

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN LEGISLATURE

The Minnesota Official Public Communication Mayor Frey Act

(Mayor Frey English Act)

A bill for an act relating to public office and government communications; requiring elected officials to use English as the primary spoken and written language in all official public communications; prohibiting the use of non-English languages in official communications regardless of translation; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. SHORT TITLE.

This act may be cited as the “Minnesota Official Public Communication Mayor Frey Act.”

Sec. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this act is to promote clarity, transparency, uniformity, and public understanding in official government communications made by elected officials while acting in their official capacity on behalf of the people of Minnesota.

Sec. 3. DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. Elected official.

“Elected official” means any person elected to a state, county, municipal, school district, or other local public office within the State of Minnesota.

Subd. 2. Official capacity.

“Official capacity” means any act, statement, appearance, publication, post, meeting, message, or communication made by an elected official while exercising, representing, or invoking the powers, duties, title, or authority of public office.

Subd. 3. Official public communication.

“Official public communication” means any spoken, written, recorded, broadcast, or digital communication made by an elected official in the elected official’s official capacity.

Subd. 4. Official digital platform.

“Official digital platform” means any website, social media account, video channel, messaging account, or online forum used by an elected official or the elected official’s staff to communicate in an official capacity.

Subd. 5. Primary language.

“Primary language” means the language in which a communication is originally spoken, written, or presented.

Sec. 4. ENGLISH REQUIRED FOR OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Subdivision 1. General rule.

An elected official shall use the English language as the primary language in all official public communications.

Subd. 2. Public appearances and meetings.

An elected official must speak in English in all official public meetings and appearances.

Subd. 3. Communications to the public.

Any official message directed to the public must be delivered in English.

Subd. 4. Digital communications.

All official digital content must be delivered in English as the primary language. Subtitles or translations do not satisfy this requirement.

Sec. 5. PROHIBITION ON NON-ENGLISH OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Subdivision 1. Primary language requirement.

No elected official shall deliver or publish an official communication in a language other than English as the primary language.

Subd. 2. No substitution by translation.

Subtitles, captions, or translations do not satisfy this requirement.

Sec. 6. PRIVATE VS. OFFICIAL CAPACITY CLARIFICATION.

Subdivision 1. Private speech permitted.

This act does not restrict speech when an elected official is not acting in an official capacity.

Subd. 2. Official duty requirement.

English must be used during official working hours, in government buildings, and while representing the office.

Subd. 3. Internal communications.

All official meetings and communications must be conducted in English.

Sec. 7. ENFORCEMENT.

Subdivision 1. Complaint process.

Residents may file complaints.

Subd. 2. Review.

Authorities review compliance.

Subd. 3. Corrective action.

Violations may require correction.

Subd. 4. Repeated violations.

Repeated violations may constitute misconduct.

Sec. 8. NO PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.

Sec. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.

August 1, 2026.