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PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

ELECT 7-2026
CHAPTER 165
SECRETARY OF STATE
ELECTIONS DIVISION

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& LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

FILING CAPTION: Defines the data sources used to compile lists of languages for translating voters' pamphlets.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 03/09/2026

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AMEND: 165-024-0015

REPEAL: Temporary 165-024-0015 from ELECT 7-2025

RULE TITLE: Language Lists for Translation of State and County Voters' Pamphlet Materials

NOTICE FILED DATE: 01/16/2026

RULE SUMMARY: This administrative rule outlines the data sources the Secretary of State uses to compile lists of the most commonly spoken languages other than English and the estimated numbers of individuals who speak each language. The Secretary of State uses this to translate the state voters' pamphlet and county voters' pamphlets under ORS 251.026, ORS 251.167, and ORS 251.170. The amendments include the addition of statutory references and also re-organizes for clarity.

RULE TEXT:

(1) This rule specifies data sources the Secretary of State uses to compile lists of the most commonly spoken languages other than English and the estimated numbers of individuals who speak each most commonly spoken language other than English as required by ORS 251.167. Certain state and county voters' pamphlet information will be translated into the languages in the lists as required by ORS 251.170.

(2)(a) The Secretary of State uses data about state and county populations to determine the most commonly spoken languages. The most commonly spoken languages are determined based on the number of people with limited English proficiency who self-evaluate their ability to speak English as less than very well.

(b) The data sources used include the most recent American Community Survey (ACS) from the United States Census Bureau, estimates from the Population Resource Center at Portland State University, and other data sources that the Secretary of State determines are available and appropriate.

(3) In addition to the list of languages described in section (1) of this rule, the Secretary of State will compile and publish on the Secretary of State's website the list of languages certain filers may submit filings in for inclusion in translated voters' pamphlets as outlined in ORS 251.170.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 246.150, ORS 251.167

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 251.167, SB1533 (2024)