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# Deaf and Hard of Hearing Communication Centre Act

1990 No 129 31 December

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**Entry into force 14 January 1991.** Amended by Act No 83/1997 (entry into force 6 June 1997), Act No 162/2010 (entry into force 1 January 2011), Act No 126/2011 (entry into force 30 September 2011) and Act No 115/2015 (entry into force 16 December 2015).

Any reference in this Act to “the Minister” or “the Ministry” not accompanied by express mention of or reference to a specific field of responsibility shall be understood as being a reference to the **Minister of Education, Science and Culture** or to the **Ministry of Education, Science and Culture** as responsible for the implementation of this Act.

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## Section I Aim and scope

■ **Article 1** The aim of this Act is to promote the right of the deaf to equal access to services on the widest possible basis throughout society, founded upon the sign language of the deaf.

■ **Article 2** The role of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Communication Centre is to:

- a. carry out research into Icelandic sign language;
- b. teach sign language;
- c. provide sign language interpreting;
- d. provide other services.

□ Arrangements for the services provided are to be stipulated in a Regulation.<sup>(1)</sup>

□ The Centre must cooperate with the regional offices for the affairs of [the disabled],<sup>(2)</sup> the State Diagnostic and Counselling Centre, the School for the Deaf, the National Hearing and Speech Institute of Iceland, the National Centre for Educational Materials, and other public bodies, regarding matters which concern the activities of these entities. This likewise applies to cooperation with interest organisations.

<sup>(1)</sup>Regulation No 1058/2003, as amended by No 884/2004. <sup>(2)</sup>Act No 115/2015, Article 28.

## Section II Administration

■ **Article 3** [The Minister]<sup>(1)</sup> is to appoint five members to the Centre’s Board of Directors for a four-year term, and an equal number of alternate members, as follows:

- a. One member nominated by the Icelandic Association of the Deaf;
- b. One member nominated by the Parental and Support Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing;
- c. [Two members nominated by the [Minister responsible for the affairs of the disabled];<sup>(1)(2)</sup>
- [d. ]<sup>(2)</sup> One member appointed by the [Minister]<sup>(1)</sup> without nomination, to serve as Chair.

Alternate members are to be appointed in the same manner.

<sup>(1)</sup>Act No 126/2011, Article 149. <sup>(2)</sup>Act No 162/2010, Article 7.

■ **Article 4** The [Minister]<sup>(1)</sup> is to appoint the Director of the Centre for a five-year term on the proposal of the Board of Directors. The Director attends the Board’s meetings with the right to speak and propose motions, and implements its decisions. The Director is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Centre.

<sup>(1)</sup>Act No 126/2011, Article 149.

■ **Article 5** [The Director is responsible for the recruitment of other members of staff.]<sup>(1)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup>Act No 83/1997, Article 125.

■ **Article 6** The Centre must draw up a budget and action plan with a period of validity of up to five years. The Board of Directors must approve such plans and monitor their implementation. On the proposal of the Board of Directors, the [Minister]<sup>(1)</sup> may issue a schedule of fees to be charged for the services provided by the Centre.

<sup>(1)</sup>Act No 126/2011, Article 149.

■ **Article 7** This Act shall come into force forthwith. The Act is to be revised within four years of its commencement.

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*Disclaimer: This is an English translation. The original Icelandic text, as published in the Law Gazette (Stjórnartíðindi) is the authoritative text. Should there be discrepancy between this translation and the authoritative text, the latter prevails.*