

Dear Senator Harris,

We all have something to fear. Students fear missing out on recess, but many follow the rules in fear of punishment. Parents fear being pulled over by the police, yet they could glance at their MPH meter every two minutes. Today, many Asian and other minority senior immigrants fear reading PG&E bills, signing their Wells Fargo's checkbook, or ordering an Oreo McFlurry at McDonald's, because they can't read English. Although there is no government solution to this problem, all businesses need to do is translate their bills and instruction manuals in their native tongues. Can you make a law called, "Help Me Understand Act" so that they could pay their own bills and build their confidence in the community?

For most of us, reading English is as effortless as blinking and breathing. To my grandmother, however, English is like reading the alphabet in a strange formation, which is similar to trying to solve a puzzle. The immigrants may not have studied English long enough, but that doesn't mean we should treat them with less dignity. Basically, seniors don't have the mental memory to remember words.

Many living things need to live and grow, and all flowers, young and old, need to flourish. For example, my Grandma cannot speak English because she is like a Vietnamese Lotus flower bud, trying to bloom in America. With 171,476 English words, my Grandmother may be open-minded, but her petals had fully bloomed to a point where she cannot learn other languages. She also has memory issues, which makes learning pointless. If the government could pass a law where immigrant seniors could quickly read without having to translate, it would be easier for immigrants to adapt to America and flourish like a fully grown lotus.

13% of immigrant Californian children, from ages five through eighteen, also cannot speak English well at all. Since many of the American immigrants aren't fluent in English, I believe all Americans, including immigrants who have arrived less than two hours ago, should feel at home, because what is the point of migrating if you feel uncomfortable living here?

Because Grandma doesn't understand English, she struggles reading a sushi menu. When she's not at a restaurant or visiting my cousin, Nuc Chan, or us, Grandma mostly stays home, watching dramatic Vietnamese movies, picking blackberries, or cooking. Therefore, we should make a law to help all grandmothers and other Asian seniors to live freely, and have billing companies, restaurants, and grocery stores to translate papers into different languages. I don't think that is too much to ask for all the

goodness my Grandmother gives me. She does this willingly with no price at all, from the kindness of her heart. From a flourishing Lotus flower, Grandma deserves to be able to understand something like a bill, receipt, menu, or other documents coming to her. If our grandmothers help us, we can certainly help them by making their lives a bit more comfortable.

Sincerely,
Catdi