# AN BILLE DEOCHANNA MEISCIÚLA, 1995 INTOXICATING LIQUOR BILL, 1995

## **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

Purpose of Bill

1. The Bill will allow shops and supermarkets which are licensed to sell intoxicating liquor by retail and other licensed premises to remain open on Christmas Eve or 23rd December in any year that either day falls on a Sunday, as if it was a weekday.

Section 2 of Bill

2. This section amends section 2 of the Intoxicating Liquor Act, 1927 so as to allow licensed premises to operate weekday permitted times on any Sunday that falls on Christmas Eve or the 23rd December. The types of premises that will be affected by this provision include public houses and other places with full intoxicating liquor licences, shops and supermarkets which retail intoxicating liquor and off-licences.

## Section 3

3. This section will allow premises to which the mixed trading provisions of the Licensing Acts apply to operate those provisions on any Sunday that falls on Christmas Eve or the 23rd of December. In the normal way, the mixed trading provisions only apply to weekdays (i.e., they do not operate on Sundays). This provision will, for example, allow supermarkets and shops which sell intoxicating liquor to open at 9.00 a.m. for non-licensed business on any Sunday that falls on Christmas Eve or the 23rd of December but they will not be able to sell alcohol until 10.30 a.m., the actual weekday commencement time for licensed business.

#### Section 4

4. On weekdays hotels and restaurants with full liquor licences may sell intoxicating liquor throughout the afternoon to persons eating meals. On Sundays they may not do so between 3.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. The amendment of section 13 of the Intoxicating Liquor Act, 1927 will permit such premises to supply intoxicating liquor to persons with meals between 3.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m., and after normal closing time in accordance with weekday exemptions, on a Sunday that falls on the 23rd or 24th December i.e. as if it was a weekday.

## Section 5

5. This section extends the relevant provisions of sections 2 and 4 that apply to licensed premises to registered clubs.

### Section 6

6. Restaurants with special restaurant licences may not serve intoxicating liquor between 3.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. on Sundays. The effect of the amendments to section 14 of the Intoxicating Liquor

Act, 1988 provided in this section will, *inter alia*, allow such restaurants to serve intoxicating liquor with meals between 3.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. on any Sunday that falls on Christmas Eve or 23rd December, i.e. as if it was a weekday.

An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt, Nollaig, 1995.

> AN BILLE DEOCHANNA MEISCIÚLA, 1995 INTOXICATING LIQUOR BILL, 1995

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