



**AN BILLE UM UDARAIS AITIULA (MAOIR THRACHTA),
1975
LOCAL AUTHORITIES (TRAFFIC WARDENS) BILL, 1975**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

GENERAL

The main objects of the Bill are:—

- (a) to enable local authorities to make arrangements for the enforcement of parking controls in their areas, in consultation with the Garda Commissioner, by establishing a Traffic Warden service;
- (b) to provide that the fixed penalties under the "Fine-on-the-Spot" system arising from the operation of the service will be paid to the local authorities, and that prosecutions for non-payment of penalties will be taken by the local authorities;
- (c) to enable the Minister to make grants in certain circumstances towards the expenses of a local authority operating the service.

In addition to enforcing parking controls, Traffic Wardens would enforce the exhibition of tax-discs on motor vehicles.

Section 1 provides for some definitions necessary for the purposes of the Bill.

Section 2 would empower a local authority to employ Traffic Wardens to carry out certain functions in their areas.

Section 3 would confer power on the Minister to prescribe by regulations the offences to which a "Fine-on-the-Spot" notice may apply and the amount payable in respect of each offence. It sets out the details regarding the payment of the penalty to the local authority and the prosecution of the alleged offence by the local authority in cases of non-payment. It also provides that the removal or interference with a notice, except by the person to whom the notice applies, will be an offence liable to a fine not exceeding £20.

Section 4 provides that any person who obstructs a Traffic Warden acting in the course of his duty shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding £20. It also provides that a Traffic Warden may request a person's name and address if he has reasonable grounds for believing that he has committed an offence under the Act. It provides for a fine not exceeding £20 in the case of a refusal to give the name and address or the giving of a false name or address. A person, whose name and address is so requested, may request official identification from the Warden that he is a *bona fide* Traffic Warden.

Section 6 empowers the Minister to make regulations pursuant to the Act.

Section 7 empowers one local authority to employ Traffic Wardens in another local authority's area by agreement between both authorities.

Section 8 enables the Minister to make grants towards the expenses of a local authority under the Act.

Section 9 provides for the payment of expenses of the Minister in the administration of the Act.

Section 10 provides for the citation of the Bill.

*An Roinn Rialtais Aitiuil,
Bealtaine, 1975.*

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