



THE PROENGLISH Advocate

ProEnglish Gears Up For A Very Busy 2023



ProEnglish has hit the ground running as the new 118th Congress begins its session.

ProEnglish already has begun to engage the offices of several senators and representatives on Capitol Hill, including both those who are new and those who are returning, in an effort to continue to build support for the English Language Unity Act in the new 118th Congress.

The English Language Unity Act designates English as the nation's official language of governmental operations and establishes a uniform language requirement for the citizen naturalization process.

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

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Rep. Bob Good Is New Sponsor Of English Language Unity Act In U.S. House



Rep. Bob Good (R-VA) is the new sponsor of H.R.997, the English Language Unity Act, in the United States House of Representatives in the new 118th Congress.

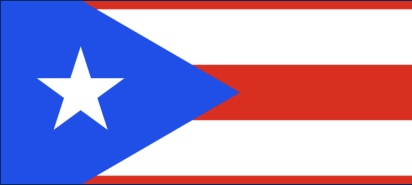
Rep. Good is a longtime supporter of the English Language Unity Act.

The English Language Unity Act has been filed to “declare English as the official language of the United States, to establish a uniform English language rule for naturalization, and to avoid misconstructions of the English language texts of the laws of the United States, pursuant to Congress’ powers to provide for the general welfare of the United States and to establish a uniform rule of naturalization under Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution.”

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.

ProEnglish already has been engaging several new and returning members of Congress in order to advocate for their cosponsorship of the English Language Unity Act, and to try to include the English Language Unity Act as part of a larger budget or immigration bill.

Puerto Rico Status Act Stalls In Congress



The Puerto Rico Status Act stalled in the 117th Congress, and the bill now once again will have to start from scratch in the new 118th Congress.

The bill was able to pass in the U.S. House in the 117th Congress, but Democrats were unable to find 10 Republicans in the U.S. Senate in order to pass it and send it to the White House.

The Puerto Rico Status Act would give Puerto Rican voters a say in whether the island becomes a U.S. state, an independent country, or some other form of non-territory status.

Rep. Michael Burgess (R-TX) stated that the bill had “no path forward in the Senate.” Republicans also argued that the bill would essentially fund Puerto Rico’s sovereignty or statehood without demanding anything in return, such as payment of taxes.

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.”

English Is A Key Component Of Worldwide Aviation Safety



For many years the International Civil Aviation Organization (“ICAO”) has promoted services to help its Member States more accurately assess the English language speaking and listening abilities of pilots and air traffic controllers in an effort to further improve aviation safety worldwide in day-to-day air transport operations.

English language test service providers all around the world can apply for and receive an endorsement for tests that rate proficiency in English used in aviation according to ICAO requirements.

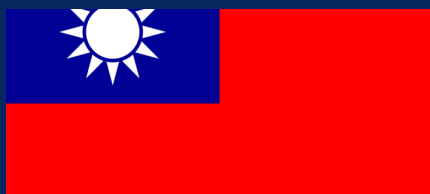
ICAO has done this in response to past fatal aviation accidents in which the lack of proficiency in English was identified as a contributing factor.

Specifically, ICAO wants to ensure that pilots and air traffic personnel are proficient in conducting and comprehending radiotelephony communications in the English language, including requirements that the English language shall be available on request at all stations on the ground serving designated airports and routes used by international air services.

ICAO developed the endorsement service in partnership with other recognized international professional aviation associations including the International Federation of Air Line Pilots’ Associations (“IFALPA”), the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers’ Associations (“IFATCA”), the International Language Testing Association (“ILTA”), and the International Civil Aviation English Association (“ICAEA”).

If English is important enough to be the official language of the friendly skies all over the world, then isn’t English important enough to be the official language of the United States?

Taiwan and Official English



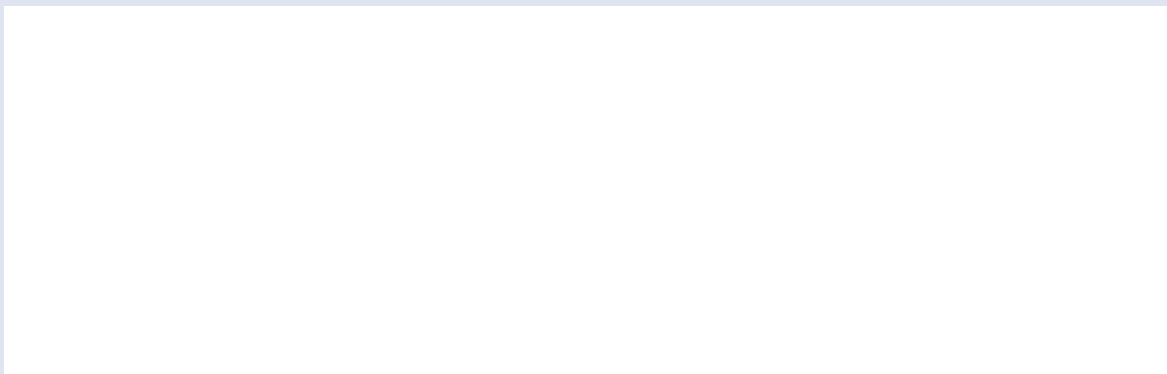
Taiwan has made English an official language, in an attempt to help its citizens pursue opportunities abroad.

Taiwan Vice President and former Premier William Lai stated that the move was made to encourage Taiwanese people to learn English, which would then allow them to pursue greater opportunities abroad.

Vice President Lee 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 54 of those nations, including Taiwan, have adopted English as an official language. The United States remains to be added to that list.

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

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

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