



DÁIL ÉIREANN

AN BILLE UM FHAISNÉIS DO SHAORÁNAIGH 2006 CITIZENS INFORMATION BILL 2006

LEASUITHE TUARASCÁLA REPORT AMENDMENTS

DÁIL ÉIREANN

AN BILLE UM FHAISNÉIS DO SHAORÁNAIGH 2006 —AN TUARASCÁIL

CITIZENS INFORMATION BILL 2006 —REPORT

Leasuithe Amendments

1. In page 3, lines 30 to 32, to delete all words from and including “com-” in line 30 down to and including “Centre” in line 32 and substitute the following:

“commonly known as a Citizens Information Service (CIS) [being an independent non-statutory body Incorporated and Limited by the Guarantee of its Members] or a Citizens Information Centre (CIC) [being an Unincorporated body operating under the authority of a CIS]”.

—Dan Boyle.

2. In page 4, line 22, to delete “family support” and substitute “family support and childcare”.

—Dan Boyle.

3. In page 4, between lines 24 and 25, to insert the following:

“(d) Section 2(2) of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new paragraphs:

“(c) Nothing in this legislation will detract from the primacy of the judiciable obligation placed on government departments, state agencies and publicly funded bodies to be proactive in making information publicly available on the schemes and services they provide and on their decision-making processes as prescribed in the Freedom of Information Acts 1997 and 2003.

(d) Government departments, state agencies and publicly funded bodies may co-operate and liaise with the Board, the better to be proactive in making information publicly available on the schemes and services they provide and on their decision-making processes.”.

—Dan Boyle.

4. In page 4, between lines 24 and 25, to insert the following:

“(e) (i) The Board and Chief Executive of each Citizens Information Service (CIS) will be empowered and resourced to assist with the review, updating and maintenance of the Register of Electors for elections to the Local Authorities, to Dáil Éireann and to the European Parliament and for Referenda, in such manner as may be prescribed from time to time in Regulations.

(ii) Any dispute arising between the Board and Chief Executive of a Citizens Information Service (CIS) on the one hand and the agency created under this legislation on the other hand, where such dispute is not resolved by local negotiation, shall be referred for adjudication in the first instance to the Social Welfare Chief Appeals Officer who, at their sole discretion, may refer such dispute forward to the Office of the Ombudsman, having assessed, attempted to resolve, or failed to resolve the same.

(iii) For the avoidance of confusion among the public at large, any publication issued by, and any pronouncement made by an official on behalf of the agency to be created in this legislation will be careful to articulate in an appropriate way the distinction that exists between, on the one hand, the 42 independent, local, non-statutory Citizens Information Boards each with their own mandate, and on the other hand, the statutory, nationwide agency, with its Board of Ministerial appointees, created under this legislation.”.

—Dan Boyle.

5. In page 4, lines 26 to 28, to delete all words from and including “in” in line 26 down to and including “Shaoránaigh” in line 28 and substitute the following:

“in the Irish language as Comhairle – An Bord um Fhaisnéis do Shaoránaigh or, in the English language as Comhairle – the Citizens Information Board”.

—Willie Penrose, Seán Ryan.

6. In page 4, line 27, to delete “Citizens Information Board” and substitute the following:

“Comhairle – The Citizens Information and Personal Advocacy Services Board”.

—Dan Boyle.

7. In page 6, line 45, after “behalf” to insert “, either at all or in an effective manner,”.

—Willie Penrose, Seán Ryan.

8. In page 7, between lines 8 and 9, to insert the following:

“(5) Each application for a personal advocate shall be considered within a reasonable timeframe of the date of application.”.

—David Stanton.

9. In page 11, line 44, after “advocate” to insert “is instructed to do so or”.

—Willie Penrose, Seán Ryan.

10. In page 12, to delete lines 47 to 52 and in page 13, to delete lines 1 to 7.

—Willie Penrose, Seán Ryan.

11. In page 13, line 45, to delete “3” and substitute “4”.

—Dan Boyle.

12. In page 14, between lines 42 and 43, to insert the following:

“(2) The Principal Act and this Act may be cited together as the Citizens’ Information Acts 2000 and 2006.”.

—Willie Penrose, Seán Ryan.