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AN BILLE TOGHCHAIN (LEASÚ) 1961.

AN BILLE TOGHCHAIN (LEASÚ), 1961.ELECTORAL (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1961.EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM.Erratum.

In page 2, in the reference to Kerry, to delete the words

"The electoral division of Cordal and Derreen are transferred from South to North Kerry".

	1947 Act	1959 Act	1961 Act
3 members	17	24	22
4 members	11	8	2
5 members	8	8	8
Total	36	40	32

4. No change is proposed in the four constituencies of Clavan, Clara, Lough O'Neil and Wicklow as constituted by the Electoral (Amendment) Act, 1947, although, in the case of Wicklow, the boundary to be fixed by the Bill will coincide with the present county boundary which was slightly extended in 1957.

5. Changes of boundaries and, in some cases, changes in the numbers of members are proposed in the following cases:—

(a) *County Wicklow*. 5 electoral divisions are transferred to the constituency from the Borough area of St. Wick. The constituency will lose a small area which was incorporated in the county borough of Wexford as a result of an extension of the municipal boundary in 1954.

(b) *County Cork*. The electoral division of Glanageary, which was included in Cork borough constituency under the 1947 and 1959 Acts, is returned to the Cork county constituency and the electoral division of Rathmore is now included in the borough constituency instead. The representation of the county, outside the borough area, is increased from 11 members, proposed under the 1959 Act, to 12 members. East Cork is extended to include portion of the 1959 Act constituency of Mid-Cork stretching from Clonfert, Bandon and Mallow to Blarney, forming a new constituency of North-East Cork returning 5 members, against 3 members allocated to East Cork. Part of West-Cork around Macroom is transferred to West-Cork and the Mid-Cork constituency now one of the 5 seats.



**AN BILLE TOGHCHAIN (LEASU), 1961.
ELECTORAL (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1961.**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM.

1. The purpose of this Bill is to replace the Electoral (Amendment) Act, 1959, parts of which were held to be repugnant to the Constitution in a reserved judgment delivered by Mr. Justice Budd in the High Court on 20th February, 1961.

2. Sections 2, 3 and 4 and the Schedule of the Bill provide for constituencies to return a total of 144 members of Dáil Éireann, which is the maximum number permissible under the Constitution on the basis of the population of 2,898,264 as ascertained at the census taken in April, 1956, and is the same number as was provided for by the 1959 Act.

3. The numbers of the constituencies to return three, four and five members respectively under the Bill and under the Electoral (Amendment) Acts of 1947 and 1959 are as follows:—

	1961 Bill	1959 Act	1947 Act
3 members ...	17	21	22
4 members ...	12	9	9
5 members ...	9	9	9
TOTAL ...	38	39	40

4. No change is proposed in the four constituencies of Cavan, Clare, Laoighis-Offaly and Wicklow as constituted by the Electoral (Amendment) Act, 1947, although, in the case of Wicklow, the boundary to be fixed by the Bill will coincide with the present county boundary which was slightly extended in 1957.

5. Changes of boundaries and, in some cases, changes in the numbers of members are proposed in the following cases:—

(a) *Carlow-Kilkenny*: 8 electoral divisions are transferred to this constituency from the Bunclody area of Co. Wexford. The constituency will lose a small area which was incorporated in the county borough of Waterford as a result of an extension of the municipal boundary in 1955.

(b) *Cork*: The electoral division of Blackrock, which was included in Cork borough constituency under the 1947 and 1959 Acts, is returned to the Cork county constituencies and the electoral division of Rathecooney is being included in the borough constituency instead. The representation of the county, outside the borough constituency, is increased from 11 members, proposed under the 1959 Act, to 12 members. East Cork is extended to include portion of the 1959 Act constituency of Mid-Cork stretching from Clonfert, Kanturk and Mallow to Blarney, forming a new constituency of North-East Cork returning 5 members, against 3 members allocated to East Cork. Portion of Mid-Cork around Macroom is transferred to West Cork and the Mid-Cork constituency loses one of its 5 seats.

(c) *Donegal*: is divided into two 3-member constituencies and loses a seat. Part of central and south-east Donegal is added to the former West Donegal constituency which cedes Dunfanaghy electoral division and three townlands in Cross Roads electoral division to East Donegal and becomes the new constituency of South-West Donegal, the remainder of the county being the constituency of North-East Donegal.

(d) *Dublin*: The Electoral (Amendment) Act, 1947, assigned 30 members to constituencies in Dublin city and county. It is proposed to increase this to 34 members.

Of the 4 extra members, the Dublin county constituency gains 2 and the Dun Laoghaire and Rathdown and Dublin North-Central constituencies each gains 1. No other change in the number of members to be returned by a constituency is proposed.

The North-Central constituency consists of the existing North (Central) constituency *less* the Glasnevin ward and part of the Cabragh East ward *plus* the Arran Quay and North Dock wards and part of the Mountjoy ward.

The North-East constituency consists of the existing North (East) constituency *less* the North Dock ward and part of the Mountjoy ward *plus* the Artane, Baldoyle, Beann Eadair, Coolock and Santry wards and part of the Glasnevin ward.

The North-West constituency consists of the existing North (West) constituency *less* the Arran Quay ward *plus* the Finglas East and Finglas West wards and part of the Glasnevin and Cabragh East ward.

The South-Central constituency consists of the existing South (Central) constituency *less* a small area which became part of the Pembroke East ward in 1954 *plus* the Kilmainham ward.

The South-East constituency consists of the existing South (East) constituency *less* part of the Rathmines West ward *plus* the Rathfarnham South ward and part of the Rathfarnham ward.

The South-West constituency consists of the existing South (West) constituency *less* the Kilmainham ward and part of the Rathfarnham ward *plus* the Crumlin West ward and part of the Rathmines West and Ballyfermot wards.

The Dun Laoghaire and Rathdown constituency consists of the existing constituency *less* the Rathfarnham South ward and the district electoral divisions of Glencullen, Rathfarnham and Whitechurch and the southern parts of the district electoral divisions of Dundrum and Milltown. It also loses the small area transferred to County Wicklow in 1957.

The Dublin county constituency consists of the remainder of the county and, from the city, part of the Ballyfermot ward.

(e) *Galway*: The electoral divisions of Annaghdown (Galway), Carnmore, Claregalway, Liscannuna, and Oranmore are transferred to West Galway and the remainder of the former two 3-member constituencies of North and South Galway are merged to form a single 5-member constituency.

(f) *Kerry*: North Kerry cedes the Dingle peninsula to South Kerry and loses one of its 4 seats. The electoral divisions of Cordal and Derreen are transferred from South to North Kerry.

- (g) *Kildare*: Parts of south-west Meath and east Westmeath are added to Kildare which gains a seat.
- (h) *Limerick*: The electoral divisions of Kilpeacon and Rathmore are transferred from the 1959 Act constituency of West Limerick to East Limerick which, in turn, transfers the electoral divisions of Bulgaden, Emlygrennan and Griston to West Limerick.
- (i) *Longford-Westmeath*: Cedes part of east Westmeath to Kildare.
- (j) *Louth*: the north-east corner of Co. Louth, from Creggan Upper to Ardee town, is transferred to Monaghan.
- (l) *Mayo*: The electoral divisions of Pontoon and Strade are transferred from North Mayo to South Mayo, which also takes the electoral division of Ballaghaderreen and the townland of Cloonlumney from Roscommon and gives to North Mayo the electoral divisions of Meelick, Sonnagh and Swinford.
- (m) *Meath*: The south-west corner of Meath is transferred to Kildare.
- (n) *Monaghan*: Takes north-east Louth.
- (o) *Roscommon*: Cedes the electoral division of Ballaghaderreen and the townland of Cloonlumney to South Mayo and takes the major portion of south Leitrim, gaining a fourth member in consequence. The constituency had 4 seats under the 1947 Act, but the 1959 Act proposed to reduce this to 3 seats.
- (p) *Sligo-Leitrim*: South Leitrim is transferred to Roscommon and the constituency loses one of its 5 seats.
- (q) *Tipperary*: The electoral divisions of Buslick, Clonoulty East, Fennor, Kilcooly, New Birmingham and Poyntstown are transferred to North Tipperary from South Tipperary which takes the north-west sector of Waterford.
- (r) *Waterford*: Cedes to South Tipperary areas around Clonmel, Lismore, and Youghal and loses one of its 4 seats.
- (s) *Wexford*: Cedes eight electoral divisions to Carlow-Kilkenny and loses one of its 5 seats.

6. Maps will be deposited shortly in the Oireachtas Library indicating the proposed constituencies.

7. *Section 5* contains the usual provision declaring the new constituency for which the Ceann Comhairle will be elected on a dissolution.

8. *Sections 6 and 8* contain provisions of a transitory nature to enable the electors lists, register of electors, etc. and polling schemes to be adapted to relate to the new constituencies.

9. *Section 7* provides for the persons who are to be returning officers and assistant returning officers in the new constituencies. No change of substance in existing arrangements is proposed.

Department of Local Government.

March, 1961.

