



# Disability Benefits for Non-English Speakers

## THE PROBLEMS

### DISABILITY ENROLLMENT HAS EXPLODED



Dependency on the disability system has hit record highs in recent years, **reaching 13 million enrollees.**



Disability enrollment climbed all but one year from 1982 to 2014—**over 30 years of continuous growth**—hitting a record high in 2014.

### EMPLOYERS ARE DESPERATE FOR WORKERS



There are nearly **7.5 million open jobs** today.



Unemployment rates are **near record lows.**

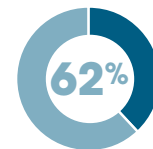
### THE INABILITY TO COMMUNICATE IN ENGLISH SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED DISABLING



Since 1980, the number of non-English speaking workers ages 25-64 **grew by 355 percent.**



Nearly **one in three disability claims from Puerto Rico** is due to the inability to communicate in English, even though 94 percent of Puerto Ricans speak predominantly Spanish.



62 percent of **non-English speakers participate in the labor force.**



# Disability Benefits for Non-English Speakers

**THE SOLUTION: REMOVE THE INABILITY TO COMMUNICATE IN ENGLISH AS A DISABLING FACTOR**



**Taxpayers could save \$5.5 billion** over the next 10 years.



This would **save more than 10,000 non-English speaking workers** from the dependency trap.



Reforming the disability system is necessary to protect program integrity and **preserve resources for the truly needy.**

## IT'S POPULAR

### Voters Support Removing the Inability to Communicate in English as a Disabling Factor



ALL VOTERS: ■ SUPPORT ■ OPPOSE ■ UNSURE

**A majority of Republican and Independent voters support this reform.**