



KERRY DEAF RESOURCE CENTRE

KDRC provides services to Deaf and hard of hearing people at county level and contributes to national issues of equality, access and rights.

Charity No: CHY20854

4 Gas Terrace
Tralee
Co. Kerry

24.10.16

HISTORIC WEEK FOR IRISH SIGN LANGUAGE (ISL)



An Bille um Theanga Chomharthaíochta na hÉireann do na Bodhair a Aithint,
2016

Recognition of Irish Sign Language for the Deaf Community Bill 2016

Mar a thionscnaíodh

As initiated

This week was a very historic week for the Deaf Community in Ireland.

The 'Recognition of Irish Sign Language for the Deaf Community Bill 2016' was debated in the Seanad (Senate).

The Bill was presented by Senator Mark Daly with support from the Irish Deaf Society (IDS) and the Deaf community here in Ireland.

We are delighted to say the Bill was passed with no objections from the Government.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT WITH THE BILL?

This was the 2nd reading of the Bill. It was debated in the Seanad which is one of The Houses of the Oireachtas.

The Bill will need further debate at various levels within the Oireachtas.

In order for a Bill to become Law in Ireland, here is an example of the different stages of debate:

First Stage: The initiation of a Bill.

Second Stage: Whether the law should be amended as broadly envisaged in the Bill

Third (Committee) Stage: Detailed examination and improvement of what is proposed

Fourth (Report) Stage: A review of changes made at Third Stage

Fifth (Final) Stage: Whether the Bill, in its current form, would constitute good law

The Bill, if passed, is then sent to other House

Amendments made by Seanad to Bill initiated in Dáil



Houses of the
Oireachtas
Tithe an Oireachtais

Amendments made by Dáil to Bill initiated in Seanad

Enactment: As a general rule, the President is required to sign a Bill presented to him or her for signature not earlier than the fifth day or later than the seventh day after it has been so presented (Art.25.2.1).

A Bill becomes law on the day it is signed by the President and, unless the contrary intention appears, comes into operation on that day (Art. 25.4.1). A Bill may, for example, contain provision for its commencement (in whole or in part) by way of Ministerial order.

WHAT IS IN THE BILL?

The Bill if it passes all stages of debate and becomes Law will require public bodies:

- *To prepare and implement action plans on Irish Sign Language;**
- *To provide for classes for the parents of deaf children;**
- *To permit the use of Irish Sign Language in legal proceedings;**
- *To provide for the making available of sign language interpreting services;**
- *To introduce statutory targets regarding the accessibility of television programming;**
- *To provide for the regulation of Irish Sign Language interpreters, deaf interpreters and Irish Sign Language teachers and for that purpose to establish the Irish Sign Language Council;**
- *To provide for the establishment of registers;**
- *To provide for continuing education requirements;**
- *To provide for offences;**
- *To amend the Broadcasting Act 2009; and to provide for related matters.**

THE IRISH DEAF SOCIETY (IDS) NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT?

The IDS is calling on everyone to support the official recognition of Irish Sign Language (ISL). With your support, ISL could become an official language here.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead



Please keep supporting the Irish Deaf Society's campaign to get Irish Sign Language recognised. Your support is important to us!

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Contact your local Senators.

Contact your local TD.

Make contact with Government Ministers

Ask your local Councillors to contact their political parties and ask them to support the campaign.

Go online and spread the word on Facebook, Twitter etc.

Use the hashtag #YesToISL