

## S 503

English Language Unity Act of 2011

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Government Operations and Politics

**Introduced:** Mar 8, 2011

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Mar 8, 2011)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/503>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** OK • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Coburn, Tom [R-OK]	R · OK		May 10, 2012
Sen. Chambliss, Saxby [R-GA]	R · GA		Jun 11, 2012
Sen. Isakson, Johnny [R-GA]	R · GA		Sep 10, 2012

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 8, 2011

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 997	Identical bill	<b>Aug 2, 2012:</b> Subcommittee Hearings Held.

## Summary (as of Mar 8, 2011)

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English Language Unity Act of 2011- Makes English the official language of the United States.

Requires, subject to exceptions and rules of construction, that: (1) official functions of the United States be conducted in English; and (2) all naturalization ceremonies be conducted in English. Establishes a uniform English language rule for naturalization.

Makes English language requirements and workplace policies, whether in the public or private sector, presumptively consistent with the laws of the United States.

Directs the Secretary of Homeland Security 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.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Mar 8, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 8, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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