



# THE PROENGLISH Advocate

## Senator J.D. Vance Introduces Legislation To Make English The Official Language Of The United States



Republican Ohio Sen. J.D. Vance introduced legislation to codify into federal law that English is the official language of the U.S. and require all official government correspondence to be printed in English.

The Daily Caller first obtained the legislation, titled the English Language Unity Act. The bill would specifically require official government functions to be conducted in English; obligate government representatives to preserve and enhance the role of English in the government, including encouraging people to learn English; adjust requirements for naturalization, introducing a universal English language testing standard based on understanding our founding documents and require all naturalization ceremonies to be conducted in English.

“This commonsense legislation recognizes an inherent truth: English is the language of this country. That is why the overwhelming majority of the American people support this proposal. The English language has been a cornerstone of American culture for over 250 years. It is far past time for Congress to codify its place into law, which is exactly what this bill does,” Vance told the Caller before introducing the legislation

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## HOUSE MEMBERS SUPPORT ENGLISH LANGUAGE UNITY ACT



Rep. Bob Good (R-VA) is the new sponsor of H.R.997, the English Language Unity Act, in the U.S. House of Representatives in the new 118th Congress, and Rep. Good quickly has been joined by several other House members who have cosponsored the bill.

In addition to Rep. Good's sponsorship of the English Language Unity Act, the bill also has been cosponsored early on by Rep. Jeff Duncan (R-SC); Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL); Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ); Rep. Bill Posey (R-IN); Rep. Greg Steube (R-FL); Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY); and Rep. Ralph Norman (R-SC).

The English Language Unity Act sponsor in the U.S. Senate is Sen. J.D. Vance (R-OH).

The passage of official English legislation in Congress will save Americans billions of dollars every year in current, government-mandated translation and interpretation costs, and also will encourage cultural and linguistic integration by new arrivals to our nation.

## Georgia Adding Another Foreign Language To Its Driver's Test

The Georgia Department of Driver Services plans to add Dari to the list of languages offered for the knowledge, or permit, driver's license test.

Georgia in recent years has allowed driver's license exams to be given in 14 different languages including Arabic, Bosnian, Cambodian, Chinese, Laotian, Spanish, Farsi, and Vietnamese. Now it plans to add Dari, also known as Dari Persian, because of Afghan refugees being in the state.



This would appear to pose a clear safety hazard for Georgia motorists. All of Georgia's highway warning and hazard signs are written in English, so it is easy to understand the danger posed by drivers who cannot read English. The trend of allowing driver's license exams to be given in foreign languages also increases the risk of cheating and makes it very difficult to prevent or detect fraud.

Such an English requirement would not affect Georgia from welcoming international businesspeople, tourists, or students, if the Department of Driver Services were to require that all permanent residents take their driver's knowledge tests in English. Such a requirement would not have to apply to those on temporary visas for the first 10 years they are in Georgia. The requirement also would still honor driver's licenses of international business executives, tourists, and foreign students.

The people of Georgia deserve to have this reform implemented in the name of public safety. It also would help curb confusing and dangerous multilingualism, while assisting legal immigrants and refugees to linguistically integrate into our American culture.

## ProEnglish Responds To Wall Street Journal



Ilan Stavans of The Wall Street Journal recently published an article entitled “How We The People Built American English.” ProEnglish Board of Directors Secretary Richard Munro responded to the Stavans WSJ article, and here are excerpts from Richard Munro’s piece:

Stavans gives the impression that Theodore Roosevelt was an English-only monoglot when in fact Roosevelt, though an American nationalist, was a multilingual cosmopolitan thinker. Roosevelt was fluent in German and French, and could get by in Portuguese and Spanish, but Roosevelt also was aware of the dangers of a chaotic polyglot society, and for that reason he felt that English should be America’s national and official language. Roosevelt was aware of the constitutional implications of a romantic bilingualism or multilingualism that could lead to separatism, inter-ethnic violence, and civil war.

E.D. Hirsch noted, “Multilingualism enormously increases cultural fragmentation, civil antagonism, illiteracy, and economic-technological ineffectualness.” Diane Ravitch wrote of America as “a society that is racially diverse [and] requires...a conscious effort to build shared values and ideas among its citizenry.” This should include the recognition that English is and should be our official national language.

The USA is an English-speaking nation and we should enshrine this fact nationwide in law... by making English our official national language.

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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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