

1 **H. B. 2805**

2
3 (By Delegates Overington, Carmichael, Walters,
4 J. Miller, Cowles, Duke, Sobonya,
5 Rowan and Sumner)
6

7 [Introduced January 24, 2011; referred to the
8 Committee on the Judiciary then Finance.]
9

10 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by
11 adding thereto a new section, designated §2-2-13, relating
12 to protecting government from the expense of conducting
13 activities and providing papers and documents in multiple
14 languages.

15 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

16 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended
17 by adding thereto a new section, designated §2-2-13, to read as
18 follows:

19 **ARTICLE 2. LEGAL HOLIDAYS; SPECIAL MEMORIAL DAYS; CONSTRUCTION**
20 **OF STATUTES; DEFINITIONS; LANGUAGE.**

21 **§2-2-13. Activities and records of the government to be in**

22 **English.**

23 (a) The government shall conduct all activities in English
24 unless use of another language is required to provide
25 constitutional protections or is required for activities related
26 to the teaching of a foreign language.

1 (b) All official papers, records and documents produced or
2 used by the state, including ballots and other election
3 materials, must be in English, unless the papers or documents in
4 another language may be kept for historical or cultural purposes.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to insure that government agencies will not have to bear the expense of conducting activities and preparing and storing documents in multiple languages.

§2-2-13 is new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.