



MISSOURI SENATE

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Voters Will Decide on Making English the Official Language of Official Proceedings

JEFFERSON CITY — Sen. Kevin Engler, R-Farmington, today announced that House Joint Resolution 7 received approval from the General Assembly. If voters subsequently approve the measure, it will create a constitutional amendment requiring official proceedings in the state to be conducted in English.

“I am confident that people in this state will appreciate the opportunity to make this decision,” said Sen. Engler, who handled the measure in the Senate. “It is about time that we asked the people of Missouri to weigh in on this important issue.”

When introducing the measure on the Senate floor last week, Sen. Engler read his opening statement in German to highlight the confusion that can be caused when a language other than English is spoken in state proceedings. In some states, communities that have large populations of people who speak a second language have begun conducting meetings in languages other than English. HJR 7 would prevent that practice in Missouri.

“It is only fair that we allow the voters to decide what languages will be spoken during official proceedings,” said Sen. Engler. “Whether a city council meeting or session of the State Senate, citizens can be assured they will understand what is going on.”

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