SEANAD ÉIREANN

AN BILLE LEASA SHÓISIALAIGH (PINSEAN PÁIRTNÉARA FAOI MHÉALA AGUS FORÁLACHA ILGHNÉITHEACHA), 2025
SOCIAL WELFARE (BEREAVED PARTNER'S PENSION AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL 2025

LEASUITHE COISTE
COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

[No. 7a of 2025] [15 July, 2025]

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AN BILLE LEASA SHÓISIALAIGH (PINSEAN PÁIRTNÉARA FAOI MHÉALA AGUS FORÁLACHA ILGHNÉITHEACHA), 2025
—AN COISTE

SOCIAL WELFARE (BEREAVED PARTNER'S PENSION AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL 2025
—COMMITTEE STAGE

Leasuithe
Amendments

**Government amendments are denoted by an asterisk*

SECTION 1

1. In page 5, between lines 17 and 18, to insert the following:

"(3) Before the coming into operation of this Act, the Minister shall publish a report which outlines the following:

(a) the degree of financial dependence that families with divorced or separated parents have on those parents;

(b) an overview of the legal issues with not providing the same level of access to social protection payments for some children's families based on the marital status of their separated or divorced parents.".

—Senators Maria McCormack, Conor Murphy, Chris Andrews, Joanne Collins, Nicole Ryan, Pauline Tully.

SECTION 3

2. In page 5, after line 26, to insert the following:

" 'surviving parent' means the surviving parent of one or more than one child, where the other parent is deceased, irrespective of whether the parents, on the date of death of the deceased parent, were in an intimate and committed relationship, and where the surviving parent cares for or meaningfully supports the children of the other;".

—Senator Lynn Ruane.

SECTION 4

3. In page 6, between lines 20 and 21, to insert the following:

"(b) the date on which the youngest child of shared parentage reaches the age of 18, or the age of 22 where the child is receiving full-time education,".

—Senator Lynn Ruane.

[SECTION 5]

SECTION 5

4. In page 7, line 31, after "partner" where it secondly occurs to insert ", a surviving qualified cohabitant or a surviving parent".

—Senator Lynn Ruane.

SECTION 8

5. In page 12, between lines 37 and 38, to insert the following:

"(b) the date on which the youngest child of shared parentage reaches the age of 18, or the age of 22 where the child is receiving full-time education,".

—Senator Lynn Ruane.

SECTION 11

6. In page 14, line 38, to delete "or qualified", and in page 15, line 1, to delete "cohabitant" and substitute ", qualified cohabitant or co-parent".

—Senator Lynn Ruane.

7. In page 15, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

" 'co-parent' means a person with whom the bereaved parent shares the parentage of one or more than one child under the age of 18, or the age of 22 where the child is receiving full-time education, on the date of death, and where this person cares for or meaningfully supports the children of the other;".

—Senator Lynn Ruane.

SECTION 12

8. In page 16, line 4, after "partner" to insert the following:

", except where the parentage of one or more than one child under the age of 18, or the age of 22 where the child is receiving full-time education, is shared with the deceased parent,".

—Senator Lynn Ruane.

SECTION 13

9. In page 16, between lines 20 and 21, to insert the following:

"(b) the date on which the youngest child of shared parentage reaches the age of 18, or the age of 22 where the child is receiving full-time education,".

—Senator Lynn Ruane.

NEW SECTION

10. In page 25, after line 37, to insert the following:

"Report on provision of supports to bereaved children

22. The Minister shall, within 12 months of the passing of this Act, lay a report before both

[NEW SECTION]

Houses of the Oireachtas regarding the adequacy of supports provided to bereaved children, with particular reference to the children of lone-parent families, where a child's parents were not married, in a civil partnership, or cohabiting on the date of death of the bereaved parent.".

—Senator Lynn Ruane.