

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5182

To require the White House and each agency to provide an official website in the five most commonly used languages in the United States other than English as determined by the Census data and any other languages determined to be appropriate by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

Mr. CORREA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

A BILL

To require the White House and each agency to provide an official website in the five most commonly used languages in the United States other than English as determined by the Census data and any other languages determined to be appropriate by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “White House Account-
5 ability for Language Diversity Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) In the past decades it has become standard
4 practice to publish versions of the White House and
5 other agency websites in Spanish.

6 (2) At least 36,000,000 United States residents
7 who speak Spanish as their first language depend
8 upon these websites to access important information
9 that can play a critical role in their life.

10 (3) In 2010, for 59,000,000 people, English
11 was not their first language.

12 (4) In addition to English, the top languages in
13 the United States are Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog,
14 Vietnamese, and French.

15 (5) Millions of people within the United States
16 will benefit by having websites translated into mul-
17 tiple languages.

18 (6) The United States of America is a diverse
19 Nation and, as such, does not have an official lan-
20 guage.

21 (7) Since our founding, our country has been in
22 a constant state of growth. We have consistently
23 grown more multilingual because of people from
24 across the world seeking a better future while car-
25 rying a hope of achieving the American dream.

1 (8) As this is happening, the United States
2 must adapt and make our democracy more accessible
3 for everyone.

4 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

5 The purpose of this Act is to—

6 (1) require the White House and agencies to
7 provide resources in multiple languages so that peo-
8 ple can read information in the language they are
9 most comfortable with; and

10 (2) acknowledge the diversity of our country
11 and use creative solutions to make sure that there
12 is equity in accessing information from our govern-
13 ment.

14 **SEC. 4. FIVE MOST COMMONLY USED LANGUAGE WEBSITES**
15 **REQUIRED.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
17 date of the enactment of this Act, the White House and
18 the head of each agency shall establish an official website
19 in the five most commonly used languages in the United
20 States other than English as determined by the Census
21 data and any other language determined to be appropriate
22 by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget
23 to increase accessibility to everyone residing in the United
24 States. Any such website may only include official content
25 and is not required to translate external websites that are

1 not official content. Any website in a language other than
2 English shall be substantially similar in design and scope
3 of content to the English version.

4 (b) LINK ON MAIN PAGE.—A link to the website re-
5 quired under subsection (a) shall be easily accessible and
6 in plain view on the main page of the English version of
7 the White House and agency website. The link shall be
8 in the language of that website.

9 (c) MAINTENANCE OF WEBSITE.—The President and
10 the head of each agency shall maintain and update the
11 website required under subsection (a) on a regular basis.

12 (d) AGENCY DEFINED.—The term “agency” has the
13 meaning given that term in section 551 of title 5, United
14 States Code.

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