

THE LAW ON THE LANGUAGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 151-I of July 11, 1997

About languages in the Republic of Kazakhstan

This Law establishes the legal basis for the functioning of languages in the Republic of Kazakhstan, the duties of the state in creating conditions for their study and development, ensures equal respect for all languages used in the Republic of Kazakhstan, without exception.

Chapter 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Basic concepts

The following concepts are used in this Law: diaspora is a part of a people (ethnic community) living outside the country of its historical origin; onomastics is a branch of linguistics that studies proper names, the history of their origin and transformation; spelling - spelling, a system of rules that determine the uniformity of ways of speech transmission (words and grammatical forms) in writing; toponymy is a section of onomastics that studies the names of geographical objects, the patterns of their occurrence, changes, and functioning; transliteration is the letter-by-letter transmission of texts and individual words of one graphic system by means of another graphic system; terminological commission is a consultative and advisory body that develops proposals in the field of terminological vocabulary of the Kazakh language in all branches of economics, science, technology, culture; the onomastic commission is a consultative and advisory body that develops proposals for the formation of a unified approach to naming and renaming geographical objects, ordering the use and accounting of toponymic names, restoration, preservation of historical names as an integral part of the historical and cultural heritage of the Republic of Kazakhstan; the authorized body is the central executive body responsible for the implementation of the unified state policy in the field of language development.

Article 2. Subject of regulation of this Law

The subject of regulation of this Law is public relations arising in connection with the use of languages in the activities of state, non-governmental organizations and local self-government bodies.

This Law does not regulate the use of languages in interpersonal relationships and in religious associations.

Article 3. Legislation on languages in the Republic of Kazakhstan

The legislation on languages in the Republic of Kazakhstan is based on the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan, consists of this Law, other regulatory

legal acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan concerning the use and development of languages.

The legislation on languages applies to citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan, foreigners and stateless persons permanently residing in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Article 4. The state language of the Republic of Kazakhstan

The state language of the Republic of Kazakhstan is the Kazakh language. The State language is the language of public administration, legislation, judicial proceedings and record keeping, operating in all spheres of public relations throughout the territory of the state.

It is the duty of every citizen of the Republic of Kazakhstan to master the state language, which is the most important factor in the consolidation of the people of Kazakhstan.

The Government, other state, local representative and executive bodies are obliged to:

to develop the state language in the Republic of Kazakhstan in every possible way, to strengthen its international authority;

to create all the necessary organizational, material and technical conditions for the free and free mastery of the state language by all citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan;

to assist the Kazakh diaspora in the preservation and development of their native language.

Article 5. Use of the Russian language

In state organizations and local self-government bodies, Russian is officially used along with Kazakh.

Article 6. The State's concern for languages

Every citizen of the Republic of Kazakhstan has the right to use his native language, to freely choose the language of communication, education, training and creativity.

The state takes care of creating conditions for the study and development of the languages of the people of Kazakhstan.

In places where national groups live compactly, their languages can be used during events.

Article 7. Inadmissibility of hindering the functioning of languages

Infringement of the rights of citizens on the basis of language is not allowed in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Actions of officials obstructing the functioning and study of the state and other languages represented in Kazakhstan entail liability in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Chapter 2. LANGUAGE IN STATE AND NON-STATE ORGANIZATIONS AND LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT BODIES

Article 8. Use of languages

The language of work and office work of state bodies, organizations and local self-government bodies of the Republic of Kazakhstan is the state language, along with Kazakh, Russian is officially used.

In the work of non-governmental organizations, the state and, if necessary, other languages are used.

Article 9. Language of acts of state bodies

Acts of state bodies are developed and adopted in the state language, if necessary, their development can be carried out in Russian with provision, if possible, translation into other languages.

Article 10. Documentation language

The accounting and statistical, financial and technical documentation in the system of state bodies, organizations of the Republic of Kazakhstan, regardless of the forms of ownership, is provided in the state and in Russian.

Participants of the regional financial center of Almaty have the right to keep documentation in the state and (or) Russian, and (or) English languages.

Article 11. The language of responses to citizens' appeals

The responses of state and non-state organizations to citizens' appeals and other documents are given in the state language or in the language of the appeal.

Article 12. Language in the Armed Forces and law enforcement agencies

The functioning of the state and Russian languages is ensured in the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kazakhstan, as well as in all types of military and paramilitary formations, in organizations of state control and supervision, legal protection of citizens and in law enforcement agencies.

Article 13. Language of legal proceedings

Legal proceedings in the Republic of Kazakhstan are conducted in the state language, and, if necessary, Russian or other languages are used in court proceedings on an equal basis with the state language.

Article 14. Language of proceedings in cases of administrative offenses

Proceedings on cases of administrative offenses are conducted in the state language, and if necessary, in other languages.

Article 15. Language of transactions

All transactions of individuals and legal entities in the Republic of Kazakhstan, made in writing, are set out in the state and Russian languages, with an appendix, if necessary, translation in other languages.

Transactions with foreign individuals and legal entities made in writing are set out in the state language and in a language acceptable to the parties.

Participants of the regional financial center of Almaty have the right to conclude transactions in the state and (or) Russian and (or) English languages.

Chapter 3. LANGUAGE IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CULTURE AND MASS MEDIA

Article 16. Language in the field of education

In the Republic of Kazakhstan, the creation of preschool organizations functioning in the state language is ensured, and in places of compact residence of national groups - in their languages.

The language of instruction, upbringing in orphanages and organizations equated to them is determined by local executive bodies, taking into account the national composition of their contingent.

The Republic of Kazakhstan provides primary, basic secondary, general secondary, technical and vocational, post-secondary, higher and postgraduate education in the state, Russian, and, if necessary and possible, in other languages. In educational institutions, the state language and the Russian language are compulsory academic subjects and are included in the list of disciplines included in the document on education.

Article 17. Language in the field of science and culture

In the Republic of Kazakhstan, the functioning of the state and Russian languages is ensured in the field of science, including the design and defense of dissertations. Cultural events are held in the State language and, if necessary, in other languages.

Article 18. Language of the press and mass media

The Republic of Kazakhstan ensures the functioning of the State and other languages in printed publications and mass media.

In order to create the necessary language environment and the full functioning of the state language, the volume of broadcasts on broadcasting channels, regardless of their forms of ownership, in the state language in time should not be less than the total volume of broadcasts in other languages.

Chapter 4. LANGUAGE IN NAMES OF SETTLEMENTS, PROPER NAMES, VISUAL INFORMATION

Article 19. The order of use of toponymic names, names of organizations

Traditional, historically formed Kazakh names of settlements, streets, squares, as well as other physical and geographical objects in other languages should be reproduced according to the rules of transliteration.

The names of state organizations and their structural divisions are given in the state and Russian languages. Names of joint, foreign organizations - with transliteration in the state and Russian languages.

Article 20. Writing personal names, patronymics and surnames

The spelling of personal names, patronymics, surnames in official documents must comply with the legislation and regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Article 21. Language of details and visual information

The texts of seals and stamps of state bodies contain their names in the state language.

The texts of seals and stamps of organizations, regardless of the form of ownership, are compiled in the state and Russian languages.

Forms, signs, advertisements, advertisements, price lists, price tags, and other visual information are presented in the state and Russian, and, if necessary, in other languages.

Product labels (labels) with special information, markings, instructions for goods manufactured in Kazakhstan must contain the necessary information in the state and Russian languages.

Commodity labels (labels) - with special information, markings, instructions for goods of foreign production are provided with translation into the state and Russian languages at the expense of importing organizations.

All texts of visual information are arranged in the following order: on the left or top - in the state language, on the right or bottom - in Russian, written in the same letters. As necessary, the texts of visual information can be provided additionally in other languages. At the same time, font sizes should not exceed the requirements established by regulatory legal acts. Oral information, announcements, advertisements are given in the state, Russian and, if necessary, in other languages.

Article 22. Language in the field of communication

In the field of communication, the functioning of the state and Russian languages is ensured within the Republic of Kazakhstan. Postal and telegraphic shipments outside the Republic of Kazakhstan are made according to the established international rules.

Chapter 5. LEGAL PROTECTION OF LANGUAGES

Article 23. State protection of languages

The State language and all other languages in the Republic of Kazakhstan are protected by the State. State bodies create the necessary conditions for the functioning and development of these languages.

The development of languages is provided by the State Program, which provides for the priority of the state language and the gradual transition of office work to the Kazakh language.

The list of professions, specialties and positions for which knowledge of the state language is required to a certain extent and in accordance with qualification requirements is established by the laws of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan creates terminological and onomastic commissions and, if necessary, other structures.

Article 24. Responsibility for violation of the legislation on languages

The first heads of state bodies or responsible secretaries or other officials determined by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, organizations of any form of ownership, as well as legal entities and individuals guilty of violating the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan on languages are liable in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The refusal of an official to accept citizens' appeals motivated by ignorance of the state language, as well as any obstruction to the use of the state and other languages in the sphere of their functioning entail liability provided for by the laws of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Article 25. Competence of the authorized body

Authorized body:

- 1) ensures the implementation of a unified state policy in the field of language development;
- 2) develops a program for the functioning and development of languages and other regulatory legal acts;
- 3) monitors compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan on languages in the central and local executive bodies of regions (cities of republican significance, the capital);
- 4) makes recommendations on the elimination of violations of the requirements established by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan on languages, makes proposals to the relevant authorities on the application of disciplinary measures to officials guilty of violating the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan on languages;
- 5) organizes informational and methodological support for the implementation of the unified state policy in the field of language development;
- 6) coordinates the activities of the terminological and onomastic commissions.

Article 25-1. Competence of the Onomastic Commission

1. The Republican Onomastic Commission is established by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan in order to:

- 1) making conclusions to the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the naming and renaming of regions, districts and cities, as well as changing the transcription of their names;
- 2) making conclusions to the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the naming and renaming of physical-geographical, toponymic, industrial and other objects within its competence.

2. Regional onomastic commissions are created by local executive bodies of the regions in order to prepare and make the following conclusions on naming and renaming:

1) auls (villages), settlements, aul (rural) districts, as well as changes in the transcription of their names;

2) physical-geographical, toponymic, industrial and other objects that are within the competence of local executive bodies of the region.

3. City onomastic commissions are created:

1) local executive bodies of the city of republican significance, the capital in order to prepare and make the following conclusions on the naming and renaming of: districts in the city, squares, avenues, boulevards, streets, alleys, parks, squares, bridges and other constituent parts of the city, as well as changing the transcription of their names;

physical-geographical, toponymic, industrial and other objects that are within the competence of local executive bodies of the city of republican significance, the capital;

2) local executive bodies of the city of regional significance in order to prepare and make the following conclusions on naming and renaming: districts in the city, squares, avenues, boulevards, streets, alleys, parks, squares, bridges and other constituent parts of the city, as well as changing the transcription of their names.

Article 25-2. Competence of the local executive body of the region (city of republican significance, capital)

The local executive body of the region (the city of republican significance, the capital):

1) develops and approves a regional program for the functioning and development of languages and ensures its implementation;

2) monitors compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan on languages by territorial divisions of central executive bodies and district executive bodies;

3) makes recommendations on the elimination of violations of the requirements established by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan on languages, makes proposals to the relevant authorities on the application of disciplinary measures to officials guilty of violating the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan on languages;

4) implements a set of measures of regional significance aimed at the development of the state and other languages;

5) ensures the activities of the regional (city of republican significance, capital) onomastic commission.

Article 25-3. Competence of the local executive body of the district (city of regional significance)

Local executive body of the district (city of regional significance):

1) develops and ensures the implementation of an action plan for the implementation of a regional program for the functioning and development of languages in the territory of the district (city of regional significance);

2) conducts activities of the district (city of regional significance) level aimed at the development of the state and other languages;

3) makes proposals to the executive bodies of the regions on the naming and renaming of auls (villages), settlements, aul (rural) districts, as well as changing their transcription.

Article 26. Excluded in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated 20.12.04 No. 13-III

Chapter 6. THE USE OF LANGUAGES IN RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Article 27. Language in international activities

The activities of the diplomatic missions of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the representative offices of the Republic of Kazakhstan to international organizations are carried out in the state language using, if necessary, other languages.

Bilateral international treaties are concluded, as a rule, in the official languages of the contracting parties, multilateral international treaties - in languages determined by the consent of the parties to the treaty.

Official receptions and other events with representatives of other states in the Republic of Kazakhstan are held in the state language with translation into other languages.

President
of the Republic of Kazakhstan

N.NAZARBAYEV