in 59 non-English languages; (3) census materials produced in 59 non-English languages are a very costly and growing burden on U.S. taxpayers; (4) census materials produced in 59 non-English languages are a very costly and growing burden on the federal government; and (5) census materials produced in 59 non-English languages do not decrease the likelihood of errors and fraud.

ProEnglish Investigates Costs Of Multilingual Ballots

ProEnglish is investigating the costs of multilingual ballots in advance of the 2020 elections.

Foreign-language ballots will be available in at least 29 different states in time for November.

The spread of foreign language voting materials and ballots potentially opens the door to voter manipulation and election fraud, and also serves as an invitation to even greater fraud by potentially encouraging non-citizens to vote illegally in our elections.



Here are just a few recent examples of the whopping costs paid by U.S. taxpayers to provide multilingual ballots in some recent elections:

Osceola County, Florida, near Walt Disney World, paid approximately \$108,000 for multilingual ballots in 2016.

Hall County, Georgia, paid an estimated amount of more than \$150,000 for multilingual ballots in 2016.

And in Los Angeles County, California, more than \$3.3 million in taxpayer dollars was spent to provide multilingual ballots in a recent general election.

These are just 3 counties of different sizes in this nation. There are 3,141 counties or county equivalents in the entire USA. It is easy to see that there is the potential for hundreds of millions of dollars to be spent on multilingual ballots in the 2020 elections, with the entire cost likely being shouldered by already over-burdened American taxpayers.



Puerto Rico Bill Does Not Address Official English

A new bill in the United States House of Representatives that would create a commission of Puerto Ricans to possibly change the island territory's relationship with the United States is causing controversy and does not address the pressing issue of official English in Puerto Rico.

The new bill would create a "status convention" for Puerto Rico, and the convention would be comprised of delegates elected by island residents to "develop a long-term solution for Puerto Rico's status, be that statehood, independence, free association, or any option other than the current territorial arrangement."

The decision of the convention would be voted on by Puerto Ricans and, if approved, then would be presented to the United States Congress.

This new bill about a status convention for Puerto Rico, as well as prior bills regarding statehood for Puerto Rico, all fail to address the vital question about official English on the island.

Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens but cannot vote for President. Statehood would grant Puerto Rico two senators and five representatives.

ProEnglish Board of Directors Chair Dr. Rosalie Porter has stated that "any legislative attempt by the island to become the 51st state must stipulate that English become its primary official language of the government, courts, and school system."

Dr. Porter added: "Let's remember that the 2011 recommendations from President Barack Obama's Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status says that if the U.S. commonwealth ever applies for statehood, Congress has ultimate authority over admission and English must play a central role in the daily life of the island. At a minimum, we believe a large majority must become fluent in English for statehood to be even considered."

Accepting Puerto Rico as a new state, or any other new classification, without a specific designation of English as the primary official language of the island, would automatically transform the United States into a bilingual nation. ProEnglish believes that the U.S. should look to Canada's experience as a bilingual nation in order to remind us of the potential risks and consequences involved, including sharp cultural and political divisions and much higher costs for government-mandated translation and interpretation services.

PGA Star Keeps Improving His Golf Game And His English

Joaquin Niemann is an up-and-coming star on the PGA Tour. He was born in Santiago, Chile, and he was the number one ranked golfer in the World Amateur Golf Ranking from May 2017 to April 2018, before he turned professional.



Niemann already has 6 professional wins, and he has played in the Masters Tournament, the U.S. Open, and the PGA Championship. Recently Niemann also came very close to winning the RBC Heritage PGA golf tournament on Hilton Head Island, SC.

In an interview with Golf Digest, Niemann mentioned that one of the best decisions he ever made on the PGA Tour was to hire an English-speaking caddie.

Niemann stated: "Learning English has been difficult, but talking to my caddie in English helps a lot. If I had hired a caddie who spoke Spanish, I would never get to practice my English."

Niemann has conducted his post-round media interviews in English, as he continues to improve both his golf game and his command of the English language.

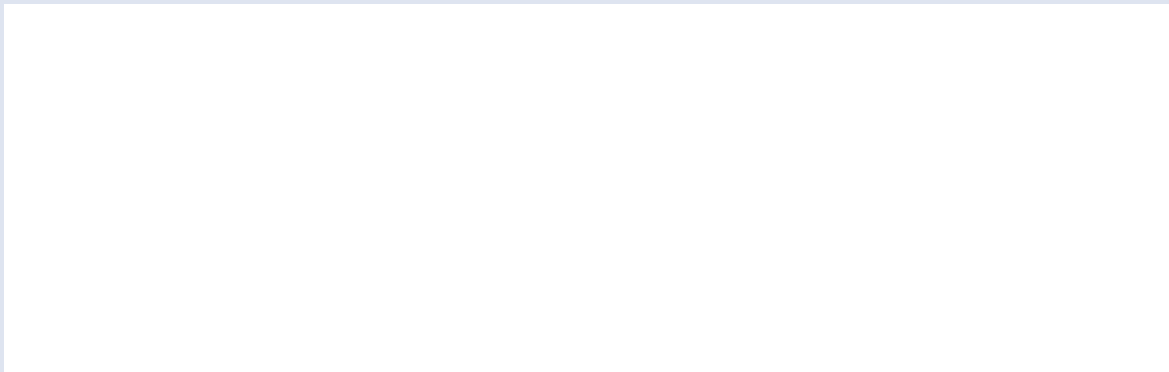
Arizona Candidate Backs Official English And Wins Primary



Arizona Congressional District 2 candidate Brandon Martin posted his support for official English on his campaign website and won his Republican primary. Martin will face Ann Kirkpatrick on November 3.

On Martin's campaign website, in the section entitled "My Contract With Arizona Congressional District 2" he listed "10 current [congressional] bills I would support when elected" and Martin included H.R. 997, the English Language Unity Act, among the bills that he would support.

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

- President Theodore Roosevelt

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