

REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA LAW

**ON THE AMENDMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA LAW ON
THE STATUS OF THE STATE COMMISSION OF THE LITHUANIAN
LANGUAGE**

March 25, 1993, No. I-108
Vilnius

(As amended by November 20, 2001. No. IX – 617)

**Article 1. New Version of Republic of Lithuania Law on the Status of the
State Language Commission**

To amend the Republic of Lithuania Law on the Status of the Lithuanian State
Commission of the Lithuanian Language and render it as follows:

**“REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA LAW ON THE STATE COMMISSION OF THE
LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE**

Article 1. Legal Position of State Commission of the Lithuanian Language

1. The State Commission of the Lithuanian Language (hereinafter – the
“Language Commission”) shall be a State institution. It shall be founded, reorganised
and abolished by the Seimas. The Language Commission shall be accountable to the
Seimas.

2. In its operation the Language Commission shall be guided by the
Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, the Law on the State Language, this and
other laws and standard legal acts.

3. The Language Commission shall be a legal person, having its own seal with
the State Coat of Arms of Lithuania and its name and bank accounts.

4. The headquarters of the Language Commission shall be in Vilnius. The
Government shall provide the premises for the Language Commission.

**Article 2. Composition and Procedure of Formation of the Language
Commission**

1. The Language Commission shall be comprised of 17 members.
The Seimas shall appoint and dismiss the members of the Language Commission
upon the recommendation of the Committee on Education, Science and Culture.
Universities, scientific research institutions and creative unions shall submit proposals
to the Committee on Education, Science and Culture of the Seimas.

2. The members of the Language Commission shall be appointed for a five-
year-term. The number of their terms of powers shall be unlimited. The term of
powers of a Language Commission Member shall be calculated from the day of his
appointment to the position.

3. A chairman shall head the Language Commission. The Seimas shall appoint and dismiss from their positions, the chairman and the deputy chairman of the Language Commission from Language Commission members for a five-year term, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Education, Science and Culture.

4. Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Education, Science and Culture, the Seimas given some serious reasons or upon their own request, may relieve the chairman and deputy chairman of the Language Commission, of their duties prior to the expiration of their term of power.

Article 3. Tasks of Language Commission

The Language Commission shall:

- 1) decide issues concerning the implementation of the Law on the State Language;
- 2) submit to Seimas, President of the Republic and Government proposals on language policy and implementation of the Law on the State Language, submit to Seimas conclusions regarding the language of legal acts;
- 3) establish the directions of regulating the Lithuanian language, decide the issues of standardisation and codification of Lithuanian language;
- 4) appraise and approve the most important standardising language works (dictionaries, reference books, guidebooks and textbooks);
- 5) be involved in the injecting of the Lithuanian language into information technologies ;
- 6) be involved in changing foreign terms into Lithuanian equivalents, preservation of dialects and ethnic names of places. Confirm the list of Lithuanian traditional local names for the Lithuanian, Latvian, Prussian and other Balt ethnic lands and determine the procedure of the use of traditional local place names in the Republic of Lithuania;
- 7) be involved in the culture of the public language, namely, the condition of language in educational institutions, provision of information to the public (news media), publishing, scientific activities, public life and other spheres;
- 8) deliberate important issues raised by the public, regarding language use and limits and adopt decisions regarding them;
- 9) approve an estimate of income and expenditures of the Language Commission;
- 10) approve the bylaws of the secretariat (hereinafter- the Secretariat) and the structure and lists of offices thereof;
- 11) establish general qualification requirements for language administrators.

Article 4. Activity Principles of Language Commission

1. Important public and State needs shall set the directions of the Language Commission's work activities.

2. The Language Commission shall follow the traditions of language standardisation, principles and criteria, and without due cause shall not change earlier recommendations and norms that have become accustomed to.

3. The Language Commission shall operate in cooperation with State institutions, Lithuanian Language Institute, universities, State Language Inspection,

state and municipal institutions and service language administrators, Lithuanian Language Association and other institutions and organisations.

Article 5. Rights of the Language Commission

The Language Commission shall have a right to:

- 1) collect information regarding the condition and use of Lithuanian language, from State and municipal institutions, all of the services, enterprises and organisations operating in the Republic of Lithuania;
- 2) obtain information and deliberate, how the State Language Inspectorate shall control the implementation of the decisions of the Language Commission;
- 3) participate in State and municipal institution meetings, conferences, and consultations, in which the Lithuanian language issues are under discussion, and submit proposals for the resolution of these issues.

Article 6. Decisions of Language Commission

1. The Language Commission shall adopt the decisions regarding the issues within the scope of its powers.
2. The decisions of the Language Commission are obligatory for State and municipal institutions, all of the offices, enterprises and organisations operating in the Republic of Lithuania.
3. The decisions of the Language Commission shall be published in the "State Gazette."

Article 7. Organising of the Language Commission's Work

1. The Regulations of the Language Commission shall set the power limits and work procedure of the Language Commission.
2. The issues involving the power sphere of the Language Commission shall be discussed and decided at the meetings of the Language Commission.
3. The meetings of the Language Commission shall be held at least once a month.
4. The meeting of the Language Commission shall be legal if it shall be attended by at least 2/3 of the Language Commission's membership. The decisions shall be accepted as passed, if at least 2/3 of the Commission's attending members have voted in favour thereof.

Article 8. Chairman of Language Commission

The Chairman of the Language Commission shall:

- 1) organise the work of the Language Commission, be responsible for the proper use of the funds received from the State Budget and other sources;
- 2) be responsible for seeing to it that the Language Commission would implement the tasks assigned to it;
- 3) convoke the meetings of the Language Commission and chair them and concern himself with the drafting of the submitted drafts;
- 4) affix his signature to approve the decisions of the Language Commission;
- 5) represent the Language Commission;

6) submit the structure of the secretariat and list of the positions for approval by the Language Commission;

7) at least once a year, render an account to Seimas of the work of the Language Commission.

Article 9. Secretariat of Language Commission

1. The Secretariat shall:

1) provide for the needs of the Language Commission and activities of its experts and subcommittees;

2) draft Language Commission documents and other material;

3) provide consultations to citizens, legal persons;

4) co-ordinate and implement programmes furthering the Lithuanian language;

5) organise the instilling of the Lithuanian language in computer programmes and information technologies;

6) administer the use of foreign terms and their Lithuanian equivalents.

2. A Programme Section for Changing Foreign Terms Into Lithuanian Equivalents and a General Section operate within the Secretariat.

3. Employees of the Secretariat shall be accepted for positions in accordance with the procedure established by laws. The Language Commission shall announce a competition for the post of the head of the secretariat.

4. The head of the Secretariat shall:

1) be in charge of the Secretariat, be responsible for the drafting of the documents of the Language Commission and implementation of the assignments;

2) prepare a draft of the estimate of expenses of the Language Commission.

Article 10. Funds of Language Commission

1. The funds of the Language Commission shall be funded from the State Budget.

2. The Funds of the Language Commission shall be used to:

1) implement the tasks of the Language Commission;

2) compensate the work of the members and experts of the Language Commission;

3) compensate the work of employees of the Secretariat;

4) prepare publications;

5) operating expenses.”

Article 2. Reorganisation of the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language Under the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

1. The State Commission of the Lithuanian Language shall be reorganised by January 1, 2002 in accordance with the procedure established by laws, by dividing it into State Commission of Lithuanian Language and the State Language Inspectorate.

2. The Government shall by January 1, 2002, specify the estimate of expenses of the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language at the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania. The funds intended to support the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language shall be distributed between the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language and the State Language Inspectorate.

3. The chairman of the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language and the head of the State Language Inspectorate

Article 3. Recognition of Repeal of Provisions of State Commission of Lithuanian Language

To recognise the repeal of:

1) The Decision of the Seimas No. I – 515, dated June 28, 1994, “On Confirmation of Provisions of The State Commission of the Lithuanian Language.”

2) The Decision of the Seimas No. I – 745, dated January 12, 1995, “On the Amendment and Supplement of the Provisions of the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language.”

Article 4. Coming Into Force of Law

1. This Law shall come into force on December 1, 2001.

2. Within one month from coming into force of this Law, the Committee on Education, Science and Culture of the Seimas shall decide the candidacies of the members, chairman and deputy chairman of the Language Commission and submit them to the Seimas.

I promulgate this Law passed by the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania.

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

VALDAS ADAMKUS