



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Amendment

LCO No. 5719

HB0654105719HR0

Offered by:
REP. PISCOPO, 76th Dist.

To: House Bill No. 6541

File No. 361

Cal. No. 218

"AN ACT CONCERNING ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING."

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

"Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2011*) (a) The official language of the state shall be English. Neither the state nor any political subdivision of the state shall require by ordinance, regulation, order, program or policy the use in the state of any language other than English. Governmental officials and employees shall be bound by the provisions of this section during the performance of government business. No governmental document shall be valid, effective or enforceable unless it is printed in the English language. The state and all political subdivisions of the state shall take all reasonable steps to preserve, protect and enhance the role of the English language as the official language of the state.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of subsection (a) of this section, the state and political subdivisions of the state may act in a language

other than English to (1) assist students who are not proficient in the English language by providing educational instruction in languages other than English to provide as rapid as possible a transition to English, (2) provide foreign language instruction as part of a required or voluntary education curriculum, (3) allow for Latin on the state seal and on government documents, (4) allow legislators to communicate with constituents in languages other than English, (5) comply with federal laws, (6) protect public health and safety, and (7) protect the rights of criminal defendants or victims of crime. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the printing of proper names."