Resolution No. 111: English Language Be Declared As The Official United States Language
Origin: Convention Committee on Americanism
Submitted by: Convention Committee on Americanism
(Consolidated with Resolution No. 66 (IL))

WHEREAS, The American Legion is a national organization of wartime veterans who come from many ethnic backgrounds and who have dedicated themselves to the service of the community, state and nation; and
WHEREAS, The United States has, over its many year history, been a haven and in most cases a new home for people from all over the world; and
WHEREAS, These Americans, although keeping their ethnic backgrounds alive, were urged to take advantage of our free educational system that taught them the English language, American history, and civics; and
WHEREAS, Many permanent residents and new citizens, although clinging to their ethnic backgrounds did, with pride and determination, take advantage of learning English; and
WHEREAS, English language proficiency promotes cultural assimilation and creates social and economic opportunities that may otherwise be hampered by a language barrier; and
WHEREAS, National polls consistently confirm that eighty-four percent of Americans want the English language declared the official national language; and
WHEREAS, Thirty-two states have passed legislation designating the English language the official state language; and

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Minneapolis, Minnesota, August 28, 29, 30, 2018, That The American Legion shall encourage and support legislation which would establish English as the official national language; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion urges Congress to encourage and fund alternative bilingual education programs to serve, as was intended, as a short intermediate step to achieve proficiency in the English language.