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**119th Legislature (1998-2000)**

**History and Final Disposition**

LD 264 / HP0186

An Act to Establish English as the Official State Language. Presented by Representative SHIELDS of Auburn; Cosponsored by Representatives: CARR of Lincoln, GAGNE of Buckfield, GILLIS of Danforth, NUTTING of Oakland. Referred to Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government. Public Hearing 03/03/99. Final Disposition: Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310 03/23/99.

**Original Bill**

[LD 264 \(119th Legis. 1999\)](#)

**Analyst's Summary of Bill**

[LD 264](#)

**Committee Materials**

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

- (Available on request—please include the following citation: cf119-LD-0264.pdf)

**Floor Proceedings and Debate**

[HOUSE, January 11, 1999 \(H62-78\)](#)

- p. H-73

[SENATE, January 14, 1999 \(S79-103\)](#)

- p. S-81

[SENATE, January 26, 1999 \(S123-133\)](#)

- p. S-128

[HOUSE, March 23, 1999 \(H371-402\)](#)

- p. H-375

[SENATE, March 23, 1999 \(S389-405\)](#)

- p. S-398

**News Articles**

Proposed bill for English only, S.V.P. (Bayly, Julia) (St. John Valley Times, 1/27/1999) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB119899.pdf)

English-only bill raises hackles with lawmakers (Higgins, A. Jay) (Bangor Daily News, 1/28/1999) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB119898.pdf)

- Official English (Gordon, Michael and Chapman, Liz) (Sun-Journal (Lewiston), 1/28/1999) ●  
(Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB119901.pdf)
- English-only bill stirs cry of 'faux pas' in Lewiston (Morning Sentinel, 1/31/1999) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB119984.pdf)
- Lawmakers say LD 264 a bad idea in any language (Bayly, Julia) (St. John Valley Times, 2/3/1999) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB119928.pdf)
- English-only bill spurious, draws attention from needs (Kennebec Journal, 2/4/1999) ●  
(Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB119920.pdf)
- Harsh reactions greet sponsor of English only bill in Augusta (Higgins, A. Jay) (Bangor Daily News, 3/4/1999) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB1191180.pdf)
- English bill opens wounds (Chapman, Liz) (Sun-Journal (Lewiston), 3/4/1999) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB1191181.pdf)
- French-speaking opponents hit English-only bill (Journal Tribune, 3/5/1999) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB1191012.pdf)
- LD 264 blasted as racist, unnecessary during public hearing (Bayly, Julia) (St. John Valley Times, 3/10/1999, p. 2) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB1191031.pdf)
- 'English only' bill expected to be shot down by committee (Higgins, A. Jay) (Bangor Daily News, 3/18/1999) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB1191433.pdf)
- English-only bill faces committee opposition (Quinn, Francis X.) (Journal Tribune, 3/18/1999) ●  
(Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB1191427.pdf)
- English language bill 'insulting' (Quinn, Francis X.) (Kennebec Journal, 3/18/1999) ●  
(Available on request—please include the following citation: 119/LD02xx/nc119-LD-0264/SB1191258.pdf)

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