

## HR 1229

National Language Act of 2009

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Government Operations and Politics

**Introduced:** Feb 26, 2009

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties. (Aug 19, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/1229>

### Sponsor

---

**Name:** Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-3]

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

Cosponsors (31 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Akin, W. Todd [R-MO-2]	R · MO		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Bartlett, Roscoe G. [R-MD-6]	R · MD		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-9]	R · FL		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN-7]	R · TN		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Boozman, John [R-AR-3]	R · AR		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Broun, Paul C. [R-GA-10]	R · GA		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Brown-Waite, Ginny [R-FL-5]	R · FL		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Buchanan, Vern [R-FL-13]	R · FL		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Coble, Howard [R-NC-6]	R · NC		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Culberson, John Abney [R-TX-7]	R · TX		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Gallegly, Elton [R-CA-24]	R · CA		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. King, Steve [R-IA-5]	R · IA		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Lucas, Frank D. [R-OK-3]	R · OK		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Myrick, Sue Wilkins [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Paul, Ron [R-TX-14]	R · TX		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Price, Tom [R-GA-6]	R · GA		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Taylor, Gene [D-MS-4]	D · MS		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Wilson, Joe [R-SC-2]	R · SC		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		Feb 26, 2009
Rep. Bilbray, Brian P. [R-CA-50]	R · CA		Mar 3, 2009
Rep. Souder, Mark E. [R-IN-3]	R · IN		Mar 3, 2009
Rep. McCotter, Thaddeus G. [R-MI-11]	R · MI		Mar 6, 2009
Rep. Miller, Gary G. [R-CA-42]	R · CA		Mar 18, 2009
Rep. Bonner, Jo [R-AL-1]	R · AL		May 21, 2009
Rep. Heller, Dean [R-NV-2]	R · NV		Jun 9, 2009
Rep. Gerlach, Jim [R-PA-6]	R · PA		Sep 17, 2009
Rep. Garrett, Scott [R-NJ-5]	R · NJ		Oct 7, 2009
Rep. Austria, Steve [R-OH-7]	R · OH		Feb 25, 2010
Rep. Wamp, Zach [R-TN-3]	R · TN		Apr 13, 2010
Rep. Forbes, J. Randy [R-VA-4]	R · VA		Apr 21, 2010
Rep. Thornberry, Mac [R-TX-13]	R · TX		Jul 22, 2010

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 22, 2009
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 19, 2009
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 19, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 S 992	Related bill	<b>May 6, 2009:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S5241)

Summary (as of Feb 26, 2009)

National Language Act of 2009 - Makes English the official language of the U.S. government. Requires the government to: (1) conduct its official business in English, including publications, income tax forms, and informational materials; and (2) preserve and enhance the role of English as the official language of the United States of America. Provides that no person has a right, entitlement, or claim to have the government act, communicate, perform, or provide services or materials in any other language, unless specifically stated in applicable law.

Provides that this Act shall not apply to the use of a language other than English for religious purposes, for training in foreign languages for international communication, or in school programs designed to encourage students to learn foreign languages. States that this does not prevent the U.S. government from providing interpreters for persons over age 62.

Repeals provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 regarding bilingual election requirements and regarding congressional findings of voting discrimination against language minorities, prohibition of English-only elections, and other remedial measures.

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to require that all public ceremonies in which the oath of allegiance is administered pursuant to such Act be conducted solely in English.

Specifies that this Act shall not preempt any state law.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 19, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law.
- **Aug 19, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
- **Apr 22, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.
- **Feb 26, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 26, 2009:** Referred to House Education and Labor
- **Feb 26, 2009:** Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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.
- **Feb 26, 2009:** Referred to House Judiciary