WHO WE ARE

The Joint National Committee for Languages (501c3), est. 1972, represents the Language Enterprise to the US government and business community. Members of JNCL are local, state, regional and national organizations, which employ more than 300,000 language professionals, forming an all-inclusive network of all areas of the language field: education, exchanges, research, technology, translation, interpretation, localization, testing and more. Together with our action-arm, the National Council for Languages and International Studies (501c4), our coalition works to formulate policy solutions at the federal and state level to further our shared mission and vision of a multilingual United States.

OUR MISSION

- To ensure that Americans have the opportunity to learn English and at least one other language;
- To advance the language profession in the US; and
- To raise awareness about the importance of language and international education to the national interest.

OUR VISION

We envision a world where the Language Enterprise:
- Facilitates the free movement of people, information, and ideas;
- Builds mutual understanding and acceptance of cultural and linguistic diversity; and
- Promotes the personal development of the individual.

WHAT WE DO IN WASHINGTON, DC

The staff at JNCL-NCLIS represent YOU and the interests of the Language Enterprise on Capitol Hill specifically by...

- Informing you of the latest updates on new legislation and news affecting your role in the Language Enterprise.
- Connecting your with Members of Congress over the phone on in-person in DC to keep the pressure on.
- Regularly meeting with Members of Congress and the Executive in Washington, DC.
- Educating lawmakers on practical solutions to equip all Americans with multiple languages & experiences abroad to fully participate in the global economy of the 21st century.
- Building diverse & bipartisan coalitions with stakeholders in DC in similar areas where language matters.
- Tracking the appropriations process in Congress to seize opportunities to defend, maintain and/or expand funding for language and international education programming.
MEMBER-ONLY BENEFITS

As an organizational member, you directly participate in forming the national policy agenda for the future of multilingualism in the United States during our annual meeting, Language Advocacy Day, in Washington, DC in February. As a member, you also receive year-round benefits:

- One-on-one consultations with JNCL policy staff on policy issues, advocacy tactics, and political strategy.
- Participation in all our awards programs, including the new J. David Edwards Power of Advocacy Award.
- Monthly guest posts from JNCL in your publications (as requested).
- Exclusive white papers, reports, analyses on federal & state policy (as requested).
- Your organization’s announcements included in our weekly newsletter and events calendar.
- Coordination of and preparation for Congressional and state meetings.
- Opportunity to network with thousands of specialists in language education PK-20, research, training, assessment, translation, interpreting, and localization.

LANGUAGE ADVOCACY DAY

Every February, over 160 educators come to Washington, DC to speak to Members of Congress on the importance of multilingualism for social justice, national security and economic growth. Since Language Advocacy Day started in 2012, our members have created a powerful impact:

- 3 new programs created.
- +$25 million increase in federal funding language programs.
- +$250 million preserved in federal funding for programs threatened with elimination.
- Expansion and increased coordination of state Seals of Biliteracy movement.
- Introduction and lead on 10 pieces of legislation, including the World Language Advancement and Readiness Act, the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Act, the Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act, The Biliteracy Education and Teaching Act, and the Reaching English Learners Act.

Click here to see why our members advocate for languages on Capitol Hill
(Video also available at www.languagepolicy.org/language-advocacy-day)

For more, visit us at www.languagepolicy.org
We look forward to working for you.