



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Amendment

LCO No. 6356

HB0659806356HR0

Offered by:

REP. PISCOPO, 76th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6598

File No. 705

Cal. No. 484

**"AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT'S TEACHER SHORTAGE,
PILOT EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING PROGRAMS, ENGLISH AS
A SECOND LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION AND IN-SERVICE
TRAINING FOR TEACHERS AND TEACHER PREPARATION
COURSES."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

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

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