



KERRY DEAF RESOURCE CENTRE

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

Charity No: CHY20854

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Tralee
Co. Kerry

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RECOGNITION OF IRISH SIGN LANGUAGE BILL PASSES SEANAD.

The Irish Deaf Society (IDS) & their supporters celebrated this week as the Recognition of Irish Sign Language (ISL) Bill passed the 4th & final stages in the Seanad (Senate).

This was a historical & proud moment for all those who have campaigned for recognition for so many years.

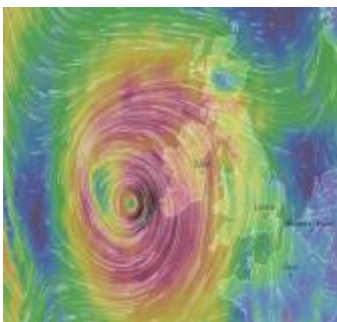
The Bill now moves over to the Dáil where it needs to pass a similar number of stages. Once all stages are passed, the Bill will then be sent to the President and signed into Law.



We would like to extend our best wishes to the IDS and to Senator Mark Daly who have led the campaign. We will continue to support them and the Bill as it goes through the next round of debates. Like so many people in Ireland & abroad, we will keep our fingers crossed that the Government continues to support the Bill and we await the day when the Bill is finally signed into Irish Law.

To learn about the campaign, use the hashtag **#YesToISL** when searching online or go to <https://www.facebook.com/IrishSignLanguageRecognitionCampaign/>

HURRICANE OPHELIA & ACCESS FOR THE DEAF COMMUNITY.



Hurricane Ophelia

Last week, as Ireland braced itself for Hurricane Ophelia members of the Deaf community started a campaign to make sure information was available in Irish Sign Language (ISL) on TV public broadcasts & online.

We would like to thank everyone who uploaded videos on Facebook and who shared messages on Facebook, WhatsApp and Twitter including our own Catherine,

Veronica and Willie White. The hashtag **#WheresTheAccess** also trended online and eventually those involved in Emergency Planning became aware of the need to have information in ISL. Let's hope that future emergencies and issues of national interest are accessible to the Deaf community. Well done to everyone.