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**An Bille Toghcháin (Leasú) (Aois Vótála), 2026**  
**Electoral (Amendment) (Voting Age) Bill 2026**

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*Meabhrán Mínitheach*  
*Explanatory Memorandum*

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**AN BILLE TOGHCHÁIN (LEASÚ) (AOIS VÓTÁLA), 2026  
ELECTORAL (AMENDMENT) (VOTING AGE) BILL 2026**

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**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

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**Purpose of the bill**

The purpose of this Bill is to amend the Electoral Act 1992 to reduce the minimum age at which a person may be registered as an elector in European Parliament elections and local government elections from 18 years to 16 years.

The Bill provides for the substitution of section 9 for a new section that will lower the current age of electoral registration from 18 years to 16 years in the case of European Parliament elections.

The Bill further provides for the substitution of section 10 for a new section that will lower the current age of electoral registration from 18 years to 16 years in the case of local government elections.

**Provisions of the bill**

*Section 1* contains definitions.

*Section 2* contains the new section to be substituted for section 9 of the Electoral Act 1992.

*Section 3* contains the new section to be substituted for section 10 of the Electoral Act 1992.

*Section 4* contains the short title and commencement provisions.

*Senator Joanne Collins, Pauline Tully, Maria McCormack, Chris Andrews, Conor Murphy, Nicole Ryan, Meitheamh, 2026.*