By:  Smithee (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini) H.B. No. 1554

(In the Senate - Received from the House April 15, 2019; April 16, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Business & Commerce; May 2, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 2, 2019, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                    Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Hancock              X

Nichols              X

Campbell             X

Creighton            X

Menéndez             X

Paxton               X

Schwertner           X

Whitmire                       X

Zaffirini            X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the language of personal automobile or residential property insurance policy documents and related materials.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Subchapter B, Chapter 2301, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 2301.058 to read as follows:

Sec. 2301.058.  PROVISION OF POLICY DOCUMENTS AND RELATED MATERIALS IN LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH. (a) An insurer may provide a customer a version of a personal automobile or residential property insurance policy or endorsement, or related explanatory or advertising material, in a language other than English. The version of the document must state, in the language of the version, that the English version of the insurance policy document controls.

(b)  In the case of a dispute or complaint, the English version of the insurance policy document controls.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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