

Proposal or a Constitutional Amendment

By Paul Clarke – www.realrepublic.ie

Right of referral to the Nation

The Oireachtas shall provide for the initiation, by the voters, of proposals for laws or constitutional amendments in accordance with the ordinary regulations governing the Referendum initiated by, namely:-

- I. Fifty thousand voters, of whom not more than fifteen thousand in any one constituency, on the register may, within 18 months of the official publication, initiate a proposal on a petition presented to the Oireachtas for decision by the people. Such a proposal passed by the Oireachtas shall apply to the preservation of fundamental rights, public peace, health or safety.
- II. The initiative of the voters enacted by the Oireachtas shall be subject to the provisions respecting ordinary legislation or amendments of the Constitution. Should a disagreement arise whether issues fulfil the above conditions the judicial courts shall decide.
- III. The referendum shall take place within two years from the time the petition was presented to the Oireachtas.

Constitution Convention,
Chairman,
16 Parnell Square East,
Dublin 1,

12/12/2012

Dear Chairman,

My name is Paul Clarke and I wish to express my great interest in Ireland's upcoming Constitutional Convention, as I perceive this as a historic opportunity for the betterment of our society and sustainability.

I ran in the previous General Elections (2011) as an Independent Candidate to promote the Citizens' Initiative process that has been practiced in Switzerland for over 200 years, which became the country's cornerstone of economic and cultural prosperity. I recently founded an organisation called "Real Republic" to solely promote this growing interest which has been statistically proven that when citizens become actively involved in the political decision making process, the call for protesting diminishes and feelings of anger; fear and despair throughout society become eradicated. Therefore such behaviours resonating with the mentality of helplessness and apathy are substituted with the senses of ownership and pride, thus producing a happier and preferably responsible society with much lower crime rates.

In Switzerland and Iceland citizens have the right to propose almost any constitutional amendment. However such an amendment cannot, of course, violate the international law on human rights. To put forward such an initiative, citizens need to gather a minimum of 100,000 signatures within 18 months. Through online technology, higher levels of involvement have many potential upsides, including the possibility of improving government efficiency - thereby saving public money.

Please consider this amendment for the Irish Constitution and if you have any queries or questions please don't hesitate to contact me at "paul.clarke@gmx.com" or by visiting my website at "www.realrepublic.ie".

Yours faithfully,

Paul Clarke,

Encl.