



---

**AN BILLE UM LAGHDÚ AR PHÁ AGUS LIÚNTAIS  
CHOMHALTAÍ AN RIALTAIS AGUS AN OIREACHTAIS,  
2011**

**REDUCTION IN PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF  
GOVERNMENT AND OIREACHTAS MEMBERS BILL 2011**

---

*Mar a tionscnaíodh  
As initiated*

---

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Interpretation.
  2. Amendment of Section 2 of the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest (No. 2) Act 2009.
-

ACTS REFERRED TO

European Parliament (Irish Constituency Members) Act 2009	2009, No. 17
Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest (No. 2) Act 2009	2009, No. 41
Local Government Act 2001	2001, No. 37
Taxes Consolidation Act 1997	1997, No. 39



---

**AN BILLE UM LAGHDÚ AR PHÁ AGUS LIÚNTAIS  
CHOMHALTAÍ AN RIALTAIS AGUS AN OIREACHTAIS,  
2011**

**REDUCTION IN PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF  
GOVERNMENT AND OIREACHTAS MEMBERS BILL 2011**

---

# BILL

*entitled*

AN ACT, IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
REDUCTION OF THE REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS  
OF THE GOVERNMENT AND MEMBERS OF THE  
HOUSES OF THE OIREACHTAS.

WHEREAS a serious disturbance in the economy and a decline  
in the economic circumstances of the State have occurred and are  
continuing, which has resulted in a significant loss of income for  
public and private sector workers which threatens the well-being of  
the community;

AND WHEREAS as a consequence a significant gap has opened  
up between the average earnings of people working in the public and  
private sector on the one hand and certain persons in the public  
service including members of the Houses of the Oireachtas and  
certain office holders on the other;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary at a time when income levels in  
the public and private sector are expected to decline while the cost  
of living is expected to increase it is incumbent on members of the  
Houses of the Oireachtas to lead by example in accepting reductions  
of remuneration;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to take steps to ensure greater  
equality in income distribution between average workers in the  
public and private sector on the one hand and certain persons in the  
public service including members of the Houses of the Oireachtas  
and certain office holders on the other;

AND WHEREAS while it is necessary for the State to achieve  
significant savings in its expenditure it is important to note that it is  
an honour to represent the public and the motivation for seeking  
public office must not be driven by remuneration but by a desire to  
serve the public good—

BE IT ENACTED BY THE OIREACHTAS AS FOLLOWS:

1.—In this Act—

Interpretation.

“public servant” means—

- (a) a person who is employed by, or who holds any office or other position in, a public service body,
- (b) a member of either House of the Oireachtas or of a local authority (within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2001), 5
- (c) a member of the European Parliament for a constituency in the State, being a member who is in receipt of the salary specified in section 2(2) of the European Parliament (Irish Constituency Members) Act 2009, or 10
- (d) the holder of a qualifying office.

“relevant provision” means—

- (a) a provision of any Act other than this Act,
- (b) a provision made under any Act, including any instrument, circular or other document, 15
- (c) a provision of or made under any statute or other document to like effect of a university or other third level institution,
- (d) a provision of any circular, instrument or other document, not made pursuant to an enactment, and 20
- (e) a provision of any agreement or contractual arrangement, whether written or not.

“remuneration” means emoluments to which Chapter 4 of Part 42 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 applies or is applied and payable by or on behalf of a public service body to a public servant for his or her services as a public servant. 25

Amendment of Section 2 of the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest (No. 2) Act 2009.

**2.**—Section 2 of the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest (No. 2) Act 2009 is amended by the deletion of subsection (2A) and the insertion of the following new subsection after subsection (2): 30

“(2A) The provisions of subsections (1) and (2) and Table 1 to this section shall, for the purpose of the application of those provisions to the remuneration of the holders of certain offices specified in this subsection, have effect within seven days of the coming into effect of this Bill as if the reductions provided for in subsection (2) and that Table were as follows and a relevant provision that fixes the remuneration, or any part of the remuneration, of the holders of any of those offices shall be taken to have been so amended with effect within seven days of the coming into effect of this Bill: 35 40

- (a) in the case of the Taoiseach, a 60 per cent reduction of remuneration in lieu of a reduction of 25 per cent of remuneration;
- (b) in the case of the Tánaiste, a 56 per cent reduction of remuneration in lieu of a reduction of 19.5 per cent of remuneration; 45

- (c) in the case of a Minister of the Government, a 56 per cent reduction of remuneration in lieu of a reduction of 19.5 per cent of remuneration;
- 5 (d) in the case of a Minister of State, a 45 per cent reduction of remuneration in lieu of a reduction of 10 per cent of remuneration;
- (e) in the case of a Ceann Comhairle, a 60 per cent reduction of remuneration in lieu of a reduction of 10 per cent of remuneration;
- 10 (f) in the case of a Leas-Cheann Comhairle, a 60 per cent reduction of remuneration in lieu of a reduction of 10 per cent of remuneration;
- (g) in the case of a Cathaoirleach, a 60 per cent reduction of remuneration in lieu of a reduction of 10 per cent of remuneration;
- 15 (h) in the case of a Leas-Chathaoirleach, a 60 per cent reduction of remuneration in lieu of a reduction of 10 per cent of remuneration;
- (i) in the case of a Teachta Dála, a 19 per cent reduction of remuneration;
- 20 (j) in the case of a Senator, an 8.6 per cent reduction of remuneration;
- (k) in the case of payments to holders of specified positions in Dáil Éireann including the Government Whip, Assistant Government whip, Whip to the opposition parties, Assistant whip to the opposition parties, a 100 per cent reduction of remuneration;
- 25 (l) in the case of payments to holders of specified positions in Seanad Éireann including the Leader of the House, the Deputy Leader of the House, the Opposition Leader, the Government whip, the Assistant Government whip, the leader of the independent group, the leader of the Labour group, the whip to an Independent group, the whip to the Labour group, a 100 per cent reduction of remuneration; and
- 30  
35 (m) in the case of payment to chairpersons of Oireachtas Committees and Commission Members, a 100 per cent reduction of remuneration.”.