D08 W2A8.

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8th July 2025

Deputy Heneghan, Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

PQ 34853/25 To ask the Minister for Health the current procedures in place to facilitate emergency marriages in hospital settings, particularly for patients who are terminally ill; if she will consider introducing a more compassionate and streamlined process, similar to best practices in other jurisdictions, to ensure that such marriages can take place quickly and with minimal administrative burden; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

- Barry Heneghan

Dear Deputy Heneghan,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 34853/25) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The Civil Registration Service for the Dublin South East Region holds responsibility for the provision of Civil Registration Services for the greater Dublin Area, Kildare and Wicklow and have advised that in keeping with the relevant legislation and in conjunction with all relevant stakeholders (e.g. the Parties concerned; the Medical Staff, the Courts, Social Workers, etc.) such cases are dealt with expeditiously by the staff of that service by ensuring they have a Senior Registrar, rostered each day to deal with such short notice "emergency" notifications of marriage, especially those involving a life limited or terminal diagnosis.

There is a need to ensure that measures in place must meet the legal requirement for the marriage to be recognised in the State.

I trust this is of assistance.

Maeve Raeside

General Manager Primary Care Access & Integration