FILE NO. 250664

RESOLUTION NO. 297-25

[Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1242 (Nguyen) - Language Access]

Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1242, Language Access, authored by Assembly Member Stephanie Nguyen, to expand California's language access laws.

WHEREAS, California's Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act requires state agencies to provide meaningful language access wherever a language group constitutes a "substantial number" (5% or more) of the population served; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 1242 (AB 1242), authored by Assembly Member Stephanie Nguyen, who represents the 10th Assembly District covering Elk Grove, Florin, Vineyard, and parts of Sacramento, seeks to modernize and expand the State's approach to language access; and

WHEREAS, The bill replaces outdated biennial surveys with comprehensive language needs assessments that incorporate United States Census data and community engagement to better identify and address gaps in service; and

WHEREAS, AB 1242 establishes a Language Access Director within the California Health & Human Services Agency to coordinate statewide implementation, provide guidance, and engage communities with limited English proficiency (LEP) and those who are deaf or hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS, The bill requires each state department under the Agency to develop and maintain a Language Access Plan, with dedicated state funding to support training, implementation, and periodic update; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco's Language Access Ordinance, last amended in 2024, reflects many of the same principles such as providing services in Chinese, Spanish, Filipino, Vietnamese, and other qualifying languages; conducting compliance reporting; translating digital and physical materials; maintaining language access complaint mechanisms; and ensuring multilingual crisis response; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco reaffirms that "a safe, inclusive, and equitable environment" requires that "every person, regardless of immigration status or language spoken, can readily access information about City services and programs"; and

WHEREAS, Expanding state standards through AB 1242 will further strengthen and align with the City's longstanding leadership in language justice and culturally competent service delivery to diverse communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby supports AB 1242 to reinforce state-level language access as it aligns with San Francisco's own Language Access Ordinance by ensuring preemptive, data-driven, and well-funded language accessibility across government; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the California Legislature, particularly the State Senate, to pass AB 1242, and the Governor to sign it, to ensure effective service delivery to California's multilingual and Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing residents; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the California Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire, California Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, Governor Gavin Newsom, our San Francisco State representatives, State Senator Scott Wiener, Assembly Member Matt Haney, and Assembly Member Catherine Stefani, as well as the Bill's primary sponsor, Assembly Member Stephanie Nguyen.



City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 250664

Date Passed: June 17, 2025

Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1242, Language Access, authored by Assembly Member Stephanie Nguyen, to expand California's language access laws.

June 17, 2025 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Engardio, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill and Walton

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I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 6/17/2025 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo

Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

Daniel Lurie Mayor 06/27/2025

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

06/27/2025

Date

City and County of San Francisco