



An Bille um Thrácht ar Bhóithre (Leasú) (Úsáid Scútar Leictreach), 2019
Road Traffic (Amendment) (Use of Electric Scooters) Bill 2019

Mar a tionscnaíodh

As initiated



**AN BILLE UM THRÁCHT AR BHÓITHRE (LEASÚ) (ÚSÁID SCÚTAR
LEICTREACH), 2019**
ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (USE OF ELECTRIC SCOOTERS) BILL 2019

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ACTS REFERRED TO

Road Safety Authority Act 2006 (No. 14)

Road Traffic Act 1961 (No. 24)



**AN BILLE UM THRÁCHT AR BHÓITHRE (LEASÚ) (ÚSÁID SCÚTAR
LEICTREACH), 2019**
ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (USE OF ELECTRIC SCOOTERS) BILL 2019

Bill

entitled

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An Act to amend the Road Traffic Act 1961 in order to regulate for the use of electric scooters and to provide for their safe use on Irish roads and streets; to expand the legal definition of bicycle to include electrically assisted bicycles and to permit their use on Irish roads.

Be it enacted by the Oireachtas as follows:

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Definitions

1. In this Act, save where the context otherwise requires—

“electric scooter” means a device with no more than two 25 centimetres or smaller diameter wheels that has handlebars, is designed to be stood upon by the operator, and is powered by an electric motor that is capable of propelling the device with or without human propulsion at a speed no more than 35 kilometres per hour on a paved level surface;

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“Minister” means the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport;

“Principal Act” means the Road Traffic Act 1961 (as amended);

“speed limitation device” means a device whose primary function is to limit the vehicle speed to the specified value.

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Amendment of section 3 of Principal Act

2. Section 3 of the Road Traffic Act 1961 (as amended) is amended by the substitution of the following for the definition of “mechanically propelled vehicle”:

“ ‘mechanically propelled vehicle’ means, subject to subsection (2) of this section, a vehicle intended or adapted for propulsion by mechanical means, including—

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(a) a bicycle or tricycle with an attachment for propelling it by mechanical power, whether or not the attachment is being used,

(b) a vehicle the means of propulsion of which is electrical or partly electrical and partly mechanical,

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but not including a tramcar or other vehicle running on permanent rails, a pedal cycle, or an electric scooter;”.

Prohibition of removal of speed limitation device

3. (1) All electric scooters shall be required to bear a speed limitation device which limits the scooter to speeds of 25 kilometres per hour. 5
- (2) It shall be an offence for a person to remove or tamper with the speed limitation device on an electric scooter.
- (3) A person found guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable for—
- (a) on summary conviction for a first offence a class D fine,
 - (b) on summary conviction for a second or subsequent such offence, a class C fine. 10

Speed limits for electric scooter users

4. (1) It shall be an offence for a person using an electric scooter to exceed a speed limit of 25 kilometres per hour.
- (2) A person found guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable for—
- (a) on summary conviction for a first offence, a class D fine, 15
 - (b) on summary conviction for a second or subsequent such offence, a class C fine.

Requirement to wear helmet

5. (1) It shall be a requirement for all electric scooter users to wear a helmet while using an electric scooter on public roads.
- (2) A person who contravenes *subsection (1)* commits an offence. 20
- (3) A person found guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable for—
- (a) on summary conviction for a first offence, a class D fine,
 - (b) on summary conviction for a second or subsequent such offence, a class C fine.

Driving without reasonable consideration

6. (1) A person shall not drive a vehicle in a public place without reasonable consideration for other persons using the place. 25
- (2) A person who contravenes *subsection (1)* commits an offence.
- (3) A person found guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable for—
- (a) on summary conviction for a first offence, a class D fine,
 - (b) on summary conviction for a second or subsequent such offence, a class C fine. 30

Safety standards for electric scooters

7. (1) Section 4(4) of the Road Safety Authority Act 2006 is amended by the insertion of the following new paragraph after paragraph (b):

“(c) make guidelines as to the safe operation of electric scooters in Ireland.”.

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Regulations

8. (1) The Minister may make regulations for the general purpose of this Act and may, by regulation, provide for any matter referred to in this Act as prescribed or to be prescribed.

- (2) Every regulation under this Act shall be laid before each House of the Oireachtas as soon as may be after it is made and, if a resolution annulling the regulation is passed by either such House within the next 21 days on which that House has sat after the regulation is laid before it, the regulation shall be annulled accordingly but without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under the regulation. 10

- (3) Regulations under this Act may contain such incidental, supplementary and consequential provisions as appear to the Minister to be necessary or expedient for the purposes of the regulations. 15

Short title and commencement

9. (1) This Act may be cited as the Road Traffic (Amendment) (Use of Electric Scooters) Act 2019. 20

- (2) This Act shall come into operation on such day as may be fixed by order of the Minister.

An Bille um Thrácht ar Bhóithre (Leasú)
(Úsáid Scútar Leictreach), 2019

BILLE

(mar a tionscnaíodh)

dá ngairtear

Acht do leasú an Achta um Thrácht ar Bhóithre, 1961 d'fhonn rialáil a dhéanamh maidir le húsáid scútar leictreach agus chun socrú a dhéanamh maidir lena n-úsáid go sábháilte ar bhóithre agus ar shráideanna na hÉireann; do leathnú an mhíniithe dhlíthiúil ar rothar chun rothair lena gcuidítear go leictreach a fholú agus dá cheadú iad a úsáid ar bhóithre na hÉireann.

An Teachta Marc MacSharry a thug isteach,
25 Meán Fómhair, 2019

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Scooters) Bill 2019

BILL

(as initiated)

entitled

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Introduced by Deputy Marc MacSharry,
25th September, 2019

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
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