The Children Referendum
Saturday November 10th
www.referendum2012.ie
The Referendum Commission

The Referendum Commission is an independent body set up by the Referendum Act 1998. The Chairperson of the current Commission is Ms Justice Mary Finlay Geoghegan. The other members are: Mr Kieran Coughlan, Clerk of Dáil Éireann; Ms Deirdre Lane, Clerk of Seanad Éireann; Ms Emily O’Reilly, Ombudsman; Mr Seamus McCarthy, Comptroller and Auditor General.

This publication is available in Braille, on CD and in large text format through NCBI. It is also available in Irish Sign Language on the websites of the Irish Deaf Society (www.irishdeafsociety.ie) and DeafHear.ie.

This publication is available in Braille, on CD and in large text format through NCBI. It is also available in Irish Sign Language on the websites of the Irish Deaf Society (www.irishdeafsociety.ie) and DeafHear.ie.

Printed in Ireland on paper sourced from a sustainably managed forest.

The Referendum Commission
18 Lower Leeson Street,
Dublin 2, Ireland.

Telephone: 01 639 5695
LoCall: 1890 270 970
Email: refcom@refcom.gov.ie
Website: www.referendum2012.ie
Twitter: @RefComm2012

Message from the Chairperson

On Saturday, November 10th 2012, you will be asked to vote on a proposal to change the Constitution of Ireland. The proposed changes to the Constitution concern the rights of children. The proposal is to add a new Article 42A to the Constitution and to delete the existing Article 42.5.

How you vote in the referendum is for you to decide. However, the Referendum Commission urges you to inform yourself about the proposed change and to vote. The Constitution is important. It is the fundamental law of our State. It was put in place by a referendum of the people and can be changed only by a referendum. It sets the standards for all State activity. It must be respected and obeyed by all including the Dáil and Seanad, the Courts and the public service. It is your Constitution and you have the power to decide whether or not to change it.

In this guide, we provide a short description of the proposed change and the text of certain other existing articles of the Constitution relating to personal rights, family and education which may be relevant to your consideration of the proposal. We will have further information on our website.

This guide does not argue for a yes or no vote but we do strongly encourage you to vote.

Mary Finlay Geoghegan
Chairperson
Referendum Commission

www.referendum2012.ie
On Saturday, November 10th 2012, you are asked to vote yes or no to a proposal to include in the Constitution a new Article 42A and at the same time remove the current Article 42.5.

If a majority of voters votes yes in this referendum, the existing Article 42.5 will be removed and a new Article 42A will become part of the Constitution. All other articles of the Constitution will remain in place.

If a majority votes no, there will be no change to the Constitution.

While the proposed new Article has a number of parts to it, you may only vote yes or no to the total proposal. You may not vote to adopt only part of the proposed Article 42A nor may you vote to adopt it and retain Article 42.5 in its present form.

The proposed new Article

Children Article 42A

1. The State recognises and affirms the natural and imprescriptible rights of all children and shall, as far as practicable, by its laws protect and vindicate those rights.

2. *1°* In exceptional cases, where the parents, regardless of their marital status, fail in their duty towards their children to such extent that the safety or welfare of any of their children is likely to be prejudicially affected, the State as guardian of the common good shall, by proportionate means as provided by law, endeavour to supply the place of the parents, but always with due regard for the natural and imprescriptible rights of the child.

*2°* Provision shall be made by law for the adoption of any child where the parents have failed for such a period of time as may be prescribed by law in their duty towards the child and where the best interests of the child so require.

3. Provision shall be made by law for the voluntary placement for adoption and the adoption of any child.

4. *1°* Provision shall be made by law that in the resolution of all proceedings—
   - i brought by the State, as guardian of the common good, for the purpose of preventing the safety and welfare of any child from being prejudicially affected, or
   - ii concerning the adoption, guardianship or custody of, or access to, any child,
   the best interests of the child shall be the paramount consideration.

*2°* Provision shall be made by law for securing, as far as practicable, that in all proceedings referred to in subsection 1° of this section in respect of any child who is capable of forming his or her own views, the views of the child shall be ascertained and given due weight having regard to the age and maturity of the child.
What are the proposed changes to the Constitution?

There are four main elements to the proposal.

1. Explicit obligation to protect and vindicate rights of children

If adopted, the proposed Article 42A.1 will introduce an explicit statement in the Constitution recognising and affirming that children have natural and imprescriptible rights and stating that the State has an obligation to ensure, as far as practicable, that those rights are protected and vindicated. The Courts have held “imprescriptible”, in other articles of the Constitution, to mean that which “cannot be lost by the passage of time or abandoned by non-exercise” or “lost or forfeited through the wrongful act of a third party”.

At present, the Constitution does not contain an explicit guarantee by the State to protect and vindicate the rights of all children in these terms. However, the existing Article 42.5 does refer to the natural and imprescriptible rights of the child as a matter to which the State shall have due regard when trying to supply the place of parents who fail in their duty towards their children. In the absence of an explicit guarantee, the Courts have identified certain children’s rights from this Article and from other articles of the Constitution.

The new Article 42A.1 includes a statement in respect of children’s rights which is explicit, is concerned solely with the rights of children and recognises and affirms such rights in a single clause. The rights referred to in the proposal are not listed. It will be a matter for the Courts, on a case by case basis, to identify the rights protected by this provision.

2. State intervention if parents fail in their duty

The existing Article 42.5 would be replaced by the proposed Article 42A.2.1°.

Article 42.5
In exceptional cases, where the parents for physical or moral reasons fail in their duty towards their children, the State as guardian of the common good, by appropriate means shall endeavour to supply the place of the parents, but always with due regard for the natural and imprescriptible rights of the child.

Article 42A.2.1°
In exceptional cases, where the parents, regardless of their marital status, fail in their duty towards their children to such extent that the safety or welfare of any of their children is likely to be prejudicially affected, the State as guardian of the common good shall, by proportionate means as provided by law, endeavour to supply the place of the parents, but always with due regard for the natural and imprescriptible rights of the child.

At present, the Constitution provides in Article 42.5 that the State, as guardian of the common good, may intervene and try to supply the place of the parents if the parents fail in their duty towards the child. The State may intervene only in exceptional cases and the intervention must have due regard for the child’s rights.

This will remain the position if the proposal to amend the Constitution is passed. However, there will be a number of changes.
The changes will be:

The proposed new Article explicitly provides that it applies to all parents whether or not they are married to each other.

The existing Article provides that intervention may occur if the parents fail in their duty towards the child for physical or moral reasons. The proposed new Article provides that the intervention may occur if the parents fail in their duty towards their children to such an extent that the child's safety or welfare is likely to be prejudicially affected.

The existing Article requires the State to use appropriate means and does not require that those means be set out in law. The proposed new Article provides that the State’s intervention must use proportionate means which must be set out in law.

3. Adoption

The proposed change to the Constitution contains two provisions dealing with adoption.

If the proposal is passed, the proposed Article 42A.2.2° will mean that the State must put laws in place allowing for the adoption of any child, whether or not the parents are married to each other, if the following conditions are met:
• That the parents have failed in their duty towards the child for a period of time, this period to be specified in law.
• That the best interests of the child require that adoption take place.

The proposed Article 42A.3 will mean that laws must be passed to allow for any child to be adopted by being voluntarily placed for adoption.

Current adoption law allows for the child of unmarried parents to be placed for adoption and to be adopted. At present, there is no law permitting married parents to voluntarily place a child for adoption. Adoption law at present provides that orders for the adoption of children of married parents may be made only in very limited circumstances involving the effective abandonment of parental rights.

4. Best interests and views of the child

Many of the current laws relating to children provide that, in making decisions in particular cases, the Courts must consider the “best interests” or the “welfare” of the child to be the paramount consideration. There is no specific requirement to this effect expressed in the text of the Constitution at present.

The proposed Article 42A.4.1° makes explicit reference to the best interests of the child as the paramount consideration when significant decisions in relation to the child are being made. It means that laws must be passed to require that the best interests of the child must be the paramount consideration when a Court is making any decision in relation to:

• Proceedings taken by the State where it intervenes to protect the safety and welfare of a child.
• Issues of adoption, guardianship, custody of, or access to, a child in proceedings between any persons.

The proposed Article 42A.4.2° provides that laws must be passed which require that in the above proceedings, as far as practicable, the views of a child capable of forming his or her own views be obtained and given due weight having regard to the age and maturity of the child.

The views of the child are obtained and taken into account in many court proceedings at present but there is no explicit constitutional reference to the views of the child as a consideration in determining proceedings.
Other articles of the Constitution

If the proposed Article 42A becomes part of the Constitution, it will be read in conjunction with other relevant articles.

The following articles appear the most relevant in this context. They (except for Article 42.5) will remain in place if the new Article 42A is included in the Constitution.

Personal Rights Article 40

3 1° The State guarantees in its laws to respect, and, as far as practicable, by its laws to defend and vindicate the personal rights of the citizen.

2° The State shall, in particular, by its laws protect as best it may from unjust attack and, in the case of injustice done, vindicate the life, person, good name, and property rights of every citizen.

... 

The Family Article 41

1 1° The State recognises the Family as the natural primary and fundamental unit group of Society, and as a moral institution possessing inalienable and imprescriptible rights, antecedent and superior to all positive law.

2° The State, therefore, guarantees to protect the Family in its constitution and authority, as the necessary basis of social order and as indispensable to the welfare of the Nation and the State.

... 

Education Article 42

1 The State acknowledges that the primary and natural educator of the child is the Family and guarantees to respect the inalienable right and duty of parents to provide, according to their means, for the religious and moral, intellectual, physical and social education of their children.

2 Parents shall be free to provide this education in their homes or in private schools or in schools recognised or established by the State.

3 1° The State shall not oblige parents in violation of their conscience and lawful preference to send their children to schools established by the State, or to any particular type of school designated by the State.

2° The State shall, however, as guardian of the common good, require in view of actual conditions that the children receive a certain minimum education, moral, intellectual and social.

4 The State shall provide for free primary education and shall endeavour to supplement and give reasonable aid to private and corporate educational initiative, and, when the public good requires it, provide other educational facilities or institutions with due regard, however, for the rights of parents, especially in the matter of religious and moral formation.

5 In exceptional cases, where the parents for physical or moral reasons fail in their duty towards their children, the State as guardian of the common good, by appropriate means shall endeavour to supply the place of the parents, but always with due regard for the natural and imprescriptible rights of the child.

Article 42.5 above will be deleted if the referendum proposal is passed.
MAKE SURE YOU’RE INFORMED
BEFORE YOU VOTE
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10TH
Má thagann Airteagal 42A chun bheith mar chuid den Bhunreacht, léifear é i gcomhar le hairteagail ábhartha eile.

Is cosúil gurb iad na hairteagail seo a leanas na cinn is ábhartha sa chomhthéacs seo. Beidh feidhm leo fós (seachas Airteagal 42.5) má chuirtear Airteagal nua 42A leis an mBunreacht.

### Bunchearta

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Airteagal 40</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ráthaíonn an Stát gan cur isteach lena dhlíthe ar chearta pearsanta aon saoránaigh, agus ráthaíonn fós na cearta sin a chosaint is a shuíomh lena dhlíthe sa mhéid gur féidir é.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Déanfaidh an Stát, go sonrach, lena dhlíthe, beatha agus pearsa agus dea-chlú agus maoinchearta an uile saoránaigh a chosaint ar ionsaí éagóirch chomh fada lena chumas, agus iad a shuíomh i gcás éagóra.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### An Teaghlach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Airteagal 41</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admhaíonn an Stát gurb é an Teaghlach is buíon-aonad príomha bunaidh don chomhdhaonnacht de réir nádúir, agus gur foras morálta é ag a bhfuil cearta doshannta dochloíte is ársa agus is airde ná aon reacht daonna.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ós é an Teaghlach is fotha riachtanach don ord chomhdhaonnach agus ós éigeantach é do leas an Náisiúin agus an Stáit, ráthaíonn an Stát comhshuíomh agus údarás an Teaghlaigh a chaomhnú.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Oideachas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Airteagal 42</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admhaíonn an Stát gurb é an Teaghlach is múinteoir príomha dúchasach don leanbh, agus ráthaíonn gan cur isteach ar cheart doshannta nó ar dhualgas doshannta tuistí chun oideachas de réir a n-acmhainne a chur ar fáil dá gclainn i gcúrsaí creidimh, moráltachta, intleachta, coirp agus comhdhaonnachta.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tig le tuistí an t-oideachas sin a chur ar fáil dá gclainn ag baile nó i scoileanna príobháideacha nó i scoileanna a admhaítear nó a bhunaítear ag an Stát.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bunchreacht

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Airteagal 43</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ní cead don Stát a chur d'fhiacha ar thuistí, in aghaidh a gcoinsiasa nó a rogha dleathaí, a gclann a chur ar scoileanna a bhunaítear ag an Stát nó ar aon chineál áirithe scoile a ainmnítear ag an Stát.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ach ós é an Stát caomhnóir leasa an phobail ní foláir dó, toisc cor an lae, é a dhéanamh éigeantach minimum áirithe oideachais a thabhairt do na leanaí i gcúrsaí moráltachta, intleachta agus comhdhaonnachta.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ní foláir don Stát socrú a dhéanamh chun bunoideachas a bhéif i gcúrsaí moráltachta, intleachta, agus comhdhaonnachta, go ceart go réasúnta agus, cothrom oideachas don tuisti agus do chearta tuistí, go mór maidir le múnlú na haigne i gcúrsaí creidimh is moráltachta.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I gcásanna neamhchoiteanna nuair a tharlaíonn, ar chúiseanna corpartha nó ar chúiseanna morálta, nach ndéanaid na tuistí a ndualgais dá gclainn, ní foláir don Stát, ós é an Stát caomhnóir leasa an phobail, iarracht a dhéanamh le beart oiriúnach chun ionad na dtuistí a ghlacadh, agus rinneadh a shuíomh i gcónaí, áfach, do chearta nádúrtha dochloíte an linbh.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

scriosfar Airteagal 42.5 thuaisceart air. Buanna leis na sonraí a scríobhanna ná a chur i bhfadhmh níos mó.
Líonadh mar chromadh nuair a bhíonn imeachtaí a gcuíneadh. Líonadh mar chromadh nuair a bhíonn imeachtaí a bhíonn. Líonadh mar chromadh nuair a bhíonn ocríocht do bhíonn a bhíonn. Líonadh mar chromadh nuair a bhíonn imeachtaí a bhíonn. Líonadh mar chromadh nuair a bhíonn ocríocht do bhíonn a bhíonn. Líonadh mar chromadh nuair a bhíonn imeachtaí a bhíonn.

Fágfaidh a bhíonn sa bháthas do bhíonn sa bháthas. Líonadh mar chromadh nuair a bhíonn ocríocht do bhíonn a bhíonn. Líonadh mar chromadh nuair a bhíonn imeachtaí a bhíonn. Líonadh mar chromadh nuair a bhíonn ocríocht do bhíonn a bhíonn. Líonadh mar chromadh nuair a bhíonn imeachtaí a bhíonn.

3. Uachtar

Foráiltear ina bpleitear le huchtáil san athrú atá beartaithe ar an mBunreacht. Má tritear an moladh, ciallóidh Airteagal 42A.2.2° atá molta go gcaithfear leis an Stát dlíthe a chur i bhfeidhm lena gceadófar uchtáil aon linbh, cibé má tá na tuismitheoirí pósta le chéile nó nach bhfuil, má chomhlíontar na coinníollacha seo a leanas:

• Nach ndearna na tuismitheoirí a ndualgais dá leanbh ar feadh tréimhse ama, sin roinnt an tréimhse sin in ndlí.
• Gurb ea uchtáil a dhéanamh ar mhaithe le barr leasa an linbh.

Ciallóidh Airteagal 42A.3 atá molta go gcaithfear dlíthe a rith lena ligfear d’aon leanbh a uchtáil trí é nó í a shuíomh go saorálach le haghaidh uchtála.

Ligtear leis an dlí uchtála reatha do leanbh tuismitheoirí neamhphósta a shuíomh le haghaidh uchtála agus a uchtáil. Faoi láthair, níl aon dlí ann lena gceadaítear do tuismitheoirí pósta leanbh a shuíomh go saorálach le haghaidh uchtála ach amháin in imthosca an-teoranta a bhaineann go bunúsach le cearta tuismitheoirí a thréigean.

4. Tuairimí agus barr leasa

Foráiltear i gcuid mhaith de na dlíthe reatha a bhaineann le leanaí nach mór do na Cúirteanna, agus iad ag déanamh cinntí i gcásanna áirithe, glacadh leis gur ní ró-thábhachtach é "barr leasa" nó "leas" an linbh. Níl aon cheanglas sonrach maidir leis sin tugtha i dtéacs an Bhunreacht faoi láthair.

Déantar tagairt fhollasach in Airteagal 42A.4.1° atá molta gur ní ró-thábhachtach é barr leasa an linbh nuair atáthar ag déanamh cinntí suntasacha maidir leis an leanbh. Ciallaíonn sé nach mór dlíthe a rith lena n-éileofar gur ní ró-thábhachtach a bheidh i mbarr leasa an linbh nuair a bheidh cinneadh á dhéanamh ag cúirt maidir leo seo a leanas:

Imeachtaí a thabharfaidh an Stát, nuair a dhéanann sé idirghabháil chun sábháilteacht agus leas linbh a chosaint.

Saincheisteanna a bhaineann le huchtáil, caomhnóireacht, nó coimead aon linbh, nó rochtain ar aon leanbh in imeachtaí idir aon daoine.

Foráiltear le hAirteagal 42A.4.2° atá molta nach mór dlíthe a rith lena gceanglaítear sna himeachtaí thuas, sa mhéid gur féidir é, go bhfaighfí barúlacha linbh ar féidir leis nó léi teacht ar a bharúlacha féin nó ar a bharúlacha féin agus go dtabharfaí tromachar cuí do na bharúlacha sin ag féachaint d’aois ag d’aibíocht an linbh.

Faightear agus cuirtear barúlacha an linbh san áireamh in go leor imeachtaí cúirte faoi láthair ach níl aon tagairt fhollasach sa Bhunreacht do bharúlacha an linbh mar chuma nuair a bhíonn imeachtaí á gcinneadh.
1. Oibreáid fhollasach chun cearta leanaí a chosaint agus a shuíomh. Má ghlactar é, tabharfar isteach le hAirteagal 42A.1 atá molta ríteas follasach sa Bhunreacht ina n-aithneofar agus ina ndeimhneofar go bhfuil cearta nádúrtha dochloíte ag leanaí, agus ina luafar go bhfuil dualgas ar an Stát a chinntiú, sa mhéid gur féidir é, go ndéantar na cearta sin a chosaint agus a shuíomh. Ghlac na Cúirteanna leis gur chiallaigh “dochloíte” in airteagail eile den Bhunreacht rud “nach féidir a chailleadh trí imeacht ama nó a thréigean trí neamhchleachtadh” nó rud “nach féidir a chailleadh nó a fhorgóilleadh trí ghníomh éagóir tríú páirtí”.

Faoi láthair, níl ráthaíocht fhollasach sa Bhunreacht ag an Stát chun na cearta atá ag gach uile leanbh a chosaint agus a shuíomh sna téarmaí sin. Mar sin féin, tagraíonn Airteagal reatha 42.5 do cearta nádúrtha dochloíte an linbh mar ábhar a bhféachfaidh an Stát go cuí air nuair a dhéanfaidh sé iarracht ionad na dtuistí a ghlacadh nuair a tharlaíonn nach ndéanann siad a ndualgais dá gclann. In éagmais ráthaíochta follasaí, d’aithin na Cúirteanna go bhfuil cearta áirithe ag leanaí as an Airteagal sin agus as airteagail eile den Bhunreacht.

Tá ráiteas in Airteagal nua 42A.1 mar aithne de cearta fonnsach.

2. Ídirghabháil an Stáit má mhainníonn ar thuismitheoirí ina ndualgais.

Chuirfí Airteagal 42A.2.1° in ionad Airteagal 42.5 atá ann.

Airteagal 42A.2.1° i gcásanna neamhchoiteanna nuair a tharlaíonn nach ndéanann na tuistí a ndualgais dá gclann, gan beann ar a stádas pósta, a ndualgais dá gclann sa mhéid gur dócha go ndéanfar dochar do shábháilteacht nó do leas aon linbh dá gclann, ní foláir don stát, ós é an stát caomhnóir leasa an phobail, iarracht a dhéanamh, le beart comhréireach mar a shocraítear le dlí, chun ionad na dtuistí a ghlacadh ag féachaint go cuí i gcónaí, afach, do cearta nádúrtha dochloíte an linbh.

Airteagal 42.5 i gcásanna neamhchoiteanna nuair a tharlaíonn, ar chúiseanna corpartha nó ar chúiseanna morálta, nach ndéanaid na tuistí a ndualgais dá gclainn, ní foláir don stát, ós é an stát caomhnóir leasa an phobail, iarracht a dhéanamh le beart oiriúnach chun ionad na dtuistí a ghlacadh, ag féachaint go cuí i gcónaí, afach, do cearta nádúrtha dochloíte an linbh.
An t-athrú atá beartaithe ar an mBunreacht

1. Admhaíonn agus deimhníonn an Stát cearta nádúrtha dochloite na leanaí uile agus na fiúin do na cearta sin a cheannas agus a bhualadh lena� dhlíthe sa mheidh gur féidir, go mbeadh ról na sean-fhorbairt agus beirtí agus ann nádúrtha na leanáidh do dhéanamh chearta do shábháilteacht ná do leas do shábháilteacht ná do leas aon linbh, nó a thabhairt do shábháilteacht. Déanfar socrú le dlí chun aon leanbh a chur in áirithe, sa mhéid gur féidir é, go bhfuil roinnt codanna ag baint leis an Airteagal nua atá molta.

2. Déantar scrí le dlí chun leas a fheithíocadh chuig an sean Airteagal 42.5 mar atá a bhaint. Déantar scrí le dlí chun leas a thabhairt do shábháilteacht ná do leas aon linbh, nó a thabhairt do shábháilteacht. Déantar scrí le dlí chun leas a thabhairt do shábháilteacht ná do leas aon linbh, nó a thabhairt do shábháilteacht. Déantar scrí le dlí chun leas a thabhairt do shábháilteacht ná do leas aon linbh, nó a thabhairt do shábháilteacht.
An Coimisiún Reifrinn

Is comhlacht neamhspleách é an Coimisiún Reifrinn a bunaíodh faoi Acht an Reifrinn, 1998. Is í an Breitheamh Onórach Mary Finlay Geoghegan Cathaoirleach an Choimisiúin reatha. Is iad seo a leanas na comhaltaí eile: an tUasal Kieran Coughlan, Cléireach Dháil Éireann; an tUasal Deirdre Lane, Cléireach Seanad Éireann; an tUasal Emily O’Reilly, an tOmbudsman; an tUasal Seamus McCarthy, an tArd-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste.

Moladh chun Bunreacht na hÉireann a athrú.

Ar an Satharn, an 10 Samhain 2012, iarrfar ort vóta a chaitheamh maidir le moladh chun Bunreacht na hÉireann a athrú.

An tUasal Kieran Coughlan, an tUasal Deirdre Lane, an tUasal Emily O’Reilly, an tUasal Seamus McCarthy, an tArd-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste.

Is cúramh a dhéanamh faoi conas a chaitheann tú do vóta sa reifreann.

Mar sin féin, molann an Coimisiún Reifrinn duit tú féin a chur ar an eolas faoin athrú atá molta, agus do vóta a chaitheamh.

Tá an Bunreacht tábhachtach. Is é an Bunreacht dlí bunúsach ár Stáit. Cuireadh i bhfeidhm é le reifreann na ndaoine agus ní féidir é a athrú ach amháin le reifreann.

Ní mór do gach duine urraim a thabhairt dó agus géilleadh dó, lena n-áirítear an Dáil agus an Seanad, na Cúirteanna agus an tseirbhís phoiblí. Is leatsa an Bunreacht agus tá sé de chumhacht agatsa cinneadh a dhéanamh cibé é a athrú nó gan é a athrú.

Foilseáníonn tuilleadh eolais ar ár suíomh Gréasáin.

Ní dhéantar argóint sa treoir seo ar son vóta ar son nó in aghaidh an mholta, ach molaimid duit go láidir do vóta a chaitheamh.

Mary Finlay Geoghegan
Cathaoirleach
Coimisiún Reifrinn

An Coimisiún Reifrinn
18 Sráid Líosain Íochtarach,
Baile Átha Cliath 2, Éire.

Teil: 01 639 5695
íosghlao: 1890 270 970
Ríomhphost: refcom@refcom.gov.ie
Gréasán: www.referendum2012.ie
Twitter: @RefComm2012