

# Constitution of the Republic of Iceland

1944 no. 33 June 17

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*The course of the case in Althingi. Bill to the law.*

**Entered into force on 17 June 1944.** Amended by: L. 51/1959 (entered into force on 20 August 1959). Act 9/1968 (entered into force on 24 April 1968). Act 65/1984 (entered into force on 13 June 1984). Act 56/1991 (entered into force on 31 May 1991). Act 97/1995 (entered into force on 5 July 1995). Act 100/1995 (entered into force on 5 July 1995). Act 77/1999 (entered into force on 1 July 1999). Act 91/2013 (entered into force on 18 July 2013).

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## I.

### ■ Article 1

Iceland is a republic with a parliamentary system.

### ■ Article 2

The Althingi and the President of Iceland join forces with the legislature. The President and other governing bodies under this Constitution and other national laws exercise executive power. Judges exercise jurisdiction.

## II.

### ■ Article 3

The President of Iceland shall be nationally elected.

### ■ Article 4

Eligible for election to the presidency is any 35-year-old man who fulfills the conditions for the right to vote in the Althingi, with the exception of the condition of residence.

### ■ Article 5

The President shall be elected by direct, secret ballot by those who have the right to vote in Althingi. A presidential candidate shall have a recommendation of at least 1500 eligible

voters and a maximum of 3000. The person who receives the most votes, if more than one person is elected, is the rightly elected president. If only one person is elected, he is duly elected without a vote.

In other respects, it shall be decided by law on the candidacy and election of the President, and it may be decided there, that a certain number of supporters shall be from each quarter of the country in proportion to the number of voters there.

#### ■ Article 6

The presidential term begins on August 1 and ends on July 31, four years later. The presidential election takes place in June or July of the year in which the term of office ends.

#### ■ Article 7

If the President dies or resigns before the end of his term, a new President shall be elected until 31 July in the fourth year after the election.

#### ■ Article 8

If the seat of the President of the Republic becomes vacant or he is unable to hold office for the time being due to a stay abroad, illness or other reasons, then the Prime Minister, President of the Althingi and the President of the Supreme Court exercise presidential power. The Althingi chairs their meetings. If there is a disagreement between them, the majority decides.

*„L. 56/1991, Art.*

#### ■ Article 9

The President of the Republic may not be a Member of the Althingi or hold paid positions for the benefit of public institutions or private companies.

Payments of state funds to the President and those in power shall be determined by law. These payments to the President during his term of office shall not be reduced.

#### ■ Article 10

The president takes an oath or oath of allegiance to the constitution when he takes office. Two identical originals of this oath or title shall be made. Althingi holds one, but the National Archives the other.

#### ■ Article 11

The President of the Republic is irresponsible in his actions. So it is with those who do his work.

The President will not be prosecuted without the approval of Althingi.

The President shall be removed from office before the end of his term of office, if approved by a majority of the votes cast in the referendum, which is constituted at the request of the

Althingi, provided that it has received support. <sup>3/4</sup> parts of MPs...<sup>1)</sup>. The referendum shall then take place within two months of the request being approved by the Althingi, and the President shall not act, from the time the Althingi approves it, until the results of the referendum are known.

If the Althingi's demand is not approved by the referendum, the Althingi shall immediately be dissolved and new elections held.

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Art.*

#### ■ Article 12

The President of the Republic is based in Reykjavík or the surrounding area.

#### ■ Article 13

The President entrusts the Minister with the exercise of his powers.

The ministry is based in Reykjavík.

#### ■ Article 14

Ministers are responsible for all government projects. Ministerial responsibility is determined by law. Althingi can sue the Minister for their official duties. The national court rules those cases.

#### ■ Article 15

The president appoints ministers and provides them with a solution. He decides their number and divides the work with them.

#### ■ Article 16

The President of the Republic and the Ministers appoint a Council of State, chaired by the President.

Laws and important government measures shall be presented to the President of the Council of State.

#### ■ Article 17

A ministerial meeting shall be held on innovations in law and on important political issues. A ministerial meeting shall also be held, if any minister wishes to raise an issue there. The meetings are chaired by the Minister whom the President of the Republic has summoned as President, and who is called the Prime Minister.

#### ■ Article 18

The minister who has signed the case usually presents it to the president.

#### ■ Article 19

The signature of the President of the Republic on a legislative or governmental matter shall give effect to the signatures signed by the Minister.

## ■ Article 20

- The President of the Republic assigns the offices prescribed by law.
- No one may appoint an official unless he has Icelandic citizenship. An official who shall take an oath or oath of allegiance to the Constitution.
- The President may remove them from office after he has given them office.
- The President may transfer officials from one office to another, provided that they do not lose any of their official income, and are given the opportunity to vote on the transfer or removal from office by statutory retirement or statutory old-age pension.
- By law, certain categories of officials may be excluded in addition to their officials, who are listed in Article 61.

## ■ Article 21

- The President of the Republic concludes agreements with other states. However, he may not enter into such agreements if they have entailed a waiver or obligations on land or territorial waters or if they involve changes in the government of the state, unless approved by Althingi.

## ■ Article 22

- [The President of the Republic convenes the Althingi no later than ten weeks after the general parliamentary elections. The President convenes the Althingi regularly each year.] <sup>1)</sup>  
*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Art.*

## ■ Article 23

- The President of the Republic may postpone meetings of the Althingi for a specified period, but not more than two weeks and only once a year. Althingi may, however, grant the President approval for deviations from these provisions.
- [If the Althingi has been adjourned, the President of the Republic may nevertheless convene meetings of the Althingi if necessary. It is the President and it is obligatory if a request is received from the majority of Althingi members.] <sup>1)</sup>  
*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Art.*

## ■ Article 24

- The President of the Republic may dissolve the Althingi, and new elections shall be called [before 45 days have elapsed since the dissolution of the Althing]. <sup>1)</sup> provided that Althingi convenes no later than [ten weeks] <sup>1)</sup>after, that it was broken. [Members of Althingi shall retain their mandate until election day.] <sup>1)</sup>  
*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, 5. gr.*

## ■ Article 25

The President of the Republic may submit to the Althingi bills and other statutes.

#### ■ Article 26

If the Althingi has approved a bill, it shall be submitted to the President of the Republic for ratification no later than two weeks after its adoption, and the ratification shall therefore give effect to the law. If the President rejects a bill for approval, and it nevertheless acquires legal force, it shall be submitted as soon as possible to a vote of all eligible voters in the country for approval or rejection by secret ballot. The law expires if consent is refused, otherwise it remains valid.

#### ■ Article 27

Laws shall be published. The method of publication and implementation of laws is governed by national law.

#### ■ Article 28

When there is an urgent need, the President may issue a temporary law [when Althingi is not in session]. <sup>1)</sup>However, they must not be in conflict with the Constitution. They shall always be submitted [to the Althingi when it is reconvened]. <sup>1)</sup>

[If the Althingi does not approve a temporary law, or does not complete its processing within six weeks of the Althingi convening, it shall lapse.] <sup>1)</sup>

A provisional budget may not be issued if the Althingi has approved the budget for the financial period.

<sup>1)</sup>*L. 56/1991, Article 6.*

#### ■ Article 29

The President may decide that criminal prosecution should be dropped, if there are compelling reasons to do so. He pardons men and grants general indulgence. The Minister may, however, not release from prosecution or punishment, which has been sentenced by a national court, without the approval of Althingi.

#### ■ Article 30

The President grants, either himself or by entrusting it to other governments, exemptions from laws under rules that have been followed so far.

### III.

#### ■ Article 31

[Althingi has 63 nationally elected members, elected by secret ballot for four years.

Constituencies shall be a minimum of six but a maximum of seven. Their boundaries shall be determined by law, but the National Electoral Commission may be entrusted with

determining the constituency boundaries in Reykjavík and its surroundings.

□ Each constituency shall have at least six constituency seats to be allocated on the basis of election results in the constituency. The number of parliamentary seats in each constituency shall in other respects be determined by law, cf. however, the 5th paragraph.

□ Althingi seats other than constituency seats shall be allocated in a constituency and allocated to them for equalization between political parties so that each association receives a number of MPs in full accordance with its total number of votes. However, those political organizations are the only ones to be considered in the allocation of equalization seats, which have received at least five percent of the valid votes in the whole country.

□ If the voters on the electoral roll behind each parliamentary seat, including equalization seats, are half as many in one constituency than in any other constituency after the parliamentary elections, the National Electoral Commission shall change the number of parliamentary seats in constituencies in order to reduce that difference. Further instructions on this shall be laid down in law.

□ Amendments to the constituency boundaries and the arrangements for the allocation of parliamentary seats, as prescribed by law, will only be made with the consent <sup>2/3</sup> votes in Althingi.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 77/1999, Art.*

### ■ Article 32

□ [Althingi operates in one seminar.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Art.*

### ■ Article 33

□ [Everyone who is 18 years of age or older at the time of the election and has Icelandic citizenship has the right to vote in Althingi elections. Legal domicile in Iceland, when the election takes place, is also a condition of the right to vote, unless exceptions to that rule are determined in the Act on Elections to the Althing.

□ Further rules on parliamentary elections shall be set in the Electoral Act.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 65/1984, Art.*

### ■ Article 34

□ [Eligible for election to the Althing is any citizen who has the right to vote for them and has an unblemished reputation.] <sup>1)</sup>

□ [However, Supreme Court judges are not eligible to stand for election.] <sup>2)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 65/1984, Article 3. <sup>2)</sup>L. 56/1991, Article 8.*

## IV.

### ■ Article 35

[A regular Althingi shall convene every year on the first day of October or the next working day if it is a public holiday and lasts for the same length of next year if the term of office of Althingi members has not expired before or Althingi has been adjourned.

The date of the regular Althingi meeting may be changed by law.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Art.*

### ■ Article 36

Althingi is sanctified. No one may disturb its peace or freedom.

### ■ Article 37

The meeting place of the Althing is usually in Reykjavík. In special circumstances, the President of the Republic may order that Althingi convene elsewhere in Iceland.

### ■ Article 38

[Members of Althingi and ministers have the right to introduce bills and proposals for resolutions.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Article 10.*

### ■ Article 39

[Althingi] <sup>1)</sup> may appoint committees of [Althingi members] <sup>1)</sup> to investigate important issues of public concern. [Althingi] <sup>1)</sup> may grant these committees the right to demand reports, both oral and written, from officials and individuals.

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Article 11.*

### ■ Article 40

No tax may be imposed, changed or waived except by law. It is also not permitted to take out a loan that is binding on the state, nor to sell or otherwise dispose of any of the country's real estate or its right to use it except in accordance with legal authority.

### ■ Article 41

No fee may be paid unless authorized by the budget or supplementary budget.

### ■ Article 42

For each regular Althingi, when it is convened, a budget bill shall be submitted for the financial year in hand, and the bill shall include a statement of state revenue and expenditure.

... <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Art.*

### ■ Article 43

[The audit of the finances of the state, its institutions and state-owned enterprises shall be

carried out on behalf of the Althingi and on its behalf in accordance with further instructions in law.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 100/1995, Art. , sbr. Article 2 sl*

#### ■ Article 44

[No bill can be approved until it has been discussed in three debates in Althingi.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Article 14.*

#### ■ Article 45

[Regular parliamentary elections shall take place no later than the end of the term. The beginning and end of the election period are based on the same day of the week in a month, counted from the beginning of the month.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Art.*

#### ■ Article 46

Althingi itself decides whether its members are legally elected, as well as whether a member of parliament has lost the right to stand for election.

#### ■ Article 47

Every new MP should win... <sup>1)</sup> boyhood vows to the Constitution, when his election has taken effect.

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Art.*

#### ■ Article 48

Members of the Althingi are only bound by their convictions and do not apply any rules from their constituents.

... <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Art.*

#### ■ Article 49

[While the Althingi is in operation, no member of the Althingi may be remanded in custody or sued without the approval of the Althingi unless he is the victim of a crime.

No Member of Althingi will be required to account outside Althingi for what he has said in Althingi unless Althingi allows it.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Article 18.*

#### ■ Article 50

If a Member of the Althingi loses his or her right to stand for election, he or she will lose the right that the parliamentary election had given him or her.

#### ■ Article 51

According to their position in office, ministers have a seat in Althingi, and they have the



right to take part in the debates as often as they wish, but they must be parliamentary. However, they have the right to vote only if they are also members of Althingi.

#### ■ Article 52

□[Althingi elects a president and directs its work.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, 19. gr.*

#### ■ Article 53

□[Althingi may not pass a resolution on matters unless more than half of the members are present and take part in the voting.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Article 20.*

#### ■ Article 54

□[Members of Althingi may, with the permission of Althingi, request information from the Minister or an answer on public matters by submitting an inquiry on the matter or requesting a report.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Article 21.*

#### ■ Article 55

□[Althingi may not accept any matter unless it is referred to it by a member of parliament or by a minister.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, 22. gr.*

#### ■ Article 56

□[If the Althingi does not consider it necessary to make another resolution on an issue, it may refer it to the Minister.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Article 23.*

#### ■ Article 57

□Meetings... <sup>1)</sup>Althingi shall be held in public. However, the Speaker or so many members of the Althingi, who are involved in parliamentary proceedings, may demand that all non-members of the Althingi be expelled, at which point a parliamentary session shall decide whether the matter is to be heard in public or in camera.

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, 24. gr.*

#### ■ Article 58

□[Althingi rules shall be enacted by law.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Article 25.*

V.

### ■ Article 59

The appointment of the judiciary will not be determined except by law.

### ■ Article 60

Judges settle all disputes over the limits of authority. However, no one who seeks a ruling can avoid obeying an authority call in the near future by taking the matter to court.

### ■ Article 61

Judges shall in their official duties comply only with the law. Judges who do not have the power of attorney in addition will not be removed from office except by a court of law, and they will not be transferred to another office against their will, except in the event that a new appointment is being made to the courts. . [However, a judge who has reached the age of 65 may be relieved of his duties, but Supreme Court judges shall not lose any of their salaries.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Article 26.*

## VI.

### ■ Article 62

The Evangelical Lutheran Church shall be the national church in Iceland, and the government shall in that respect support and protect it.

This can be changed by law.

### ■ Article 63

[Everyone has the right to form and to practice religion in accordance with his or her beliefs. However, nothing that is contrary to good morals or public order may be taught or committed.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Art.*

### ■ Article 64

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation.

Everyone is free to stand outside of religion. No one is obligated to pay personal dues to a religious organization of which he is not a member.

Now a person is outside a religious association and he then pays to the University of Iceland the fees that he would otherwise have had to pay to his religious association. This can be changed by law.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Art.*

## VII.

## ■ Article 65

□[All shall be equal before the law and enjoy human rights without regard to sex, religion, opinion, national origin, race, color, economic status, descent or other status.

□Women and men shall enjoy equal rights in all respects.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Article 3.*

## ■ Article 66

□[No one may be deprived of Icelandic citizenship. The law may, however, stipulate that a person loses that right if he or she acquires citizenship in another state with his or her consent. A foreigner will only be granted Icelandic citizenship by law.

□Icelandic citizens will not be barred from entering the country or deported. The right of foreigners to come to the country and stay here, as well as the reasons for which they can be deported, shall be established by law.

□No one shall be prevented from leaving the country without the decision of a judge. However, a person's departure from the country may be stopped by lawful arrest.

□Everyone who resides legally in the country should be able to reside and be free to travel with the restrictions imposed by law.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Art.*

## ■ Article 67

□[No one may be deprived of his liberty except as authorized by law.

□Anyone who has been deprived of liberty has the right to be informed immediately of the reasons for this.

□Anyone arrested on suspicion of criminal conduct shall be brought before a judge without delay. If he is not released immediately, the judge shall, before the end of the day, decide with a reasoned ruling whether he shall be remanded in custody. Detention may only be applied for a charge that carries a heavier penalty than a fine or detention. The right of the person remanded in custody to appeal a ruling to a higher court shall be guaranteed by law. A person shall never be remanded in custody for longer than necessary, but if a judge deems it possible to release him on bail, the court shall decide who it should be.

□Anyone who is deprived of his liberty for other reasons has the right to a court to rule on its legitimacy as soon as possible. If deprivation of liberty proves to be illegal, he shall be released immediately.

□If a person has been unjustly deprived of his liberty, he shall be entitled to compensation.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, 5. gr.*

## ■ Article 68

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

No one shall be forced to perform forced labor.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Article 6.*

### ■ Article 69

[No one shall be liable to punishment unless he has been guilty of conduct which was punishable by law at the time when it took place or which can be fully equated with such conduct. Penalties may not be heavier than permitted by law at the time of the conduct.

The law may never prescribe the death penalty.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Article 7.*

### ■ Article 70

[Everyone has the right to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him. A court hearing shall be held in public, unless the judge decides otherwise by law in order to protect decency, public order, state security or the interests of the parties.

Anyone charged with a criminal offense shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law. <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Article 8.*

### ■ Article 71

[Everyone shall enjoy the right to privacy, home and family.

A body search or search of a person, a search of his premises or belongings may not be carried out, except in accordance with a court ruling or a special legal authority. The same applies to the investigation of documents and postal items, telephone calls and other telecommunications, as well as any similar restriction on a person's privacy.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the first paragraph. may, by special legal authority, otherwise restrict the inviolability of private life, home or family if there is an urgent need for the rights of others.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Article 9.*

### ■ Article 72

[Property rights are inviolable. No one may be obliged to give up his property unless there is a public need. This requires legal instructions and full price.

The law may restrict the right of foreign parties to own real estate rights or a share in a business enterprise in this country.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, 10. gr.*

### ■ Article 73

[Everyone is free to express their opinions and beliefs.

Every person has the right to express his thoughts, but he must be held accountable in court. Censorship and other similar restrictions on freedom of expression may never be enshrined in law.

Freedom of expression may only be restricted by law in the interests of public policy or public security, for the protection of human health or morals, or for the rights or reputations of others, provided that they are considered necessary and consistent with democratic traditions.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Article 11.*

### ■ Article 74

[People have the right to form associations for any legal purpose, including political associations and trade unions, without applying for a permit. A company may not be dissolved by the disposal of a government authority. The activities of a company that is considered to have an illegal purpose may be prohibited for the time being, but a lawsuit must be filed against it without undue delay in order to have it terminated by a court.

No one may be obliged to join a company. The law may, however, provide for such an obligation if it is necessary for a company to be able to fulfill its statutory role due to the public interest or the rights of others.

People have the right to gather unarmed. The police may attend general meetings. Meetings in the open air may be prohibited if it is considered unsafe to do so.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Article 12.*

### ■ Article 75

[Everyone is free to pursue the occupation of their choice. However, this freedom may be restricted by law, as required by the public interest.

The law shall provide for the right of individuals to negotiate their terms of employment and other rights related to work.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Article 13.*

### ■ Article 76

[Everyone who needs it shall be guaranteed by law the right to assistance due to illness, disability, old age, unemployment, poverty and similar incidents.

Everyone shall be guaranteed by law the right to general education and appropriate training.

Children shall be guaranteed by law the protection and care required for their well-being.] <sup>1)</sup>

*<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Article 14.*

## ■ Article 77

□[Tax matters shall be governed by law. The government must not be left with the decision on whether to levy, amend or abolish a tax.

□No tax will be levied unless it was authorized by law when the events that govern tax liability occurred.] <sup>1)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Article 15.

## ■ Article 78

□[Municipalities shall decide their own affairs in accordance with the law.

□Municipal revenue sources shall be determined by law, as well as their right to decide whether and how they are utilized.] <sup>1)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup>L. 97/1995, Article 16.

## ■ Article 79

□Proposals, whether for amendments or annexes to this Constitution, may be submitted to both the Althingi and the Extraordinary Althingi. Will the proposal be approved... <sup>1)</sup>shall dissolve Althingi immediately and hold new general elections. Approval of [Althingi] <sup>1)</sup>the resolution unchanged, it shall be ratified by the President of the Republic, in which case it shall be a valid constitutional law.

□If the Althingi approves an amendment to the state constitution of the state according to Article 62, then that matter shall be put to a vote by all eligible voters in the country for approval or rejection, and the voting shall be secret.

<sup>1)</sup>L. 56/1991, Article 27.

## ■ Article 80 ...

## ■ Article 81

□This Constitution will enter into force when the Althingi passes a resolution to that effect, provided that the majority of all eligible voters in the country have approved it by secret ballot. <sup>1)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup>Sbr. Parliamentary Resolution on the entry into force of the *Constitution of the Republic of Iceland*, no. 33 of 16 June 1944, and the declaration of the Speaker of the Unified Althingi on the entry into force of the *Constitution*, no. 33 June 17, 1944. Sbr. and a parliamentary resolution on the repeal of the Danish-Icelandic Federal Law Agreement from 1918, no. 32 June 16, 1944.

## ■ Temporary Provisions.

□When this Constitution has entered into force, the Unified Althingi shall elect the President of Iceland for the first time in accordance with the rules on the election of the Speaker of the Unified Althingi, and his term of office shall extend until 31 July 1945.

□ Those foreign nationals who have acquired the right to vote and stand for election to the Althing or the post of office before the entry into force of this Constitution shall retain those rights. Danish citizens who had acquired those rights under [Article 75 of the Constitution of 18 May 1920](#), unchanged by law, from the date of entry into force of this Constitution until 6 months after the commencement of agreements on the rights of Danish citizens in Iceland, shall also have these rights and retain them.

□ [Notwithstanding the provisions of para. Article 31 the approval of a simple majority of the votes in Althingi is sufficient to amend the Act on Elections to Althingi in accordance with this Constitutional Act after it enters into force. Once that change has been made, this provision will be repealed.] <sup>1)</sup>

□ [Notwithstanding the provisions of the first paragraph. Article 79 may, until 30 April 2017, amend the Constitution in the following manner: If the Althingi approves a bill to amend the Constitution by at least  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the votes cast, it shall be put to the vote of all eligible voters in the country for approval or rejection. Voting shall take place no earlier than six months and no later than nine months after the approval of the bill in Althingi. In order for the bill to be approved, it must have received a majority of valid votes in the referendum, but at least 40 percent of all eligible voters, and this must be confirmed by the President of the Republic and is then considered valid constitutional law. The title of a draft constitutional law on this basis shall include a reference to this provision.

□ The referendum is governed by law.] <sup>2)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup>L. 77/1999, Art. <sup>2)</sup>L. 91/2013, Art.