



REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STANDING ORDERS AND DÁIL REFORM

Orders of Reference for Special Committee on Assisted Dying

Adopted by the Committee
30 November 2022

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Committee on Assisted Dying

The Committee on Standing Orders and Dáil Reform recommends to Dáil Éireann, pursuant to Standing Order 118A(2)(b), that a Special Committee on Assisted Dying be appointed, with Orders of Reference as contained in the **Appendix** to this report.

APPENDIX: Proposed Orders of Reference of Committee on Assisted Dying

That, notwithstanding anything in Standing Orders—

- (1) a Special Committee consisting of 9 members of Dáil Éireann be appointed, to be joined with a Special Committee to be appointed by Seanad Éireann, to form the Joint Committee on Assisted Dying;
- (2) the Joint Committee shall consider and make recommendations for legislative and/or policy change in relation to a statutory right to assist a person to end their life (assisted dying), and a statutory right to receive such assistance.

Such consideration may include but is not limited to:

- (a) an exploration of how provision for assisted dying might operate in Ireland;
 - (b) an examination of safeguards in relation to the provision for assisted dying;
 - (c) an examination of the Constitutional, legal, and ethical issues in relation to such a provision; and
 - (d) identification of possible unintended consequences of such a provision;
- (3) in its deliberations, the Joint Committee shall have regard to the report dated July 2021 published by the Joint Committee on Justice on Scrutiny of the Dying with Dignity Bill 2020 [Private Member's Bill], and shall be provided with all submissions made to that Committee for the purposes of that scrutiny;
- (4) the Joint Committee shall report to both Houses of the Oireachtas on the matters contained in paragraph (2) within nine months of the first public meeting of the Joint Committee;
- (5) the quorum of the Joint Committee shall be four, at least one of whom shall be a member of Dáil Éireann, and one a member of Seanad Éireann;
- (6) members of either House, not being members of the Joint Committee, may attend and take part in proceedings of the Joint Committee, or any sub-

Committee thereof, but without having a right to vote or to move motions or amendments, save where they attend, pursuant to Standing Orders, as a substitute for an absent member (or for a substitute not in attendance);

- (7) the member of Dáil Éireann nominated by the Rural Independent Group to serve on the Joint Committee shall be Cathaoirleach; and
- (8) the Joint Committee shall have the powers defined in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (9) and (10) of Standing Order 96.