

### Strengthening Communities through

### Education and Integration

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#### Honoring the Contributions of Immigrant Communities

Throughout America's history, immigrants have built our infrastructure, fueled our economy through entrepreneurship, and made social and cultural contributions that enable us to better understand the rest of the world.

To honor those contributions, I have introduced the Strengthen and Unite Communities through Civics Education and English Development (SUCCEED) Act, a bill that will providing immigrant families access to critical assistance such as English language and civics education. The SUCCEED Act will help immigrant communities become a more integral part of the American fabric and maximize their social and economic contributions.

- [The Need for English Language Acquisition Resources](#)
- [What the Legislation Does](#)
- [Cosponsors](#)
- [Endorsements](#)

#### The Need for English Language Acquisition Resources

According to the latest Census figures, nearly 20% of our population, close to 55 million people,

speaks a language other than English at home. More than 12% of the population, over 37 million people, is foreign born. Altogether, 8.6% of our population speaks English “less than very well.” While the English language learner population is often characterized as solely immigrant, the reality is that the native-born English language learner population nearly doubled between 2000 and 2005 and is increasing at a higher rate than the immigrant population. Between 2010 and 2030, these first and second generation immigrants are projected to account for all growth in the U.S. labor force. Better preparing this workforce will unite and strengthen our country.

### What the Legislation Does

With the growth of the English language learner population comes the urgent need to devote resources to education and ensuring that we fully embrace them into their communities. The Strengthening Communities through Education and Integration Act would:

- Re-establishes the Office of Citizenship in USCIS as the Office of Citizenship and Immigrant Integration, which would coordinate federal policies on integration and serve as a liaison to state and local entities
  
- Makes grant money available to states to establish New American Councils that bring together business, faith, civic, philanthropic, non-profit and education stakeholders to create and implement immigrant integration programs.

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Contextualizes English literacy instruction in lessons on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, naturalization proceedings, civic participation and U.S. history and government

- Provide vital technical assistance and support to state and local communities seeking strong and productive strategies to respond to newcomers.

Co-Sponsors

Endorsements