



An Bille Toghcháin (Postvótáil) (Cúramóirí), 2026
Electoral (Postal Voting) (Carers) Bill 2026

Meabhrán Miniúcháin
Explanatory Memorandum



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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Purpose of Bill

The Electoral Act 1992 as amended makes provision for electors to be registered as postal voters in limited circumstances. By section 14 (1) (d) of that Act, a person may be so registered upon satisfying the registration authority that he or she is unable, by reason of illness or disability, to go in person to vote at a polling station. However, the same facility is not extended to that person's full-time carer. The purpose of this Bill is to address that anomaly.

Provisions of Bill

Section 1 amends the governing provision, which is section 14 (1) of the Electoral Act 1992. The amendment inserts after paragraph (d), which deals with the postal voting entitlement of persons with an illness or disability, a new paragraph (da), setting out additional categories of persons entitled to be registered as postal voters:

- persons in receipt of domiciliary care allowance under section 61 of the Health Act 1970,
- persons in receipt of carer's benefit, carer's allowance or carer's support grant under the Social Welfare Consolidation Act 2005,
- persons whose spouse or civil partner is entitled to claim home carer's tax credit, or who are themselves entitled to claim incapacitated child tax credit, under the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997.

Section 2 provides in standard form for the short title of the Bill when passed and for its collective citation and construction with the Electoral Acts 1992 to 2023.

Mark Wall TD,
Iúil, 2026.

