

MOTION

CIVIL RIGHTS, IMMIGRATION, SOCIAL SERVICES, & NEIGHBORHOODS

On March 1, 2025, President Trump issued Executive Order 14224, which declared English as the official language of the United States and rescinded a 25-year-old mandate requiring federal agencies to ensure all individuals, regardless of the language they understand, could access federal resources and programs. This executive action unwound multilingual support for the more than 25 million individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) to access basic services such as affordable housing, health care enrollment, and taxpayer assistance. In Los Angeles County, about 23% of the population aged five or older are individuals with LEP.

Since the issuance of Executive Order 14224, the Department of Housing and Urban Development started offering its materials only in English, the Internal Revenue Service vastly cut its multilingual services, the Small Business Administration removed its non-English language webpages, and the Department of Justice suspended its operations of lep.gov. More recently, the Department of Education announced its dissolution of its Office of English Language Acquisition, which for decades supported schools nationwide in providing language instruction for English learners and immigrant students.

Language access is still the law under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, or national origin, including limited English proficiency. California state laws such as Government Code § 11135 ("Section 11135"), Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act, and the Unruh Civil Rights Act have further expanded and enshrined language access rights across the state.

In response to the Trump administration's ongoing efforts to undermine the civil rights of immigrants and individuals with LEP, the City should evaluate the impacts of Executive Order 14224 on Angelenos and identity opportunities to bolster its role in providing multilingual assistance for individuals with LEP seeking public services, programs, and information.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council REQUEST the Community Investment Department, Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department, the City Administrative Officer, the City Legislative Analyst, and other departments as deemed appropriate, to report on the impacts Executive Order 14224 has on the City of Los Angeles and how the City of Los Angeles can use its resources to help fill in a gap that Angelenos need. This report should include, but not be limited to, the feasibility of City departments to add translations for the now English-only federal resources to their websites.

PRESENTED BY:



NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District



ORIGINAL

SEP 30 2026