

AN BILLE UM FHORBAIRT TIONSCAIL, 1972 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BILL, 1972

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this Bill is (i) to provide for an increase in the finances available to the Industrial Development Authority and (ii) to extend certain rates remission concessions to areas that are temporarily designated.

Sections 17 (2) and 17 (3) of the Industrial Development Act, 1969, provide for a limit of £100 million on grants which the Industrial Development Authority can make and which can be made to them. This limit will be reached in the very near future and the Bill provides for an increase in the limit to £200 million.

Section 6 (1) of the Industrial Development Act, 1969, states that each of the following shall be a designated area for the purposes of the Act:—

- (a) the congested areas as defined in Section 3 of the Undeveloped Areas Act, 1952;
- (b) an area which before the commencement of this Section was declared by an Order under Section 3 of the Undeveloped Areas Act, 1952, to be an area to which that Act applied;
- (c) any area which the Minister from time to time, with the consent of the Minister for Finance, declares by Order to be a designated area.

Premises provided for an industrial undertaking in areas defined at (a) and (b) of the preceding paragraph are eligible under Section 9 of the Undeveloped Areas Act, 1952, as amended by Section 14 of the Undeveloped Areas (Amendment) Act, 1957, for relief from two-thirds of the rates applicable for a period not exceeding ten years and the purpose of this Bill is to extend these rates remission provisions to the areas defined at (c) of the preceding paragraph. The areas in question cover particular temporarily designated areas e.g. in the case of major closedowns or other economic disaster. Clara, County Offaly, is the only area so far to be declared by Order under Section 6 of the 1969 Act to be a designated area. It has been designated for a period of two years from 11th December, 1970.

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