



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Amendment

LCO No. 5824

HB0609205824HR0

Offered by:

REP. PISCOPO, 76th Dist.

To: House Bill No. 6092

File No. 289

Cal. No. 205

"AN ACT CONCERNING A VOTER GUIDE FOR STATE ELECTIONS."

1 After line 67, insert the following:

2 "(f) The voter guide shall be prepared in the official language of the
3 state as provided in section 501 of this act."

4 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
5 internal references accordingly:

6 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) The English language
7 shall be the official language of the state. Neither the state nor any
8 political subdivision of the state shall require by statute, ordinance,
9 regulation, order, program or policy the use in the state of any
10 language other than English. Governmental officials and employees
11 shall be bound by the provisions of this section during the
12 performance of government business. No governmental document
13 shall be valid, effective or enforceable unless it is printed in the English
14 language. The state and all political subdivisions of the state shall take

15 all reasonable steps to preserve, protect and enhance the role of the
16 English language as the official language of the state. Notwithstanding
17 any provision of this section to the contrary, the state and political
18 subdivisions of the state may act in a language other than English (1)
19 to assist students who are not proficient in the English language by
20 providing educational instruction in languages other than English to
21 provide as rapid as possible a transition to English, (2) to provide
22 foreign language instruction as part of a required or voluntary
23 education curriculum, (3) to allow for Latin on the state seal and on
24 government documents, (4) to allow legislators to communicate with
25 constituents in languages other than English, (5) to comply with
26 federal laws, (6) to protect public health and safety, (7) to protect the
27 rights of criminal defendants or victims of crime, and (8) for purposes
28 of international trade. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the
29 printing of proper names."