

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 12, 2025

Hon. Kelly Loeffler
Administrator
U.S. Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

Mr. Hartley Caldwell
Chief Information Officer
U.S. Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

Administrator Loeffler and Mr. Caldwell:

We write with serious concerns regarding the removal of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)’s non-English language webpages from its website. We were made aware that on December 3, 2025, links to the “Information in other languages” webpage from elsewhere on the website were removed that day, and the page itself became “no longer available.”¹ Then, on December 4, 2025, links to Spanish language webpages from elsewhere on the website were removed, and the URLs for those pages redirected to their English language equivalents.²

The SBA’s Spanish language webpages provided information to Spanish speaking entrepreneurs translated from their English language equivalents. They numbered in the dozens, and treated a wide range of important small business and SBA topics, such as how to start and operate a business, secure capital and other critical resources, and prepare for emergencies, as well as how the SBA could help small business owners with each of those activities.³

Similarly, the SBA’s “Information in other languages” webpage provided information to other entrepreneurs with limited English proficiency (LEP) about the resources and assistance the SBA offers to small business owners, such as counseling through the Resource Partner network, small business loan guarantees and microloans, help navigating the federal government contracting system, and direct disaster loans. This information was offered in Simplified and Traditional Chinese, French, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Tagalog, Thai, and Vietnamese.⁴

Not only do small businesses form the backbone of the American economy, but ownership of a small business is also a key pathway for Americans of all backgrounds to work hard, prosper, and earn a slice of the American Dream. This is why the SBA exists and is responsible for

¹ *Page no longer available*, U.S. SMALL BUS. ADMIN. (Dec. 3, 2025), <https://www.sba.gov/about-sba/information-other-languages> (last visited Dec. 5, 2025).

² E.g., *Business Guide*, U.S. SMALL BUS. ADMIN. (Dec. 4, 2025), <https://www.sba.gov/es/guia-de-negocios>; U.S. SMALL BUS. ADMIN., *Guía de negocios*, WAYBACK MACHINE (Jul. 1, 2025), <https://web.archive.org/web/20250701020608/https://www.sba.gov/es/guia-de-negocios>.

³ U.S. SMALL BUS. ADMIN., *La Agencia Federal de Pequeños Negocios*, WAYBACK MACHINE (Sept. 26, 2025), <https://web.archive.org/web/20250926072033/https://www.sba.gov/es>.

⁴ U.S. SMALL BUS. ADMIN., *Information in other languages*, WAYBACK MACHINE (Feb. 21, 2025), <https://web.archive.org/web/20251006131947/https://www.sba.gov/about-sba/information-other-languages>.

providing help to America’s entrepreneurs. It is our collective responsibility as public officials to assist and protect American small businesses, no matter the race or national origin of their owners.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, over 1 in 5 Americans over the age of five years speak a language other than English at home,⁵ and nearly 9 percent speak English less than “very well.”⁶ Most (56.3 percent) Americans who speak non-English at home are immigrants⁷ – a group with a higher entrepreneurship rate than domestic-born Americans.⁸ In other words, non-English speaking Americans own and operate a sizeable portion of America’s Main Streets.

Title VI of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964* (Title VI) bars discrimination based on race or national origin in federally funded programs.⁹ Offering public services in just one or two languages can prevent eligible persons from receiving them just because they were born and raised in another country speaking another language.¹⁰ Federal agencies – dating back to the Nixon administration – have applied Title VI to language access, an application that the Supreme Court has recognized and upheld.¹¹

In 2000, President Bill Clinton, citing Title VI, signed Executive Order (EO) 13166, which required agencies, including the SBA, to provide “meaningful access” to “persons who, as a result of national origin, are limited in their English proficiency.”¹² Furthermore, the *CARES Act*, which was signed by President Trump, requires the SBA to “provide the resources and services made available by the Administration to small business concerns in the 10 most commonly spoken languages, other than English, in the United States.”¹³ The SBA has since provided services to LEP entrepreneurs, including through the use of the Spanish and “Information in other languages” webpages.¹⁴

While President Trump has issued EO 14224, which rescinds EO 13166,¹⁵ EO 14224 explicitly states, “nothing in this order, however, requires or directs any change in the services provided by

⁵ *S1601: Language Spoken at Home*, U.S. CENSUS BUREAU (2024),

<https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2024.S1601?t=Language+Spoken+at+Home>.

⁶ *B16001: Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over* (2024), U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2024.B16001?t=Language+Spoken+at+Home>.

⁷ *B16005, Nativity by Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over*, U.S. CENSUS BUREAU (2024), <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2024.B16005?t=Language+Spoken+at+Home>.

⁸ Robert W. Fairlie, *Immigrant Entrepreneurs and Small Business Owners, and their Access to Financial Capital*, OFF. OF ADVOC. (May 2012), <https://advocacy.sba.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Immigrant-Entrepreneurs-Financial-Capital-Full-Report.pdf> (on file with the H. COMM. ON SMALL BUS.).

⁹ CONG. RSCH. SERV., IF13076, *Overview of Language-Access Requirements for Federally Funded Programs and Federal Agencies* (Aug. 1, 2025).

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² Exec. Order No. 13166, 65 Fed. Reg. 50121 (Aug. 16, 2020).

¹³ CARES Act, § 1111, 15 U.S.C. 1910 (2020).

¹⁴ E.g., U.S. GOV’T ACCOUNTABILITY OFF., GAO-10-91, *Language Access: Selected Agencies Can Improve Services to Limited English Proficient Persons* (Apr. 26, 2010); U.S. SMALL BUS. ADMIN., *supra* note 4.

¹⁵ Exec. Order No. 14224, 90 Fed. Reg. 11363 (Mar. 1, 2025).

any agency,”¹⁶ meaning that the SBA was not directed by the President in his EO to remove or restrict the webpage, or to diminish its services for LEP small business owners.

The removal of the Spanish language and “Information in other languages” webpages does not benefit the SBA in any meaningful way and impedes the ability of non-English-speaking entrepreneurs to find information about SBA services for which they are eligible. The removal also makes the already difficult task of launching and operating a small business more challenging, which is troubling given the man-made economic crisis imposed by President Trump’s chaotic, unsound tariff policies.

We ask that the Spanish language and “Information in other languages” webpages to the SBA’s website be restored and make the following informational requests below. Please respond to them by no later than **Monday, January 5, 2026**:

1. Many of the Spanish language webpages, as well as the “Information in other languages” webpage, were last edited in 2025, under President Trump, and the information and resources therein appeared to be current. Why were the webpages removed from the SBA’s website?
 - Is the removal temporary or is the SBA no longer providing these services? If the removal is temporary, please outline the timeline for restoration.
2. What, if any, guidance has been issued to SBA employees regarding providing information in languages other English? Are there alternative resources available to which the SBA is now referring small business owners?
3. Who authorized the removal of the Spanish language and “Information in other languages” webpages from the SBA’s website?
4. In making the decision to remove the Spanish language and “Information in other languages” webpages from the SBA’s website, did you consider the impacts this might have on American small business owners with limited English proficiency (LEP)? Did you consider that the cost of hosting additional webpages on an existing website is *de minimis*?
5. Under the previous administration, the SBA’s Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Civil Rights (ODICR) ensured that individuals receiving services from SBA and SBA-funded programs are not subject to discrimination and provided information in English and other languages about language access.¹⁷ We understand that ODICR has since been eliminated. Who is now responsible for preventing discrimination at the SBA and the

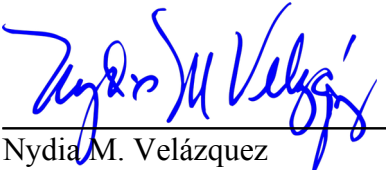
¹⁶ *Id.*

¹⁷ U.S. SMALL BUS. ADMIN., 2022 *Equity Action Plan* (Apr. 14, 2022).

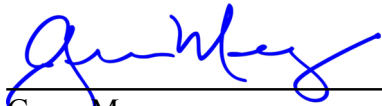
programs it funds? Who is now responsible for providing information about language access?

If you have any questions about these requests, please contact Matt Low with the House Committee on Small Business's Democratic staff at (202) 225-4038.

Sincerely,



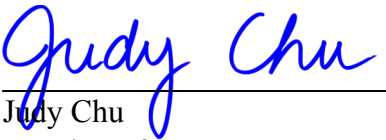
Nydia M. Velázquez
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business



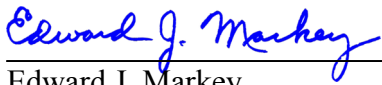
Grace Meng
CAPAC Chair




Adriano Espaillat
Chair
Congressional Hispanic
Caucus



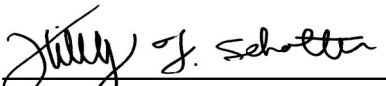
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



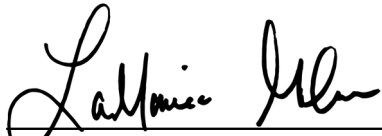
Edward J. Markey
Ranking Member, Committee
on Small Business and
Entrepreneurship



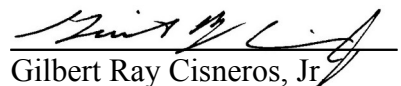
Morgan McGarvey
Vice Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business



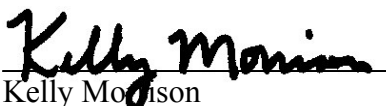
Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress



LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



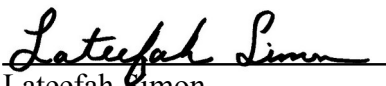
Kelly Morrison
Member of Congress



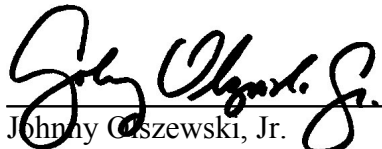
George Latimer
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Johnny Giszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress



Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



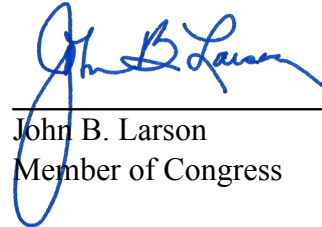
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



James R. Walkinshaw
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



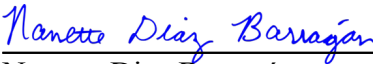
John W. Mannion
Member of Congress



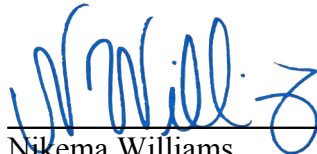
Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



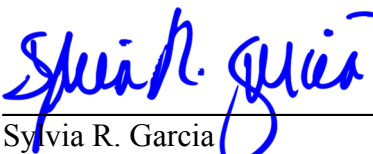
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Adelita S. Grijalva
Member of Congress



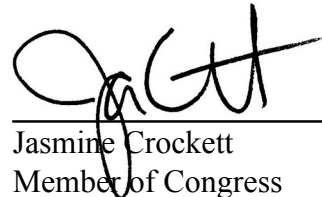
Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



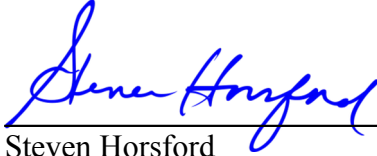
Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Nellie Pou
Member of Congress




James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Andre Carson
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



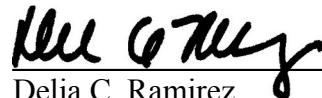
Ed Case
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



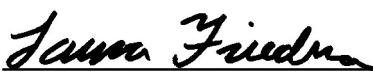
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



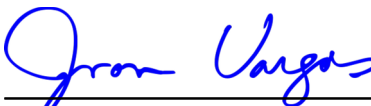
Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress



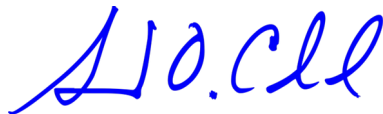
Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



Pablo José Hernández
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



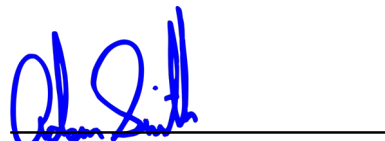
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



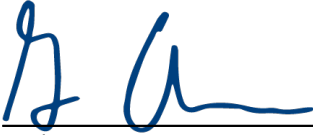
Eugene Simon Vindman
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



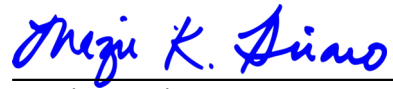
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Mike Levin
Member of Congress




Mark Takano
Member of Congress



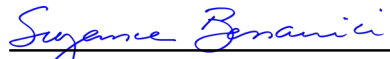
Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



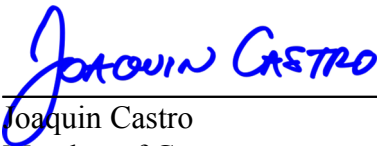
Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



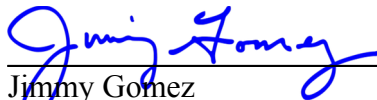
Susie Lee
Member of Congress




Valerie P. Foushee
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



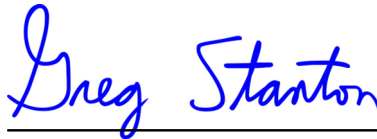
Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



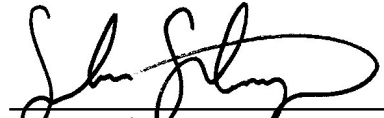
Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



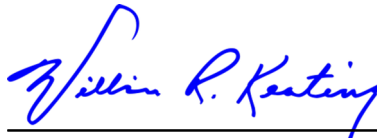
Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



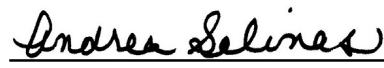
Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



Gabe Vasquez
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress