



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

**Amendment**

LCO No. 6099

**\*HB0653406099HRO\***

Offered by:  
REP. PISCOPO, 76<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6534      File No. 555      Cal. No. 378

**"AN ACT CONCERNING LABOR UNION AUTHORIZATION CARD CHECKS."**

1      In line 57, strike "a language understood by the employee who  
2      signed it" and insert "the official language of the state as defined in  
3      section 501 of this act" in lieu thereof

4      In line 177, strike "a language understood" and insert "the official  
5      language of the state as defined in section 501 of this act." in lieu  
6      thereof

7      In line 178, strike "by the employee who signed it."

8      After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
9      internal references accordingly:

10      "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) The English language  
11      shall be the official language of the state. Neither the state nor any  
12      political subdivision of the state shall require by statute, ordinance,  
13      regulation, order, program or policy the use in the state of any

14 language other than English. Governmental officials and employees  
15 shall be bound by the provisions of this section during the  
16 performance of government business. No governmental document  
17 shall be valid, effective or enforceable unless it is printed in the English  
18 language. The state and all political subdivisions of the state shall take  
19 all reasonable steps to preserve, protect and enhance the role of the  
20 English language as the official language of the state. Notwithstanding  
21 any provision of this section, the state and political subdivisions of the  
22 state may act in a language other than English (1) to assist students  
23 who are not proficient in the English language by providing  
24 educational instruction in languages other than English to provide a  
25 rapid as possible transition to English, (2) to provide foreign language  
26 instruction as part of a required or voluntary education curriculum, (3)  
27 to allow for Latin on the state seal and on government documents, (4)  
28 to allow legislators to communicate with constituents in languages  
29 other than English, (5) to comply with federal laws, (6) to protect  
30 public health and safety, and (7) to protect the rights of criminal  
31 defendants or victims of crime. Nothing in this section shall prohibit  
32 the printing of proper names."