

Ag 406

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 20, 1983

10-1 /  
COUNCIL SUPPORTS  
CONGRESSMAN  
SHURWAY'S  
PROPOSED  
CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENT RE  
DESIGNATING  
ENGLISH AS THE  
OFFICIAL  
LANGUAGE OF THE  
UNITED STATES

Following presentation by Deputy City Clerk Schroeder of a letter from Congressman Norman D. Shurway regarding his efforts to have English designated the official language of the United States and a copy of the proposed Constitutional Amendment he is proposing, Council, on motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Snider, Pinkerton second, urged support of the subject Constitutional Amendment.

NORMAN D. SHUMWAY  
14TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES:  
BANKING, FINANCE, AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS  
MERCHANT MARINE AND  
FISHERIES  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

April 4, 1983

1203 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-2811

CHRISTOPHER C. BEGER  
LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT

RECEIVED  
1130 WEST ROBINHOOD DR., SUITE 1 A  
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95207  
(209) 957-7773  
(800) 631-2175

ALICE M. REIMCHE  
CITY CLERK  
CITY OF LODI  
COORDINATOR



Mrs. Alice M. Reimche  
City Clerk  
City of Lodi  
221 West Pine Street  
Lodi, California 95240

Dear Alice:

I enjoyed visiting with you at the Lodi Chamber of Commerce last week and appreciated your comments with regard to my efforts to have English designated the official language of the United States.

I am pleased to know that you share my belief that English must remain our only national language, and that the federal government should not encourage the use of others. I firmly believe that linguistic minority groups in our nation must learn English if they are to become fully integrated into American society.

The constitutional amendment which I recently introduced, if passed, will establish English as the official language of the United States, will stop the use of bilingual ballots, and will allow instruction in English in non-English languages to facilitate the learning of English. The constitutional amendment (H.J.Res. 169) is currently pending in the House Judiciary subcommittee on civil and constitutional rights.

I am enclosing, for your information, a copy of H.J.Res. 169 as well as the statement which accompanied introduction of the amendment.

Again, it was a pleasure meeting with you in Lodi and I trust that you will continue to share your views with me.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

NORMAN D. SHUMWAY  
Member of Congress

NDS:kb  
Enclosures



1       "SECTION 2. Neither the United States nor any State  
2 shall require, by law, ordinance, regulation, order, decree,  
3 program, or policy, the use in the United States of any lan-  
4 guage other than English.

5       "SECTION 3. This article shall not prohibit any law,  
6 ordinance, regulation, order, decree, program, or policy re-  
7 quiring educational instruction in a language other than Eng-  
8 lish for the purpose of making students who use a language  
9 other than English proficient in English.

10       "SECTION 4. The Congress and the States may enforce  
11 this article by appropriate legislation."

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21

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENT

HON. NORMAN D. SHUMWAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 1983

● Mr. SHUMWAY. Mr. Speaker, today I am proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States which designates English as the official language of the United States.

I share the view of many Americans that English must remain our only national language, and that the Federal Government should not encourage the use of others. I firmly believe that the linguistic minority groups in our Nation must learn English if they are to become fully integrated into American society. It is time for the Federal Government to stop sending conflicting signals to the non-English-speaking people in America. The United States has, for example, laws which on the one hand require a bilingual ballot for those who do not read English, and naturalization laws, on the other hand, which state that a person must "read, write and speak English in ordinary usage" to become a U.S. citizen.

This resolution, identical to House Joint Resolution 442 introduced in the 97th Congress by the Honorable Robert Dornan, will stop the use of the bilingual ballot, will allow the instruction in English in non-English languages for the purpose of making students proficient in English, and will end the use of foreign languages in subject-matter instruction.

It is important to note that this resolution does not seek to discourage the use of any language for religious or ceremonial purposes, for domestic use, or for the preservation of ancestral cultures, nor does the bill affect the teaching of foreign languages to American students.

Fu 4/20

CITY COUNCIL

EVELYN M. OLSON, Mayor  
JOHN R. (Randy) SNIDER  
Mayor Pro Tempore  
ROBERT C. MURPHY  
JAMES W. PINKERTON, Jr.  
FRED M. REID

CITY OF LODI

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LODI, CALIFORNIA 95241  
(209) 334-5634

HENRY A. GLAVES, Jr.  
City Manager  
ALICE M. REIMCHE  
City Clerk  
RONALD M. STEIN  
City Attorney

May 2, 1983

Honorable Congressman  
Norman Shumway  
1150 West Robinhood Drive  
Suite 1-A  
Stockton, CA 95207

Dear Congressman Shumway:

Thank you for your letter of April 4, 1983. It was indeed a pleasure visiting with you at the Lodi Chamber of Commerce breakfast.

I very much appreciated receiving a copy of H. J. Res. 169 as well as the statement which accompanied introduction of the Amendment.

Please be advised that this information was presented to the Lodi City Council at its regular meeting of April 20, 1983. The Council, by unanimous vote, supported the passage of this constitutional Amendment.

We certainly appreciate being able to share with you our views on matters of mutual concern and your timely responses to our inquiries.

Very truly yours,

*Alice M. Reimche*  
Alice M. Reimche  
City Clerk

AMR:jj