**PUBLIC HOLIDAYS (LÁ NA POBLACHTA BILL 2013)**

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

*The purpose of this bill is to have a national holiday designated in law, as Lá na Poblachta and that on this day there would be a series of events marking the sacrifices of Irish men and women in the pursuit of an independent Irish Republic. In recognition of the central role played by the 1916 Proclamation in encapsulating the ideals of Irish republicanism, Lá na Poblachta shall be designated as April 24th each year and shall be a public holiday and that a programme of events shall be held in each county of Ireland.*

*That a board, Bórd Lá na Poblachta, be established to organise and co-ordinate the events in commemoration, and in appreciation, of the contribution to the Irish nation over the centuries by many who gave their lives and liberty in the pursuit of an Irish Nation free from occupation by a foreign power. It shall also have a role to raise awareness, encourage an understanding of, and create a discourse around, the ideals contained in the key revolutionary documents of Irish republicanism and of the events leading up to the declaration of the Irish Republic contained in the Proclamation of the Irish Republic read by Pádraig Mac Piarias at the front of the GPO on April 24 1916.*

*Section 1 & 2* – Title and definitions sections.

*Section 3* – This section indicates the date on which an additional public holiday, known as Lá na Poblachta, shall fall annually - April 24th. This shall be the case each year unless it falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, in which case the public holiday shall be on the following Monday, or if it happens to be on Easter Sunday or preceding Saturday the public holiday shall be the preceding Friday.

*Section 4* – Allows for Lá na Poblachta April 24th to be recognised as an annual public holiday for the purposes of allowing workers leave as per the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997.

*Section 5* – Allows for the establishment of Bord Lá na Poblachta which the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Gaeltachta Affairs will appoint within one month of passage of the Act.

The functions of An Bord shall be to promote and fund a programme of events, in appreciation of the contribution made to the Irish nation by those who gave their lives and liberty to pursue the freedom of the Irish nation. It shall also seek to raise awareness and understanding of the ideals contained in the key revolutionary documents and events leading up to the declaration of the Irish Republic at the GPO on Monday 24th April, 1916.

That the organised events shall be primarily be on Lá na Poblachta April 24th and that each county shall have events organised in them.

*Section 6* – That the minister shall establish a fund known as Ciste Lá na Poblachta, which will pay for programme of events.

*Section 7-9* – Outlines the method of appointment of An Bord members, their terms and conditions, duties and responsibilities, and the rules of conduct of meetings of An Bord.

*Section 10* – Allows that An Bord sets up at least five advisory sub committees to advise An Bord of how to annually promote a programme of events in the areas of community, education, culture, citizenship and tourism. That the subcommittee shall include at least one member of An Bord, and such non-members as nominated by An Bord.

*Section 11* – Deals with publication of an annual report which shall be laid before Tithe an Oireachtais and that the chairperson shall be available to the Oireachtas Joint Committee to discuss its contents with committee members.

*Section 12* – That Minister for Finance shall sanctions the required funds.

**AN BILLE UM LAETHANTA SAOIRE POIBLÍ (LÁ NA**

**POBLACHTA), 2013**

Meamram Míniúchán

Sé aidhm an bille seo ná chun saoire náisiúnta bheith leagtha amach de réir dlí, mar Lá na Poblachta agus go mbeidh ar an lá sin sraith imeachtaí ag tabhairt faoi ndeara íobairt fir agus mná na hÉireann sa tóir ar Poblacht Éireann neamhspléach. In aitheantas ar an ról lárnach a d’imir Forógra 1916 ag cuimsiú idéalacha poblachtánachas Éireannach, beidh Aibreán 24ú chuile bliain ceapaithe mar Lá naPoblachta agus beidh sé ina saoire poiblí agus beidh clár imeachtaí ar súil i chuile contae in Éire.

Go mbeidh Bord, Bord Lá na Poblachta bunaithe chun clár imeachtaí a chur cinn, a chomhordú, mar chomóradh ar a bhfuil déanta agus in ómós dá bhfuil déanta ar son náisiún na hÉireann acu sin a chaill a mbeatha agus a saoirse féin ar son shaoirse an náisiúin Éireannaigh le linn na gcéadta bliain a raibh Éire faoi fhorghabháil ag cumhacht ghallda. Féachfar freisin le feasacht a fheabhsú agus le díospóireacht, le hanailís agus le tuiscint a chur chun cinn maidir leis na hidéil atá sna doiciméid réabhlóideacha fhíorthábhachtacha de chuid poblachtánachas Éireannach agus a bhain leis na himeachtaí ar eascair forógra Phoblacht na hÉireann in Ard-Oifig an Phoist ar an Luan, an 24 Aibreán, 1916.

Roinn 1 & 2 - Teideal agus léiriú

Roinn 3 – Leagan an roinn seo amach go mbeidh lá saoire poibli breise ann, ar Lá na Poblachta é a bhéas ar Aibreán 24ú chuile bliain. Beidh seo

Roinn 4 – Ligeann sé seo de Lá na Poblachta Aibreán 24ú bheith aitheanta mar saoire poiblí de réir forálacha Acht um Eagrú Ama Oibre 1997 chun saoire a thabhairt d’oibritheoirí.

Roinn 5 – Ligeann sé seo de Bord La na Poblachta bheith bunaithe agus go déanfaidh an tAire Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta e a aimniú laistigh de mí ó achtú an acht seo.

Go mbeidh sé mar feidhm an Bhoird clár imeachtaí a chur cinn agus a mhaoiniú in ómós dá bhfuil déanta ar son náisiún na hÉireann acu sin a chaill a mbeatha agus a saoirse féin ar son shaoirse an náisiúin Éireannaigh. Féachfar freisin le feasacht a fheabhsú agus le tuiscint a chur chun cinn maidir leis na hidéil atá sna doiciméid

réabhlóideacha fhíorthábhachtacha agus a bhain leis na himeachtaí ar eascair forógra Phoblacht na hÉireann in Ard-Oifig an Phoist ar an Luan, an 24 Aibreán, 1916 astu.

Is ar Lá na Poblachta Aibreán 24ú go príomha a tharlóidh na himeachtaí a bhéas eagraithe agus go mbeidh imeachtaí i chuile contae.

Roinn 6 – Bunóidh an tAire Ciste Lá na Poblachta chun íoc as na himeachtaí.

Roinn7-9 – leagann said amach módh ainmiúchán baill An Bord agus tearmaí agus coinníollach, a ndualgais mar baill, mar aon le chonas a reachtálfar cruinnithe An Bord.

Roinn 10 – Ligeann seo d’An Bord cúig foth-choistí chun comhairle a chuir ar An Bord chun a clár imeachtaí bhliaintiúil I Leith comhphobail, oideachas, culture, saorántacht agus turasóireacht. Go mbeidh ball amháín ar laghad den Bord ar na fothchoistí sin mar aon le neamh-bhaill ainmnithe ag An Bord.

Roin 11 – Déanann seo deileál le foilsiú an tuaraisc bhliaintiúil agus go mbeidh sé leagtha ós chomhair Tithe an Oireachtais agus go mbeidh ancathaoirleach ar fáil le teacht ós comhair an Coiste Oireachtais cuí chun a bhfuil san tuaraisc a phlé le baill an choiste.

Roinn 12 – Go ndéanfaidh an Aire Airgeadais an t-airgead cuí a cheadú.