
ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8—ASSEMBLYMAN MCARTHUR

MARCH 16, 2009

Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, Ethics,
and Constitutional Amendments

SUMMARY—Urges Congress to repeal certain provisions of the
Voting Rights Act of 1965. (BDR R-936)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging Congress to repeal
certain provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

1 WHEREAS, The people of the United States, despite their many
2 differences, live together harmoniously; and

3 WHEREAS, The English language has been the common bond
4 responsible for our national unity and societal cohesiveness; and

5 WHEREAS, Government should promote a common language as
6 a means to remove barriers of misunderstanding and help unify the
7 people of the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, English is the traditional and common language of
9 the people of the United States and the State of Nevada; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1965, the United States Congress passed the
11 Voting Rights Act, which mandates that translators or multilingual
12 ballots be provided in districts where voters have limited ability to
13 read English; and

14 WHEREAS, The Constitution of the United States protects the
15 right of citizens to vote, and naturalization as a citizen of the United
16 States generally requires an understanding of the English language;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Based on a recent survey of foreign-born residents of
19 the United States, the majority of immigrants in the United States
20 believe that the United States should expect new immigrants to learn
21 English; and



1 WHEREAS, Based on a recent survey of likely voters, the
2 majority of citizens in the United States oppose bilingual or
3 multilingual election ballots; and

4 WHEREAS, Government has a fiduciary responsibility to its
5 citizens to ensure that it operates as efficiently as possible, and the
6 requirement of multiple language ballots, with its adverse impact on
7 printing costs, is inconsistent with this fiduciary responsibility; and

8 WHEREAS, The State of Nevada is dedicated to preserving the
9 unifying role of the English language in the United States and the
10 State of Nevada; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF
12 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the 75th Session of the
13 Nevada Legislature hereby urge the United States Congress to
14 repeal the provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 which
15 require that election materials be available in languages other than
16 English; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and
18 transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United
19 States, the Vice President of the United States as the presiding
20 officer of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of
21 Representatives and each member of the Nevada Congressional
22 Delegation; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That this act becomes effective upon passage.

