



SEANAD ÉIREANN

**AN BILLE UM CHOIMISIÚN THITHE AN OIREACHTAIS
(LEASÚ), 2021**

**HOUSES OF THE OIREACHTAS COMMISSION
(AMENDMENT) BILL 2021**

**MOLTAÍ COISTE
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

SEANAD ÉIREANN

AN BILLE UM CHOIMISIÚN THITHE AN OIREACHTAIS (LEASÚ), 2021 —AN COISTE

HOUSES OF THE OIREACHTAS COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2021 —COMMITTEE STAGE

Moltaí Recommendations

**Government amendments are denoted by an asterisk*

SECTION 2

1. In page 3, between lines 23 and 24, to insert the following:

“Report on engagement with the Commission

2. The Minister shall, within 6 months of the passing of this Act, lay a report before both Houses of the Oireachtas outlining—
 - (a) engagement the Minister has had with the Commission with regard to remuneration for those employed under the Scheme for Secretarial Assistance,
 - (b) any recommendations from the Commission with regard to remuneration for those employed under the Scheme for Secretarial Assistance, and
 - (c) any actions the Minister proposes to take with regard to remuneration for those employed under the Scheme for Secretarial Assistance.”.

—Senator Alice-Mary Higgins, Lynn Ruane, Frances Black, Paul Gavan, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield, Lynn Boylan, Rebecca Moynihan, Marie Sherlock, Annie Hoey, Mark Wall, Victor Boyhan, Michael McDowell, David Norris, Gerard P. Craughwell, Rónán Mullen, Sharon Keogan.

2. In page 3, between lines 23 and 24, to insert the following:

“Report on the Scheme for Secretarial Assistance

2. The Minister shall, within 6 months of the passing of this Act, lay a report before both Houses of the Oireachtas outlining—
 - (a) the work responsibilities of those employed under the Scheme for Secretarial Assistance in Seanad Éireann and Dáil Éireann, following consultation with members of Oireachtas and the Commission, and
 - (b) a comparison of the work responsibilities, role description and levels of remuneration, with due regard to the cost of living, of those employed under the Scheme for Secretarial Assistance with similar roles in national parliaments in other countries.”.

[SECTION 2]

—Senator Alice-Mary Higgins, Lynn Ruane, Frances Black, Paul Gavan, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield, Lynn Boylan, Rebecca Moynihan, Marie Sherlock, Annie Hoey, Mark Wall, Victor Boyhan, Michael McDowell, David Norris, Gerard P. Craughwell, Rónán Mullen, Sharon Keogan.

3. In page 3, between lines 23 and 24, to insert the following:

“Report on the operation of the Scheme for Secretarial Assistance

2. The Minister shall, within 6 months of the passing of this Act, lay a report before the Committee on Parliamentary Procedures and Oversight outlining a cost benefit analysis in respect of the introduction of the parliamentary assistant pay scale to Seanad Éireann, with due regard to—
- (a) the recruitment and retention of staff,
 - (b) the recognition and development of skills,
 - (c) the value of acquired knowledge and experience within the legislative process and the wider work of Oireachtas members,
 - (d) the achievement of stated commitments to the wellbeing of staff and a family-friendly Oireachtas, and
 - (e) the importance of equitable access to the pipeline of political engagement in supporting more diverse and equal political decision making and representation.”.

—Senator Alice-Mary Higgins, Lynn Ruane, Frances Black, Paul Gavan, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield, Lynn Boylan, Rebecca Moynihan, Marie Sherlock, Annie Hoey, Mark Wall, Victor Boyhan, Michael McDowell, David Norris, Gerard P. Craughwell, Rónán Mullen, Sharon Keogan.