



**AN BILLE UM ATÁIRGEADH DAONNA CUIDITHE
A RIALÁIL, 1999
REGULATION OF ASSISTED HUMAN REPRODUCTION
BILL, 1999**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Purpose of the Bill

The purpose of this Bill is to provide for the regulation of providers of assisted human reproduction. Help for those with infertility problems has been available here for nearly two decades. Medical Council Guidelines have been relied on for regulation, despite the fact that they do not have legal effect and do not cover those involved who are not medical practitioners.

Section 1 contains definitions of various words used in the Bill.

Section 2 deals with the need for those described as providers to be on the register outlined in *section 3*.

Section 3 provides for the establishment and maintenance by the Minister for Health and Children (“the Minister”) of a register of assisted human reproduction providers.

Section 4 explains how applications for registration shall be dealt with and how the register shall be maintained.

Section 5 deals with appeals if the Minister refuses registration.

Section 6 explains the process of removal of a provider’s name from the register.

Section 7 deals with the fees to be paid for registration.

Section 8 makes it an offence to offer services if not registered as a provider and outlines penalties for offenders.

Section 9 provides for the establishment of an ethics committee for assisted human reproduction to advise the Minister.

Section 10 outlines the functions of the committee.

Section 11 outlines the steps the Minister shall take, after consultation, to regulate the providers.

Section 12 stipulates that every regulation shall be laid before each House of the Oireachtas.

Section 13 makes surrogacy contracts null and void.

Section 14 states that the donor of spermatozoa or ova does not have the rights or responsibilities of a parent of a resulting child.

Section 15 deals with the expenses of the Minister.

Section 16 sets out the short title of the Bill.

*An Seanadóir Máire Ní Éinrí a thíolaic,
Aibreán, 1999.*