



Community Sponsorship for Refugees Bill

*Mar a tionscnaíodh
As initiated*

BILL ENTITLED

A bill to allow Irish communities to organize and apply to support refugees for resettlement in Ireland.

Whereas:

1. Community Sponsorship has been a successful model for refugee resettlement in Canada since the late 1970's. It invites local communities to self-organize the resettlement of refugees.
2. Resettlement of refugees is a difficult process and community integration is a key factor in successful outcomes.
3. Ireland co-chaired the UN High-level Summit on Refugees and Migrants in September 2016 which reaffirmed the Geneva Convention and additional Protocol, and achieved a common objective for States to address the global refugee crisis including the recognition for more more global solidarity.

These Oireachtas urge the Government to:

1. Order the Foreign Affairs to create the Community Sponsored Council for Resettlement with a mandate to organise, oversee and officiate residential applications community sponsorship.

2. Community sponsorship will require ten or more members with a simple majority being citizens of Ireland.
3. Sponsors will be subject to background checks by the Community Sponsored Council for Resettlement by any relevant public organisation.

Submitted by /u/Fiachaire_, SFWP