Language Access Timeline

1978
Federal Court Interpreter Act
Requires use of certified or qualified interpreters in all judicial proceedings.

August 2000
Executive Order 13166
Requires all federally conducted programs and agencies to create a LEP plan and issue a LEP guidance to their federal funded recipients.

August 1, 2010
(updated on 10/10/12)
Administration & Finance Bulletin #16
gives guidance to state agencies in the Executive Branch regarding language access issues. Directs agencies to appoint a Language Access Coordinator and create a Language Access Plan for their agency.

April 14, 2000
MA Emergency Room Interpreter Act
Requires hospitals to use interpreter services for LEP patients.

2009
G.L. c 221 C, 7
MA Office of Court Interpreter Services issues Standards and Procedures for use of interpreter in court.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
Prohibits discrimination based on national origin.

1974
Lau v. Nichols
Recognizes under Title VI, that national origin includes language.

2001
Alexander v. Sandoval
holding that there is no private right of action to enforce Title VI violations

August 16, 2010
Department of Justice
Letter to Chief Justices and Court Administrators
Addresses language access concerns in courts and reminds courts to comply with Title VI obligations.

1946
M.G.L. c. 151B
Prohibits discrimination on race, color, religious creed, national origin, ancestry or sex

July 26, 1990
Title III of Americans with Disabilities Act
applies equally to LEP individuals with disabilities and individuals who are Deaf/Hard of Heading (HOH)

January 2007
Executive Order 478
All state agencies in the Executive Branch shall have non-discrimination, diversity, equal opportunity and affirmative action.

Key:
MA - - - -
Federal ———