



April 23, 2025

Scott Turner  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Turner:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

President Trump’s signed Executive Order (EO) 14224 “Designating English as the Official Language of the United States” which rescinds Executive Order 13166, Improving Access for Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Importantly, EO 14224 gives agencies “flexibility to decide how and when to offer services in languages other than English to best serve the American people” and “specifically allows agencies to keep current policies and provide documents and services in other languages.”<sup>1</sup> President Trump’s executive order does not require federal agencies to stop production of products or services in languages other than English.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that more than 25 million Americans—eight percent of the U.S. population—have LEP.<sup>2</sup> According to the Economic Policy Institute, approximately 32 percent of Asian Americans, 12 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and 29 percent of the Latino community have LEP.<sup>3</sup> Language assistance services for individuals with LEP have been essential in protecting every Americans’ right to access federal services.

In order to best serve our constituents and the American people, we request answers to the following questions within 60 days of receipt of this letter:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/03/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-designates-english-as-the-official-language-of-the-united-states/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/people-that-speak-english-less-than-very-well.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.epi.org/blog/examining-the-economic-impact-of-language-proficiency-on-aapi-populations/#:~:text=Approximately%2032%25%20of%20Asian%20Americans,Pacific%20Islanders%20are%20LEP%2C%20respectively.>

- 1) What changes, if any, will your agency be taking to limit, decrease, or remove current policies and programs intended to assist individuals with LEP?
- 2) Will your agency continue to follow the most updated Language Access Plan published by your agency?
- 3) What communication are you providing to recipients of federal funds administered through your agency, as to their responsibility to provide meaningful language access under previously promulgated agency guidance?
- 4) Have recent staffing reductions included individuals whose primary responsibility was ensuring the agency and federal funding recipients comply with civil rights requirements or are responsible for providing information in other languages? If so, how many staff with these responsibilities have been terminated or reassigned to other duties?
- 5) Will your agency continue to receive, review, and address civil rights complaints regarding access to information in other languages in a timely manner?

Thank you for your timely response to ensure the American people are best served by your agency.

Sincerely,



Grace Meng  
CAPAC Chair



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Ed Case  
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Dan Goldman  
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Sara Jacobs  
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Pramila Jayapal  
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Jerrold Nadler  
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Suhas Subramanyam  
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Marilyn Strickland  
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Mark Takano  
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Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Jill Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



April 23, 2025

Doug Burgum  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Burgum:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

President Trump’s signed Executive Order (EO) 14224 “Designating English as the Official Language of the United States” which rescinds Executive Order 13166, Improving Access for Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Importantly, EO 14224 gives agencies “flexibility to decide how and when to offer services in languages other than English to best serve the American people” and “specifically allows agencies to keep current policies and provide documents and services in other languages.”<sup>1</sup> President Trump’s executive order does not require federal agencies to stop production of products or services in languages other than English.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that more than 25 million Americans—eight percent of the U.S. population—have LEP.<sup>2</sup> According to the Economic Policy Institute, approximately 32 percent of Asian Americans, 12 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and 29 percent of the Latino community have LEP.<sup>3</sup> Language assistance services for individuals with LEP have been essential in protecting every Americans’ right to access federal services.

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- 1) What changes, if any, will your agency be taking to limit, decrease, or remove current policies and programs intended to assist individuals with LEP?
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CAPAC Chair



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Member of Congress



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Norma J. Torres  
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Derek T. Tran  
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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress





April 23, 2025

Kelly Loeffler  
Administrator  
Small Business Administration  
409 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Administrator Loeffler:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

President Trump’s signed Executive Order (EO) 14224 “Designating English as the Official Language of the United States” which rescinds Executive Order 13166, Improving Access for Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Importantly, EO 14224 gives agencies “flexibility to decide how and when to offer services in languages other than English to best serve the American people” and “specifically allows agencies to keep current policies and provide documents and services in other languages.”<sup>1</sup> President Trump’s executive order does not require federal agencies to stop production of products or services in languages other than English.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that more than 25 million Americans—eight percent of the U.S. population—have LEP.<sup>2</sup> According to the Economic Policy Institute, approximately 32 percent of Asian Americans, 12 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and 29 percent of the Latino community have LEP.<sup>3</sup> Language assistance services for individuals with LEP have been essential in protecting every Americans’ right to access federal services.

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Member of Congress



April 23, 2025

Scott Bessent  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Bessent:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

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The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that more than 25 million Americans—eight percent of the U.S. population—have LEP.<sup>2</sup> According to the Economic Policy Institute, approximately 32 percent of Asian Americans, 12 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and 29 percent of the Latino community have LEP.<sup>3</sup> Language assistance services for individuals with LEP have been essential in protecting every Americans’ right to access federal services.

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Grace Meng  
CAPAC Chair



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Member of Congress



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Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress





April 23, 2025

Brooke Rollins  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Rollins:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

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Thank you for your timely response to ensure the American people are best served by your agency.

Sincerely,



Grace Meng  
CAPAC Chair



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Member of Congress



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Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



April 23, 2025

Doug Collins  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary Collins:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

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Sincerely,



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CAPAC Chair



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Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress





April 23, 2025

Howard Lutnick  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Lutnick:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



April 23, 2025

Kristi Noem  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
2707 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20528-0525

Dear Secretary Noem:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

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- 4) Have recent staffing reductions included individuals whose primary responsibility was ensuring the agency and federal funding recipients comply with civil rights requirements or are responsible for providing information in other languages? If so, how many staff with these responsibilities have been terminated or reassigned to other duties?
- 5) Will your agency continue to receive, review, and address civil rights complaints regarding access to information in other languages in a timely manner?

Thank you for your timely response to ensure the American people are best served by your agency.

Sincerely,



Grace Meng  
CAPAC Chair



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Ed Case  
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



Al Green  
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



David Min  
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Jill Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress





April 23, 2025

Chris Wright  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Wright:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

President Trump’s signed Executive Order (EO) 14224 “Designating English as the Official Language of the United States” which rescinds Executive Order 13166, Improving Access for Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Importantly, EO 14224 gives agencies “flexibility to decide how and when to offer services in languages other than English to best serve the American people” and “specifically allows agencies to keep current policies and provide documents and services in other languages.”<sup>1</sup> President Trump’s executive order does not require federal agencies to stop production of products or services in languages other than English.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that more than 25 million Americans—eight percent of the U.S. population—have LEP.<sup>2</sup> According to the Economic Policy Institute, approximately 32 percent of Asian Americans, 12 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and 29 percent of the Latino community have LEP.<sup>3</sup> Language assistance services for individuals with LEP have been essential in protecting every Americans’ right to access federal services.

In order to best serve our constituents and the American people, we request answers to the following questions within 60 days of receipt of this letter:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/03/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-designates-english-as-the-official-language-of-the-united-states/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/people-that-speak-english-less-than-very-well.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.epi.org/blog/examining-the-economic-impact-of-language-proficiency-on-aapi-populations/#:~:text=Approximately%2032%25%20of%20Asian%20Americans,Pacific%20Islanders%20are%20LEP%2C%20r>espectively.

- 1) What changes, if any, will your agency be taking to limit, decrease, or remove current policies and programs intended to assist individuals with LEP?
- 2) Will your agency continue to follow the most updated Language Access Plan published by your agency?
- 3) What communication are you providing to recipients of federal funds administered through your agency, as to their responsibility to provide meaningful language access under previously promulgated agency guidance?
- 4) Have recent staffing reductions included individuals whose primary responsibility was ensuring the agency and federal funding recipients comply with civil rights requirements or are responsible for providing information in other languages? If so, how many staff with these responsibilities have been terminated or reassigned to other duties?
- 5) Will your agency continue to receive, review, and address civil rights complaints regarding access to information in other languages in a timely manner?

Thank you for your timely response to ensure the American people are best served by your agency.

Sincerely,



Grace Meng  
CAPAC Chair



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal  
Member of Congress



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Jerrold Nadler  
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Suhas Subramanyam  
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Marilyn Strickland  
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Mark Takano  
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Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Jill Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



April 23, 2025

Pam Bondi  
U.S. Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

President Trump’s signed Executive Order (EO) 14224 “Designating English as the Official Language of the United States” which rescinds Executive Order 13166, Improving Access for Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Importantly, EO 14224 gives agencies “flexibility to decide how and when to offer services in languages other than English to best serve the American people” and “specifically allows agencies to keep current policies and provide documents and services in other languages.”<sup>1</sup> President Trump’s executive order does not require federal agencies to stop production of products or services in languages other than English.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that more than 25 million Americans—eight percent of the U.S. population—have LEP.<sup>2</sup> According to the Economic Policy Institute, approximately 32 percent of Asian Americans, 12 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and 29 percent of the Latino community have LEP.<sup>3</sup> Language assistance services for individuals with LEP have been essential in protecting every Americans’ right to access federal services.

In order to best serve our constituents and the American people, we request answers to the following questions within 60 days of receipt of this letter:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/03/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-designates-english-as-the-official-language-of-the-united-states/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/people-that-speak-english-less-than-very-well.html>

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- 1) What changes, if any, will your agency be taking to limit, decrease, or remove current policies and programs intended to assist individuals with LEP?
- 2) Will your agency continue to follow the most updated Language Access Plan published by your agency?
- 3) What communication are you providing to recipients of federal funds administered through your agency, as to their responsibility to provide meaningful language access under previously promulgated agency guidance?
- 4) Have recent staffing reductions included individuals whose primary responsibility was ensuring the agency and federal funding recipients comply with civil rights requirements or are responsible for providing information in other languages? If so, how many staff with these responsibilities have been terminated or reassigned to other duties?
- 5) Will your agency continue to receive, review, and address civil rights complaints regarding access to information in other languages in a timely manner?

Thank you for your timely response to ensure the American people are best served by your agency.

Sincerely,



Grace Meng  
CAPAC Chair



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Ed Case  
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David Min  
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Jerrold Nadler  
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Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Jill Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress





April 23, 2025

Lori Chavez-DeRemer  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Secretary Chavez-DeRemer:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

President Trump’s signed Executive Order (EO) 14224 “Designating English as the Official Language of the United States” which rescinds Executive Order 13166, Improving Access for Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Importantly, EO 14224 gives agencies “flexibility to decide how and when to offer services in languages other than English to best serve the American people” and “specifically allows agencies to keep current policies and provide documents and services in other languages.”<sup>1</sup> President Trump’s executive order does not require federal agencies to stop production of products or services in languages other than English.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that more than 25 million Americans—eight percent of the U.S. population—have LEP.<sup>2</sup> According to the Economic Policy Institute, approximately 32 percent of Asian Americans, 12 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and 29 percent of the Latino community have LEP.<sup>3</sup> Language assistance services for individuals with LEP have been essential in protecting every Americans’ right to access federal services.

In order to best serve our constituents and the American people, we request answers to the following questions within 60 days of receipt of this letter:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/03/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-designates-english-as-the-official-language-of-the-united-states/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/people-that-speak-english-less-than-very-well.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.epi.org/blog/examining-the-economic-impact-of-language-proficiency-on-aapi-populations/#:~:text=Approximately%2032%25%20of%20Asian%20Americans,Pacific%20Islanders%20are%20LEP%2C%20respectively.>

- 1) What changes, if any, will your agency be taking to limit, decrease, or remove current policies and programs intended to assist individuals with LEP?
- 2) Will your agency continue to follow the most updated Language Access Plan published by your agency?
- 3) What communication are you providing to recipients of federal funds administered through your agency, as to their responsibility to provide meaningful language access under previously promulgated agency guidance?
- 4) Have recent staffing reductions included individuals whose primary responsibility was ensuring the agency and federal funding recipients comply with civil rights requirements or are responsible for providing information in other languages? If so, how many staff with these responsibilities have been terminated or reassigned to other duties?
- 5) Will your agency continue to receive, review, and address civil rights complaints regarding access to information in other languages in a timely manner?

Thank you for your timely response to ensure the American people are best served by your agency.

Sincerely,



Grace Meng  
CAPAC Chair



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Ed Case  
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David Min  
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Jerrold Nadler  
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Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Jill Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



April 23, 2025

Sean Duffy  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

President Trump’s signed Executive Order (EO) 14224 “Designating English as the Official Language of the United States” which rescinds Executive Order 13166, Improving Access for Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Importantly, EO 14224 gives agencies “flexibility to decide how and when to offer services in languages other than English to best serve the American people” and “specifically allows agencies to keep current policies and provide documents and services in other languages.”<sup>1</sup> President Trump’s executive order does not require federal agencies to stop production of products or services in languages other than English.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that more than 25 million Americans—eight percent of the U.S. population—have LEP.<sup>2</sup> According to the Economic Policy Institute, approximately 32 percent of Asian Americans, 12 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and 29 percent of the Latino community have LEP.<sup>3</sup> Language assistance services for individuals with LEP have been essential in protecting every Americans’ right to access federal services.

In order to best serve our constituents and the American people, we request answers to the following questions within 60 days of receipt of this letter:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/03/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-designates-english-as-the-official-language-of-the-united-states/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/people-that-speak-english-less-than-very-well.html>

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- 1) What changes, if any, will your agency be taking to limit, decrease, or remove current policies and programs intended to assist individuals with LEP?
- 2) Will your agency continue to follow the most updated Language Access Plan published by your agency?
- 3) What communication are you providing to recipients of federal funds administered through your agency, as to their responsibility to provide meaningful language access under previously promulgated agency guidance?
- 4) Have recent staffing reductions included individuals whose primary responsibility was ensuring the agency and federal funding recipients comply with civil rights requirements or are responsible for providing information in other languages? If so, how many staff with these responsibilities have been terminated or reassigned to other duties?
- 5) Will your agency continue to receive, review, and address civil rights complaints regarding access to information in other languages in a timely manner?

Thank you for your timely response to ensure the American people are best served by your agency.

Sincerely,



Grace Meng  
CAPAC Chair



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Ed Case  
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



Al Green  
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Sara Jacobs  
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Pramila Jayapal  
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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
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David Min  
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Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Jill Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress





April 23, 2025

Linda McMahon  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Secretary McMahon:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

President Trump’s signed Executive Order (EO) 14224 “Designating English as the Official Language of the United States” which rescinds Executive Order 13166, Improving Access for Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Importantly, EO 14224 gives agencies “flexibility to decide how and when to offer services in languages other than English to best serve the American people” and “specifically allows agencies to keep current policies and provide documents and services in other languages.”<sup>1</sup> President Trump’s executive order does not require federal agencies to stop production of products or services in languages other than English.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that more than 25 million Americans—eight percent of the U.S. population—have LEP.<sup>2</sup> According to the Economic Policy Institute, approximately 32 percent of Asian Americans, 12 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and 29 percent of the Latino community have LEP.<sup>3</sup> Language assistance services for individuals with LEP have been essential in protecting every Americans’ right to access federal services.

In order to best serve our constituents and the American people, we request answers to the following questions within 60 days of receipt of this letter:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/03/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-designates-english-as-the-official-language-of-the-united-states/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/people-that-speak-english-less-than-very-well.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.epi.org/blog/examining-the-economic-impact-of-language-proficiency-on-aapi-populations/#:~:text=Approximately%2032%25%20of%20Asian%20Americans,Pacific%20Islanders%20are%20LEP%2C%20respectively.>

- 1) What changes, if any, will your agency be taking to limit, decrease, or remove current policies and programs intended to assist individuals with LEP?
- 2) Will your agency continue to follow the most updated Language Access Plan published by your agency?
- 3) What communication are you providing to recipients of federal funds administered through your agency, as to their responsibility to provide meaningful language access under previously promulgated agency guidance?
- 4) Have recent staffing reductions included individuals whose primary responsibility was ensuring the agency and federal funding recipients comply with civil rights requirements or are responsible for providing information in other languages? If so, how many staff with these responsibilities have been terminated or reassigned to other duties?
- 5) Will your agency continue to receive, review, and address civil rights complaints regarding access to information in other languages in a timely manner?

Thank you for your timely response to ensure the American people are best served by your agency.

Sincerely,



Grace Meng  
CAPAC Chair



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Ed Case  
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Dan Goldman  
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Pramila Jayapal  
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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
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David Min  
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Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Jill Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



April 23, 2025

Lee Zeldin  
Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Zeldin:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

President Trump’s signed Executive Order (EO) 14224 “Designating English as the Official Language of the United States” which rescinds Executive Order 13166, Improving Access for Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Importantly, EO 14224 gives agencies “flexibility to decide how and when to offer services in languages other than English to best serve the American people” and “specifically allows agencies to keep current policies and provide documents and services in other languages.”<sup>1</sup> President Trump’s executive order does not require federal agencies to stop production of products or services in languages other than English.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that more than 25 million Americans—eight percent of the U.S. population—have LEP.<sup>2</sup> According to the Economic Policy Institute, approximately 32 percent of Asian Americans, 12 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and 29 percent of the Latino community have LEP.<sup>3</sup> Language assistance services for individuals with LEP have been essential in protecting every Americans’ right to access federal services.

In order to best serve our constituents and the American people, we request answers to the following questions within 60 days of receipt of this letter:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/03/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-designates-english-as-the-official-language-of-the-united-states/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/people-that-speak-english-less-than-very-well.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.epi.org/blog/examining-the-economic-impact-of-language-proficiency-on-aapi-populations/#:~:text=Approximately%2032%25%20of%20Asian%20Americans,Pacific%20Islanders%20are%20LEP%2C%20r>espectively.

- 1) What changes, if any, will your agency be taking to limit, decrease, or remove current policies and programs intended to assist individuals with LEP?
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- 5) Will your agency continue to receive, review, and address civil rights complaints regarding access to information in other languages in a timely manner?

Thank you for your timely response to ensure the American people are best served by your agency.

Sincerely,



Grace Meng  
CAPAC Chair



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
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Salud O. Carbajal  
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Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Jill Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress





April 23, 2025

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to inquire how your agency plans to uphold its obligations under federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Section 616 of the Stafford Act, and existing agency regulations, to provide meaningful access to services and programs for individuals with limited English proficiency.

President Trump’s signed Executive Order (EO) 14224 “Designating English as the Official Language of the United States” which rescinds Executive Order 13166, Improving Access for Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Importantly, EO 14224 gives agencies “flexibility to decide how and when to offer services in languages other than English to best serve the American people” and “specifically allows agencies to keep current policies and provide documents and services in other languages.”<sup>1</sup> President Trump’s executive order does not require federal agencies to stop production of products or services in languages other than English.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that more than 25 million Americans—eight percent of the U.S. population—have LEP.<sup>2</sup> According to the Economic Policy Institute, approximately 32 percent of Asian Americans, 12 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and 29 percent of the Latino community have LEP.<sup>3</sup> Language assistance services for individuals with LEP have been essential in protecting every Americans’ right to access federal services.

In order to best serve our constituents and the American people, we request answers to the following questions within 60 days of receipt of this letter:

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- 1) What changes, if any, will your agency be taking to limit, decrease, or remove current policies and programs intended to assist individuals with LEP?
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- 4) Have recent staffing reductions included individuals whose primary responsibility was ensuring the agency and federal funding recipients comply with civil rights requirements or are responsible for providing information in other languages? If so, how many staff with these responsibilities have been terminated or reassigned to other duties?
- 5) Will your agency continue to receive, review, and address civil rights complaints regarding access to information in other languages in a timely manner?

Thank you for your timely response to ensure the American people are best served by your agency.

Sincerely,



Grace Meng  
CAPAC Chair



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal  
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Pramila Jayapal  
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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
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David Min  
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Jerrold Nadler  
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Suhas Subramanyam  
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Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Jill Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress