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(AUSTIN) -- THE FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN ETHNIC COALITION SAYS HE THINKS THE U-S SUPREME COURT'S DECISION TO REJECT A CHALLENGE OF FLORIDA'S DESIGNATION OF ENGLISH AS THE STATE'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGE COULD STIMULATE SUCH A MOVEMENT IN TEXAS.

LOU ZAESKE WAS "VERY PLEASED" WITH THE HIGH COURT RULING THAT INITIATIVE PETITIONS ON FLORIDA'S BALLOT NEED NOT BE TRANSLATED INTO SPANISH. HISPANICS IN FLORIDA BELIEVED THAT IT WAS A VIOLATION OF THE FEDERAL VOTING RIGHTS ACT WHEN SIX OF THE STATE'S 67 COUNTIES FAILED TO TRANSLATE THE BALLOT INTO SPANISH.

BUT THE SUPREME COURT AFFIRMED A RULING BY THE 11TH U-S CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS, WHICH SAID THE FEDERAL LAW DOES NOT APPLY TO INITIATIVE PETITIONS.

THE PROPOSAL WAS APPROVED BY FLORIDA VOTERS NOVEMBER 8TH, WITH 84 PERCENT IN FAVOR OF THE MEASURE.

ZAESKE OF BRYAN SAID HE THOUGHT THE COURT RULING WOULD GIVE "IMPETUS" TO HIS "OFFICIAL ENGLISH" MOVEMENT, WHICH WOULD MAKE ENGLISH THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF TEXAS.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO ACCOMPLISH THIS SO FAR HAVE FAILED.

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(WASHINGTON) -- THE U-S SUPREME COURT TODAY REJECTED APPEALS BY HISPANICS CHALLENGING FLORIDA'S DESIGNATION OF ENGLISH AS THE STATE'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGE.

THE HIGH COURT, WITHOUT COMMENT, LET STAND A RULING THAT AN ELECTION GIVING OFFICIAL-LANGUAGE STATUS TO ENGLISH DID NOT VIOLATE THE FEDERAL VOTING RIGHTS ACT.

FLORIDA VOTERS LAST NOVEMBER EIGHTH APPROVED THE PROPOSAL BY AN 84-TO-16 PERCENT MARGIN. THE INITIATIVE AMENDED THE STATE CONSTITUTION AND LEFT IT UP TO THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO IMPLEMENT THE CHANGE.

VOTERS IN COLORADO AND ARIZONA APPROVED SIMILAR MEASURES THE SAME DAY. THAT BROUGHT TO AT LEAST 17 THE NUMBER OF STATES THAT HAVE PASSED LAWS OR ADOPTED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS DESIGNATING ENGLISH AS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE.

THE OTHER STATES ARE ARKANSAS, CALIFORNIA, GEORGIA, HAWAII, ILLINOIS, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, MISSISSIPPI, NEBRASKA, NORTH CAROLINA, NORTH DAKOTA, SOUTH CAROLINA, TENNESSEE AND VIRGINIA.

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