86R10903 YDB-D

By:  Hall S.B. No. 1616

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to designating English as the official language of this state.

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

SECTION 1.  The legislature finds and declares:

(1)  English is the language of commerce around the world;

(2)  many corporations select English as the official corporate language or emphasize the use of English for corporate purposes; and

(3)  knowledge of English assists individuals who are assimilating into the United States.

SECTION 2.  The heading to Chapter 3101, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 3101. STATE SYMBOLS AND LANGUAGE

SECTION 3.  Chapter 3101, Government Code, is amended by designating Sections 3101.001 through 3101.013 as Subchapter A and adding a subchapter heading to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER A. STATE SYMBOLS

SECTION 4.  Chapter 3101, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter B to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER B. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Sec. 3101.051.  OFFICIAL LANGUAGE. The English language is designated as the official language of this state.

Sec. 3101.052.  TRANSLATION OR EXPLANATION OF OFFICIAL STATE DOCUMENTS, MATERIALS, AND WEBSITE CONTENT. Notwithstanding any other law, an unofficial and nonbinding translation or explanation of an official state document, written material, or website content may be provided or published separately in a language other than the official language of this state only if the translation or explanation:

(1)  is made and distributed without cost to this state;

(2)  is appropriately labeled as unofficial and nonbinding; and

(3)  states the actions required to obtain or view the official state document, written material, or website content.

SECTION 5.  Section 2054.116, Government Code, is repealed.

SECTION 6.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.