



---

**An Bille um Laethanta Saoire Poiblí  
(Lá na Poblachta), 2016  
Public Holidays (Lá na Poblachta) Bill 2016**

---

*Meabhrán Mínitheach  
Explanatory Memorandum*

---



---

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS (LÁ NA POBLACHTA) BILL 2016

---

### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

---

*The purpose of this bill is to have a national holiday designated in law, as Lá na Poblachta and that on this day there would be a series of events marking the sacrifices of Irish men and women in the pursuit of an independent Irish Republic. In recognition of the central role played by the 1916 Proclamation in encapsulating the ideals of Irish republicanism, Lá na Poblachta shall be designated as April 24th each year and shall be a public holiday and that a programme of events shall be held in each county of Ireland.*

*That a board, Bord Lá na Poblachta, be established to organise and co-ordinate the events in commemoration, and in appreciation, of the contribution to the Irish nation over the centuries by many who gave their lives and liberty in the pursuit of an Irish Nation free from occupation by a foreign power. It shall also have a role to raise awareness, encourage an understanding of, and create a discourse around, the ideals contained in the key revolutionary documents of Irish republicanism and of the events leading up to the declaration of the Irish Republic contained in the Proclamation of the Irish Republic read by Pádraig Mac Piarais at the front of the GPO on April 24 1916.*

*Section 1 and 2* Title and definitions sections.

*Section 3* This section indicates the date on which an additional public holiday, known as Lá na Poblachta, shall fall annually - April 24th. This shall be the case each year unless it falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, in which case the public holiday shall be on the following Monday, or if it happens to be on Easter Sunday or preceding Saturday the public holiday shall be the preceding Friday.

*Section 4* Allows for Lá na Poblachta April 24th to be recognised as an annual public holiday for the purposes of allowing workers leave as per the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997.

*Section 5* Allows for the establishment of Bord Lá na Poblachta which the Minister for Regional Development, Rural Affairs, Arts and the Gaeltacht will appoint within one month of passage of the Act.

The functions of An Bord shall be to promote and fund a programme of events, in appreciation of the contribution made to the Irish nation by those who gave their lives and liberty to pursue the freedom of the Irish nation. It shall also seek to raise awareness and understanding of the ideals contained in the key revolutionary documents and events leading up to the declaration of the Irish Republic at the GPO on Monday 24th April, 1916.



---

## AN BILLE UM LAETHANTA SAOIRE POIBLÍ (LÁ NA POBLACHTA), 2016

---

### MEABHRÁN MÍNITHEACH

---

*Is é cuspóir an bhille seo saoire náisiúnta a ainmniú de réir dlí, is é sin Lá na Poblachta, agus go mbeidh ann ar an lá sin sraith imeachtaí chun íobairt fhir agus mhná na hÉireann sa tóir ar Phoblacht neamhspleách na hÉireann a chomóradh. In aitheantas don ról lárnach a bhí ag Forógra 1916 chun idéil phoblachtachas na hÉireann a chuimsiú, beidh an 24 Aibreán gach bliain ainmnithe mar Lá na Poblachta agus beidh sé ina shaoire phoiblí agus beidh clár imeachtaí ar siúl i ngach contae in Éirinn.*

*Go mbunófar Bord, Bord Lá na Poblachta, chun an clár imeachtaí a eagrú agus a chomhordú, mar chomóradh ar a bhfuil déanta agus in ómós dá bhfuil déanta ar son náisiún na hÉireann acu sin a chaill a mbeatha agus a saoirse féin ar son shaoirse náisiún na hÉireann le linn na gcéadta bliain a raibh Éire faoi fhorghabháil ag cumhacht ghallda. Féachfaidh sé freisin le feasacht a fheabhsú agus le tuiscint a chur chun cinn agus le díospóireacht a chruthú maidir leis na hidéil atá sna doiciméid réabhlóideacha fhiorthábhachtacha a bhaineann le poblachtachas na hÉireann agus leis na himeachtaí as ar eascair forógra Phoblacht na hÉireann a léigh Pádraig Mac Piarais os comhair Ard-Oifig an Phoist Dé Luain, an 24 Aibreán 1916.*

*Alt 1 agus 2 Ailt maidir le teideal agus mínithe.*

*Alt 3 Leagtar amach san alt seo go mbeidh lá saoire poiblí breise ann, ar a dtabharfar Lá na Poblachta, a bheidh ann ar an 24 Aibreán gach bliain. Sin mar a bheidh sé gach bliain ach i gcás go dtiteann an dáta sin ar Shatharn nó ar Dhomhnach, is ar an Luan ina dhiaidh a bheidh an lá saoire poiblí, mura Domhnach Cásca nó an Satharn roimhe a bheidh i gceist agus, sa chás sin, is ar an Aoine roimhe a bheidh an lá saoire poiblí.*

*Alt 4 Leis an alt seo, déantar Lá na Poblachta, an 24 Aibreán, a aithint mar shaoire phoiblí bhliantúil de réir fhorálacha an Achta um Eagrú Ama Oibre, 1997 chun saoire a thabhairt d'oibrithe.*

*Alt 5 Ceadaítear leis an alt seo Bord Lá na Poblachta a bhunú, agus déanfaidh an tAire Forbartha Réigiúnaí, Gnóthaí Tuaithe, Ealaíon agus Gaeltachta é a cheapadh laistigh de mhí ón Acht a rith.*

*Is iad feidhmeanna an Bhoird clár imeachtaí a chur cinn agus a mhaoiniú in ómós dá bhfuil déanta ar son náisiún na hÉireann acu sin a chaill a mbeatha agus a saoirse féin ar son shaoirse náisiún na hÉireann. Féachfaidh sé freisin le feasacht a fheabhsú agus le tuiscint a chur chun cinn maidir leis na hidéil atá sna doiciméid réabhlóideacha fhiorthábhachtacha agus a bhain leis na himeachtaí as ar eascair forógra Phoblacht na hÉireann ag Ard-Oifig an Phoist Dé Luain, an 24 Aibreán 1916.*

That the organised events shall be primarily be on Lá na Poblachta April 24th and that each county shall have events organised in them.

*Section 6* That the minister shall establish a fund known as Ciste Lá na Poblachta, which will pay for programme of events.

*Section 7-9* Outlines the method of appointment of An Bord members, their terms and conditions, duties and responsibilities, and the rules of conduct of meetings of An Bord.

*Section 10* Allows that An Bord sets up at least five advisory sub committees to advise An Bord of how to annually promote a programme of events in the areas of community, education, culture, citizenship and tourism. That the subcommittee shall include at least one member of An Bord, and such non-members as nominated by An Bord.

*Section 11* Deals with publication of an annual report which shall be laid before Tithe an Oireachtais and that the chairperson shall be available to the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Regional Development, Rural Affairs, Arts and the Gaeltacht to discuss its contents with committee members.

*Section 12* That Minister for Finance shall sanction the required funds.

*Aengus Ó Snodaigh T.D.,*

*June 2016.*

Go dtarlóidh na himeachtaí a bheidh eagraithe go príomha ar Lá na Poblachta, an 24 Aibreán, agus go ndéanfar imeachtaí a eagrú in gach contae.

*Alt 6* Go mbunóidh an tAire ciste dá ngairfear Ciste Lá na Poblachta chun íoc as an gclár imeachtaí.

*Alt 7-9* Leagtar amach anseo an modh ar a ndéanfar comhaltaí an Bhoird a cheapadh agus na téarmaí agus na coinníollacha a bheidh acu, na dualgais agus na freagrachtaí a bheidh orthu, mar aon leis na rialacha iompair le haghaidh cruinnithe den Bhord.

*Alt 10* Ceadáítear leis seo don Bhord cúig fhochoiste, ar a laghad, a bhunú chun comhairle a chur ar an mBord chun a chlár imeachtaí i réimsí an phobail, an oideachais, an chultúir, na saoránachta agus na turasóireachta a chur chun cinn gach bliain. Go mbeidh comhalta amháin ar a laghad den Bhord ar na fochoistí sin mar aon le daoine nach comhaltaí arna n-ainmniú ag an mBord.

*Alt 11* Déileáiltear anseo le foilsiú tuarascála bliantúla a leagfar faoi bhráid Thithe an Oireachtais agus go mbeidh an cathaoirleach ar fáil le teacht i láthair an Chomhchoiste Oireachtais um Fhorbairt Réigiúnach, Gnóthaí Tuaithe, Ealaíona agus Gaeltacht chun a bhfuil sa tuarascáil a phlé le comhaltaí an choiste.

*Alt 12* Go ndéanfaidh an tAire Airgeadais an maoiniú is gá a cheadú.

*Aengus Ó Snodaigh T.D.,*

*Meitheamh, 2016.*