

1 ENGROSSED SENATE AMENDMENT
TO
2 ENGROSSED HOUSE
JOINT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 1042

By: Terrill, Osborn, Faught,
Christian, Reynolds,
Duncan, Kern and Tibbs of
the House

and

Sykes of the Senate

10 A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State
11 to refer to the people for their approval or
12 rejection a proposed amendment to the Constitution of
13 the State of Oklahoma by creating a new Article XXX;
14 declaring the English language to be the official
15 language of this state; requiring the business of
16 this state be conducted in English; providing
17 exceptions; defining terms; providing ballot title;
18 and directing filing.

16 AUTHORS: Add the following Senate Coauthors: Branan,
Russell, Jolley, Brogdon, Coffee, Aldridge, Myers,
17 Halligan, Newberry, Reynolds, Brown, Johnson
(Mike), Barrington, Nichols, Bingman, Crain,
18 Justice, Ford, Marlatt, Stanislowski and Schulz

19 AUTHORS: Add the following House Coauthors: Cooksey and
Ritze

20 AMENDMENT NO. 1. Page 1, strike the title, enacting clause
21 and entire bill and insert

22 "A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State
23 to refer to the people for their approval or
24 rejection a proposed amendment to the Constitution
of the State of Oklahoma by creating a new Article
XXX; declaring the English language to be the

1 official language of this state; requiring official
2 actions of this state be taken in English;
3 prohibiting certain causes of action; providing for
4 construction; granting certain authority to
5 Legislature; providing ballot title; and directing
6 filing.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE
8 1ST SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

9 SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for
10 their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,
11 the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of
12 Oklahoma by creating a new Article XXX to read as follows:

13 ARTICLE XXX

14 Section 1. As English is the common and unifying language of
15 the State of Oklahoma, all official actions of the state shall be
16 conducted in the English language, except as required by federal
17 law. No person shall have a cause of action against an agency or
18 political subdivision of this state for failure to provide any
19 official government actions in any language other than English.
20 Nothing in this Article shall be construed to diminish or impair the
21 use, study, development, or encouragement of any Native American
22 language in any context or for any purpose. The Legislature shall
23 have the power to implement, enforce and determine the proper
24 application of this Article by appropriate legislation.

1 SECTION 2. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional
2 amendment as set forth in SECTION 1 of this act shall be in the
3 following form:

4 BALLOT TITLE

5 Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

6 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

7 This measure amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It would add a
8 new Article 30. This amendment states that English is the
9 common and unifying language of the state. All official actions
10 of the state would be in English, except as required by federal
11 law. No one would have a cause of action against an agency or
12 subdivision of the state for failure to provide actions in any
13 other language. The amendment could not be construed to
14 diminish or impair uses of Native American languages. The
15 Legislature would be able to enact related laws.

16 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

17 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES _____

18 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO _____

19 SECTION 3. The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives,
20 immediately after the passage of this resolution, shall prepare and
21 file one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in
22 SECTION 2 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the
23 Attorney General."

24

1 Passed the Senate the 22nd day of April, 2009.

2
3 _____
4 Presiding Officer of the Senate

5 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
6 2009.

7
8 _____
9 Presiding Officer of the House
10 of Representatives