

Dear MC Mize,

I know these questions may seem absurd, but I must ask you ...

- Are you concerned about the increasing use of Spanish and other foreign languages in Multnomah?
- Should employers in Oregon have the right to require their employees to speak English while on the job?
- As a resident of Oregon, do you know the true cost of providing driver's license exams, voting ballots, Social Security forms, and other government documents and services in foreign languages?
- Should Oregon lawmakers make it a priority to pass Official English, and uphold the will of the overwhelming majority?
- Do you believe multilingual policies undermine the role of English as our nation's common language?

As Chairman of U.S.ENGLISH, I have strong opinions on this issue.

And while I imagine you share my outrage, as a U.S.ENGLISH member, at our government's failure to stop the unchecked growth of outrageous multilingual policies, I need to know for sure — I need to have the proof in my hands when I meet with lawmakers on Capitol Hill to discuss moving forward our Official English agenda.

That's why, MC Mize, I'm asking you to please give me your candid views, as an Oregon resident, on the enclosed <u>Stop Multilingual Policies Survey</u>. I need to know where you stand on our government's efforts to radically expand costly multilingual policies despite opposition by the overwhelming majority of Americans.

As you know, at every level — local, state, and federal — our government is promoting and even REQUIRING the use of *foreign languages*, instead of English.

Just the other day, an amendment was introduced in Congress that would require credit reporting agencies to provide free credit reports for non-English speaking people in their native languages — at taxpayer expense.

Not to mention, U.S. voting ballots ... driver's license exams ... welfare services ... Social Security documents ... public school programs ... voter registration drives ... and healthcare

(over, please)

services ... they're all being mandated in foreign languages.

On one hand, many lawmakers are calling for an immediate expansion of these outrageous and costly multilingual policies. On the other hand, more and more Americans are joining U.S.ENGLISH's ranks calling for an end to policies that cater to people who refuse to learn our nation's common language — English.

In fact, the latest poll demonstrates an overwhelming 84 percent of Americans believe our government should declare English the official language of the U.S.!

As a loyal supporter of U.S.ENGLISH, you understand more than most how extremely harmful government-sanctioned, taxpayer-financed multilingualism is to our nation.

Our state and federal governments are actively discouraging immigrants from learning our common language — English — and embracing our way of life. And as a result, many immigrants remain isolated and unable to fully assimilate into American society.

According to the most recent Census figures, 25.4 million Americans cannot speak English, up from 21.3 million in 2000, and more than *double* the 1990 total.

In other words, our social and political cohesion is slowly being torn apart by the everincreasing shortsighted governmental policies of official multilingualism.

Just look at what is happening:

- In the town of Mattawa, Washington, the Justice Department recently issued a mandate requiring the city government to provide services in Spanish to residents who cannot speak English.
- The total annual cost for the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to provide language services is \$2.2 million. Providing the same level of DMV translation services nationwide would cost approximately \$8.5 million per year.
- It costs \$1.86 million annually to prepare written translations for food stamp recipients nationwide. The cost for oral translations skyrocket to \$21 million nationally per year.
- Cash-strapped hospitals in your community that receive federal funds must pay for <u>translators</u> for non-English-speaking patients on demand. And forcing physicians to provide multilingual outpatient services would cost \$180.8 million annually. In addition, inpatient services in multiple languages would cost hospitals \$78.2 million, while the bill for multilingual emergency room services would tally \$8.6 million, pushing the health care total to \$267.6 million!

Instead of reining in these costly and inefficient policies, every time you turn around our lawmakers are pushing forward this creeping assault against English as the common bond uniting all Americans. And even though 30 states have passed Official English legislation, many state

- Lawmakers are now considering an amendment to the Fair Credit Reporting
 Act that would require credit reporting agencies to provide free credit reports
 in the native language of non-English speaking consumers at taxpayers'
 expense.
- Despite passage of Official English laws in 30 states, many state officials are refusing to uphold the majority will of voters by *continuing* to provide costly government services in languages other than English.
- New Jersey opened its first all-Spanish GED testing center sending a
 dangerous message to people living in New Jersey that learning English
 is not required to assimilate in our society.
- While eight states have decreased the number of languages in which they offer driver's license exams in the past two years, seven states have *increased* their language offerings. California now offers exams in 32 languages!

Despite this push at the federal, state, and local level for a radical expansion of multilingualism, some state legislators are joining with U.S.ENGLISH in our opposition to official multilingualism.

In fact, 22 states recently introduced bills to limit government multilingualism.

With your help, as a loyal member of U.S.ENGLISH, we've proven that when enough citizens speak out together on an issue, the politicians listen.

That is why your signed petition to your members of Congress — and your urgent support — are so critical right now.

This petition will send a clear and powerful message to the politicians that the American people overwhelmingly feel that those who come to America have a duty to learn our language ... and that the government should not spend one penny of our tax dollars to help turn America into a multilingual country.

Your elected representatives in your home state and in Washington need to hear from you on this important issue. Do not let this debate in Congress be hijacked by the powerful Congressional Hispanic Caucus and their special interest allies La Raza and MALDEF.

SO, PLEASE DO THESE TWO THINGS RIGHT NOW:

✓ Sign and date the enclosed Petition to Congress;

✓ And, PLEASE include your MOST generous donation to help U.S.ENGLISH in our nationwide petition campaign to STOP the "English Plus" bill from becoming law.

Your contribution will be <u>rushed</u> directly to the front lines of our campaign to contact, alert, and recruit more Americans like you to our 1.8 million-strong membership ... process and distribute our petitions to Congress ... and finance U.S.ENGLISH's ongoing fight to make English the official, unifying language of the United States.

I cannot stress this enough: Right now, our most important fight is to make sure the momentum for the "English Plus" bill is STOPPED — before it is too late.

So, Mc Mize, please return your signed Petition to Congress in the envelope provided.

And <u>please</u>, may I <u>also</u> count on you to return an <u>emergency contribution of \$10 or more</u> to give us the resources we need to continue this fight for the future of America ... and for our children's future as well.

Sincerely,

Mauro E. Mujica Chairman of the Board

- P.S. We MUST show our lawmakers that an overwhelming number of Americans do NOT want an officially multilingual America and furthermore, that we absolutely believe the "English Plus" bill MUST BE STOPPED AT ALL COSTS. So please sign your Emergency Petition to the 111th Congress to Reject the "English Plus" Bill and RUSH it back to me today so I can ensure your voice is heard by our elected representatives in this important debate on our nation's future.
- P.P.S. Thank you, Mc Mize, for your last gift of \$10 which has helped support our work on your behalf. Before you seal your signed petition in the enclosed envelope today, I hope you can include another gift to help us win this critical battle and help sustain our fight to make English the official language of America.