



An Bille um Stádas Comhionann (Rochtain ar Shaoráidí Leithris), 2026
Equal Status (Access to Toilet Facilities) Bill 2026

Mar a tionscnaíodh

As initiated



**AN BILLE UM STÁDAS COMHIONANN (ROCHTAIN AR SHAORÁIDÍ LEITHRIS),
2026
EQUAL STATUS (ACCESS TO TOILET FACILITIES) BILL 2026**

*Mar a tionscnaíodh
As initiated*

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ACTS REFERRED TO

Equal Status Act 2000 (No. 8)

Equal Status Acts 2000 to 2018

Occupiers' Liability Act 1995 (No. 10)



AN BILLE UM STÁDAS COMHIONANN (ROCHTAIN AR SHAORÁIDÍ LEITHRIS),
2026
EQUAL STATUS (ACCESS TO TOILET FACILITIES) BILL 2026

Bill

entitled

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An Act to entitle customers with certain medical conditions to make use of staff toilet facilities in retail establishments in certain circumstances, to provide for redress where the entitlement is not met, and to provide for connected matters.

Be it enacted by the Oireachtas as follows:

Short title

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1. (1) This Act may be cited as the Equal Status (Access to Toilet Facilities) Act 2026.
- (2) This Act and the Equal Status Acts 2000 to 2018 may be cited together as the Equal Status Acts 2000 to 2026.
- (3) This Act comes into operation six months after its passing.

Interpretation

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2. In this Act—

“customer” means a person who is lawfully on the premises of a retail establishment;

“relevant medical condition” means Crohn’s disease, ulcerative colitis, any other inflammatory bowel disease, irritable bowel syndrome, or any other medical condition that may require immediate access to toilet facilities;

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“retail establishment” means a place of business open to the general public for the sale of goods or services and, where the context so requires, includes the owner, manager and other staff of the establishment.

Access to toilet facilities

3. (1) A retail establishment that does not normally make toilet facilities available to its customers, but which has such facilities available for use by its staff, shall permit a customer to use those facilities during normal business hours where—
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- (a) the customer requesting the use of the facilities has a relevant medical condition or uses an ostomy device,
- (b) three or more members of the staff of the retail establishment are working on the
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premises concerned at the time that the customer makes the request,

- (c) the staff toilet facilities are not located in an area where providing access would create an obvious health or safety risk to the customer or an obvious security risk to the retail establishment, and
 - (d) no public toilet facilities are immediately accessible to the customer. 5
- (2) When requesting access to staff toilet facilities, a customer shall present proof of a medical condition in such form (which may include an electronic form) and issued by such persons as stand approved for the purposes of this Act by the Minister for Health.
- (3) The duty which the occupier of the retail establishment would, under section 3 of the Occupiers' Liability Act 1995, otherwise owe to a customer making use of toilet facilities under this Act is deemed to have been excluded under section 5 of that Act. 10
- (4) A retail establishment is not required to make any adaptations or other changes to staff toilet facilities for the purposes of their use under this section.

Redress

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4. A contravention of this Act by a retail establishment is deemed to be discrimination on the grounds of disability for the purposes of the Equal Status Act 2000, and Part III of that Act applies accordingly.

An Bille um Stádas Comhionann (Rochtain
ar Shaoráidí Leithris), 2026

BILLE

(mar a tionscnaíodh)

dá ngairtear

Acht do thabhairt teideal do chustaiméirí, a bhfuil riochtaí liachta áirithe ag gabháil dóibh, chun úsáid a bhaint as saoráidí leithris foirne i mbunachais mhiondíola in imthosca áirithe, do dhéanamh socrú maidir le sásamh i gcás nach ndéanfar de réir na teidlíochta sin, agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe comhghaolmhara.

An Teachta Marcas de Bhál a thug isteach,

15 Eanáir, 2026

Equal Status (Access to Toilet Facilities) Bill
2026

BILL

(as initiated)

entitled

An Act to entitle customers with certain medical conditions to make use of staff toilet facilities in retail establishments in certain circumstances, to provide for redress where the entitlement is not met, and to provide for connected matters.

Introduced by Deputy Mark Wall,

15th January, 2026

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