

To seanadreformwg@taoiseach.gov.i

CC

Subject Seanad Reform - Enabling Graduates of UL, DCU Participate in Elections

Dear Sir or Madam

Currently there is a working group sitting exploring reforms for Seanad Éireann . There is now an opportunity to change the electorate for the university panels as provided for in the 7th Amendment of the Constitution in 1979. In addition there is an opportunity to have Article 19 of the Constitution used to create a separate electorate for the Vocational Sub-Panels.

In addition to making proposals for the manner in which the Seanad is elected the working group has also been asked to examine the workings of the Seanad. I believe there is a role for the Seanad in scrutinizing appointments to state boards, examining EU legislation prior to its transposition into Irish law and I am sure there are many other tasks the Seanad could be asked to perform.

Yours Sincerely, Stephen Walsh

