

RESOLUTION NO. 96-08

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, FLORIDA
ENGLISH AS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

TO RESOLVE, THAT OUR NATIONAL GOVERNING LANGUAGE BE OUR LOCAL GOVERNING LANGUAGE:

WHEREAS, A COMMON LANGUAGE IN GOVERNMENT ALLOWS FULL PARTICIPATION TO COMMUNICATE BETWEEN DIVERSE INDIVIDUALS, AVOIDING DIVISIVENESS AND UNITING PEOPLE UNDER ONE GOVERNMENT COMMITTED TO FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY FOR ALL: AND

WHEREAS, ALTHOUGH MULTILINGUAL INDIVIDUALS ARE AN ASSET TO OUR COMMUNITY AND NATION, A LOCAL GOVERNMENT WITHOUT A COMMON LANGUAGE IS IMPRACTICAL SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY; AND

WHEREAS, ENGLISH IS THE LANGUAGE OF OUR CONSTITUTION, THE LANGUAGE OF OUR CURRENCY, AND THE LANGUAGE OF OUR GREAT NATIONAL DEBATES; AND

WHEREAS, 169 GROUPS--82 ORGANIZATIONS, 23 CITIES, 41 COUNTIES, AND 23 STATES INCLUDING FLORIDA HAVE ENDORSED ENGLISH AS THEIR COMMON LANGUAGE OF GOVERNMENT; THE POLICY OF BILINGUALISM IN CANADA HAS KEPT CITIZENS DIVIDED, RESULTING IN TWO ATTEMPTS BY QUEBEC TO LEAVE CANADA AND FORM A NEW NATION; AND


WHEREAS, ADOPTING AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE INCLUDES NO INTENT TO DISCRIMINATE OR RESTRICT THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR CULTURE, LANGUAGE OR RELATIONSHIPS; AND

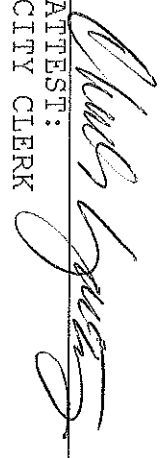
WHEREAS, THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD STRONGLY BELIEVE IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR OUR COMMUNITY TO ADOPT AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE-- ENGLISH. NATIVE LANGUAGES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR EMERGENCY, HEALTH, SAFETY AND JUSTICE SERVICES, AND OFFICIAL ACTS AND RECORDS WILL BE CONDUCTED AND PRINTED IN ENGLISH.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, COUNTY OF BAY, FLORIDA, HEREBY ADOPTS ENGLISH AS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF FLORIDA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE CITY CLERK IS HEREBY DIRECTED TO SEND COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION TO SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, STATE REPRESENTATIVES, STATE SENATOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, GOVERNOR CHILES, U.S. CONGRESSMEMBER, U.S. SENATORS GRAHAM AND MACK, VICE PRESIDENT GORE, PRESIDENT CLINTON, FORMER PRESIDENTS FORD, CARTER, REAGAN AND BUSH AND FORMER VICE PRESIDENTS MONDALE AND QUAYLE, POLITICAL PARTIES, PUBLIC UTILITIES, HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES IN OUR AREA, AND OTHER OFFICIALS AS THE BOARD MAY DEEM APPROPRIATE.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 4 DAY OF November 1996.


MAYOR
CITY OF SPRINGFIELD


ATTEST:
CITY CLERK