

## HR 1984

English Language Unity Act of 2001

**Congress:** 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Government Operations and Politics

**Introduced:** May 24, 2001

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Education Reform.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Education Reform. (Jul 25, 2001)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/house-bill/1984>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Barr, Bob [R-GA-7]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** GA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (26 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Coble, Howard [R-NC-6]	R · NC		May 24, 2001
Rep. Hall, Ralph M. [D-TX-4]	D · TX		May 24, 2001
Rep. Jenkins, William L. [R-TN-1]	R · TN		May 24, 2001
Rep. Shows, Ronnie [D-MS-4]	D · MS		May 24, 2001
Rep. Roukema, Marge [R-NJ-5]	R · NJ		Jun 13, 2001
Rep. Hilleary, Van [R-TN-4]	R · TN		Jun 14, 2001
Rep. Ballenger, Cass [R-NC-10]	R · NC		Jun 26, 2001
Rep. Buyer, Steve [R-IN-5]	R · IN		Jun 26, 2001
Rep. Deal, Nathan [R-GA-9]	R · GA		Jun 28, 2001
Rep. Goodlatte, Bob [R-VA-6]	R · VA		Jun 28, 2001
Rep. Hyde, Henry J. [R-IL-6]	R · IL		Jun 28, 2001
Rep. Souder, Mark E. [R-IN-4]	R · IN		Jun 28, 2001
Rep. Hoekstra, Peter [R-MI-2]	R · MI		Jul 12, 2001
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-43]	R · CA		Jul 24, 2001
Rep. Kerns, Brian D. [R-IN-7]	R · IN		Oct 30, 2001
Rep. Bartlett, Roscoe G. [R-MD-6]	R · MD		Nov 28, 2001
Rep. Lipinski, William O. [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Nov 28, 2001
Rep. Rogers, Harold [R-KY-5]	R · KY		Nov 28, 2001
Rep. Tancredo, Thomas G. [R-CO-6]	R · CO		Nov 28, 2001
Rep. Schaffer, Bob [R-CO-4]	R · CO		Dec 4, 2001
Rep. Payne, Donald M. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Dec 6, 2001
Rep. Norwood, Charles W. [R-GA-10]	R · GA		Dec 20, 2001
Rep. Stump, Bob [R-AZ-3]	R · AZ		Jan 24, 2002
Rep. Shimkus, John [R-IL-20]	R · IL		Mar 20, 2002
Rep. Shays, Christopher [R-CT-4]	R · CT		Apr 24, 2002
Rep. Everett, Terry [R-AL-2]	R · AL		Jun 18, 2002

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 25, 2001
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 18, 2001

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

English Language Unity Act of 2001 - Amends specified Federal law to declare English to be the official language of the United States. Requires the official functions of the United States (meaning, in this case, the States and the District of Columbia) to be conducted in English. Requires a uniform English language rule for U.S. naturalization, and all naturalization ceremonies to be conducted in English. Sets forth exceptions to and rules of construction for such requirements.

Amends specified Federal law to declare, as a general rule of construction, that English language requirements and workplace policies, whether in the public or private sector, shall be presumptively consistent with the Laws of the United States.

Requires the Department of Justice to issue for public notice and comment a proposed rule for uniform testing of English language ability of candidates for naturalization, based upon the principles that: (1) all citizens should be able to read and understand generally the English language text of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Laws of the United States; and (2) any exceptions to this standard should be limited to extraordinary circumstances, such as asylum.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Jul 25, 2001:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Education Reform.
- **Jun 18, 2001:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution.
- **May 24, 2001:** Introduced in House
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- **May 24, 2001:** Referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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