

## HR 542

To require the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide mental health services in languages other than English, as needed, for veterans with limited English proficiency, and for other purposes.

**Congress:** 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Jan 17, 2007

**Current Status:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.

**Latest Action:** Subcommittee Hearings Held. (Apr 26, 2007)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/542>

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**Name:** Rep. Solis, Hilda L. [D-CA-32]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

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Rep. Cuellar, Henry [D-TX-28]	D · TX		Nov 6, 2007
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		May 6, 2008

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Apr 26, 2007

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

## Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## Summary (as of Jan 17, 2007)

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Amends federal veterans' benefits provisions to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in providing counseling and other mental health services to a veteran who has limited proficiency in English, to ensure that such services are available in both English and a language in which that veteran is proficient, if requested by the veteran.

Requires the Secretary to implement a system by which persons with limited English proficiency can access services provided by the Department of Veterans consistent with, and without unduly burdening, the Department's fundamental mission.

Requires a report from the Secretary to the congressional veterans' committees on the implementation by the Department's Veterans Health Administration of a specified directive to implement prohibitions on discrimination on the basis of national origin for persons with limited English proficiency in federally-conducted programs and activities and in federal financial-assisted programs.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Apr 26, 2007:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Mar 2, 2007:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jan 17, 2007:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 17, 2007:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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