



USCCR Releases Report on Language Access for Individuals with Limited English Proficiency

WASHINGTON D.C. – Today, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights released its report examining language access for individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). The report was unanimously approved by a bipartisan group of Commissioners and formally transmitted to the President and Congress as part of the Commission’s responsibility to advise the nation’s leaders on civil rights matters.

This report, led by [Commissioner Glenn D. Magpantay](#), is the culmination of a yearlong investigation that examined the extent to which language barriers impact access to essential government services and healthcare for LEP individuals. The Commission assessed how federal agencies and recipients of federal funding provide language access, where gaps remain, and best practices for strengthening interpretation and translation services.

The investigation began with a [briefing](#) held on March 21, 2025, during which the Commission heard testimony from subject matter experts such as language access researchers and attorneys, federal and state government officials, community advocates, and directly impacted individuals.

“Every day, people make important decisions in doctor’s offices, schools, government agencies, and other settings that affect their health, family, and future. No one should be forced to make those decisions without fully understanding what is being said or what they are being asked to sign. This report makes clear that language access is about dignity, fairness, and equal access,” said Chair Rochelle M. Garza.

“Millions of Americans rely on essential government services and federally funded programs, yet too many face unnecessary barriers simply because English is not their first language. This report, and our unanimous bipartisan recommendations, will ensure equal access for all Americans,” said Commissioner Glenn D. Magpantay.

The report includes formal findings and recommendations designed to inform federal policy and strengthen enforcement of civil rights protections for LEP individuals.

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 56 state Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. The Commission: in our 7th decade, a continuing legacy of influence in civil rights. For information about the Commission, please visit www.usccr.gov.