119TH CONGRESS	
1st Session	

H.R.

To declare English as the official language of the United States, to establish a uniform English language rule for naturalization, and to avoid misconstructions of the English language texts of the laws of the United States, pursuant to Congress' powers to provide for the general welfare of the United States and to establish a uniform rule of naturalization under article I, section 8, of the Constitution.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. Greene of Georgia introd	uced the follow	wing bill; which	h was referred to
the Committee on			

A BILL

To declare English as the official language of the United States, to establish a uniform English language rule for naturalization, and to avoid misconstructions of the English language texts of the laws of the United States, pursuant to Congress' powers to provide for the general welfare of the United States and to establish a uniform rule of naturalization under article I, section 8, of the Constitution.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

- This Act may be cited as the "English Language
- 3 Unity Act of 2025".
- 4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
- 5 The Congress finds and declares the following:
- 6 (1) The United States is composed of individ-
- 7 uals from diverse ethnic, cultural, and linguistic
- 8 backgrounds who assimilated into American tradi-
- 9 tions.
- 10 (2) Throughout the history of the United
- 11 States, one of the common threads binding individ-
- uals of differing backgrounds has been the English
- language.
- 14 (3) States should establish the English lan-
- guage as the official language of their respective
- 16 States, and otherwise promote the English language
- within their respective States, subject to the prohibi-
- tions enumerated in the Constitution of the United
- 19 States and in laws of the respective States.
- 20 SEC. 3. ENGLISH AS OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE UNITED
- 21 STATES.
- 22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title 4, United States Code, is
- 23 amended by adding at the end the following new chapter:

1 "CHAPTER 6—OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

- 2 "§ 161. Official language of the United States
- 3 "The official language of the United States is
- 4 English.
- 5 "§ 162. Preserving and enhancing the role of the offi-
- 6 cial language
- 7 "Representatives of the Federal Government shall
- 8 have an affirmative obligation to preserve and enhance the
- 9 role of English as the official language of the Federal Gov-
- 10 ernment.
- 11 "§ 163. Official functions of Government to be con-
- ducted in English
- 13 "(a) Official Functions.—The official functions
- 14 of the Government of the United States shall be conducted
- 15 in English.
- 16 "(b) Scope.—For the purposes of this section, the
- 17 term 'United States' means the several States and the
- 18 District of Columbia, and the term 'official' refers to any
- 19 function that (i) binds the Government, (ii) is required
- 20 by law, or (iii) is otherwise subject to scrutiny by either
- 21 the press or the public.
- 22 "(c) Practical Effect.—This section shall apply
- 23 to all laws, public proceedings, regulations, publications,
- 24 orders, actions, programs, and policies, but does not apply
- 25 to—

1	"(1) teaching of languages;
2	"(2) requirements under the Individuals with
3	Disabilities Education Act;
4	"(3) actions, documents, or policies necessary
5	for national security, international relations, trade,
6	tourism, or commerce;
7	"(4) actions or documents that protect the pub-
8	lic health and safety;
9	"(5) actions or documents that facilitate the ac-
10	tivities of the Bureau of the Census in compiling any
11	census of population;
12	"(6) actions that protect the rights of victims of
13	crimes or criminal defendants; or
14	"(7) using terms of art or phrases from lan-
15	guages other than English.
16	"§ 164. Uniform English language rule for naturaliza-
17	tion
18	"(a) Uniform Language Testing Standard.—All
19	those applying for naturalization should be able to read
20	and understand generally the English language text of the
21	Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the
22	laws of the United States made in pursuance of the Con-
23	stitution.
24	"(b) Ceremonies.—All naturalization ceremonies
25	shall be conducted in English.

1 "§ 165. Rules of construction

2	"Nothing in this chapter shall be construed—
3	"(1) to prohibit a Member of Congress or any
4	officer or agent of the Federal Government, while
5	performing official functions, from communicating
6	unofficially through any medium with another per-
7	son in a language other than English (as long as of-
8	ficial functions are performed in English);
9	"(2) to limit the preservation or use of Native
10	Alaskan or Native American languages (as defined
11	in the Native American Languages Act);
12	"(3) to disparage any language or to discourage
13	any person from learning or using a language; or
14	"(4) to be inconsistent with the Constitution of
15	the United States.".
16	(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters
17	at the beginning of title 4, United States Code, is amended
18	by inserting after the item relating to chapter 5 the fol-
19	lowing new item:
	"Chapter 6. Official Language".
20	SEC. 4. GENERAL RULES OF CONSTRUCTION FOR ENGLISH
21	LANGUAGE TEXTS OF THE LAWS OF THE
22	UNITED STATES.
23	(a) In General.—Chapter 1 of title 1, United
24	States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
25	lowing new section:

1 "§ 9. General rules of construction for laws of the

- 2 United States
- 3 "(a) English language requirements and workplace
- 4 policies, whether in the public or private sector, shall be
- 5 presumptively consistent with the laws of the United
- 6 States.
- 7 "(b) Any ambiguity in the English language text of
- 8 the laws of the United States shall be resolved, in accord-
- 9 ance with the last two articles of the Bill of Rights, not
- 10 to deny or disparage rights retained by the people, and
- 11 to reserve powers to the States respectively, or to the peo-
- 12 ple.".
- 13 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
- 14 at the beginning of chapter 1 of title 1 is amended by
- 15 inserting after the item relating to section 8 the following
- 16 new item:
 - "9. General rules of construction for laws of the United States.".

17 SEC. 5. IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS.

- 18 The Secretary of Homeland Security shall, within
- 19 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, issue
- 20 for public notice and comment a proposed rule for uniform
- 21 testing of English language ability of candidates for natu-
- 22 ralization, based upon the principles that all citizens
- 23 should be able to read and understand generally the
- 24 English language text of the Declaration of Independence,

- 1 the Constitution, and the laws of the United States which
- 2 are made in pursuance thereof.
- 3 SEC. 6. NATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAY.
- 4 (a) In General.—Chapter 1 of title 36, United
- 5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 6 lowing:

7 "§ 149. National English Language Day

- 8 "(b) Proclamation.—The President shall issue a
- 9 proclamation recognizing the integral nature of the
- 10 English language in the American nation.".
- 11 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
- 12 for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 13 lowing:
 - "149. National English Language Day.".

14 SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

- The amendments made by sections 3, 4, and 6 shall
- 16 take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date
- 17 of the enactment of this Act.