



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

Sign Language Bill

Notice of Amendments tabled on  
14 April 2026 for Further Consideration Stage

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Clause 2, Page 2, Line 16

Leave out ‘free of charge’

*Minister for Communities*

Clause 2, Page 2, Line 18

Leave out from ‘young’ to ‘carers,’ in line 19 and insert ‘people in the two eligible categories’

*Minister for Communities*

Clause 2, Page 2, Line 19

At end insert—

‘(2A) The first eligible category comprises—

- (a) persons under 25 years of age who are deaf, and
- (b) their close families, guardians and carers.

(2B) The second eligible category comprises—

- (a) persons aged 25 or over who have become deaf, and
- (b) their close families and carers.

(2C) Persons in the first eligible category must be allowed to participate free of charge in classes available under this section to persons in that category.

(2D) The Department may by regulations prescribe fees to be payable by persons in the second eligible category for participating in classes available under this section to persons in that category.

(2E) Fees prescribed in regulations under this section are to be set with the aim of ensuring that, in any financial year, the income from such fees does not exceed the overall costs of providing classes under this section to persons in the second eligible category.

(2F) Regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft of them has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.’

*Minister for Communities*

Clause 2, Page 2, Line 20

Leave out subsections (3) to (6)

*Minister for Communities*

Clause 12, Page 8, Line 1

After ‘who’ insert ‘at any time use, or’

*Minister for Communities*

Clause 12, Page 8, Line 1

Leave out ‘will’

*Minister for Communities*

Clause 12, Page 8, Line 1

Before ‘benefit’ insert ‘ever’

*Minister for Communities*

Clause 12, Page 8, Line 1

Leave out ‘using’ and insert ‘use of,’

*Minister for Communities*