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Seanad Éireann

Committee on Members' Interests of Seanad Éireann An Coiste um Leasanna Chomhaltaí Sheanad Éireann

Ethics in Public Office Act, 1995 as amended by the Standards in Public Office Act 2001

An tAcht um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí, 1995 arna leasú leis
an Acht um Chaighdeáin in Oifigí Poiblí 2001

Report of the Results of an Investigation into Complaints concerning Senator Rónán Mullen Tuarascáil ar Thorthaí Imscrúdaithe ar Ghearáin maidir leis an Seanadóir Rónán Mullen.

23.08.10

1. Introduction

The Committee on Members' Interests of Seanad Éireann (the "Committee") was appointed by an order of Seanad Éireann on 25 October, 2007, pursuant to Standing Order 90 of the Standing Orders relative to Public Business of Seanad Éireann and section 8 of the Ethics in Public Office Act 1995 (the "1995 Act") as amended by the Standards in Public Office Act 2001 (the "2001 Act") (collectively referred herein after as "the Acts")

One of the functions of the Committee is to carry out investigations where a complaint is referred or made to the Committee, or if the Committee considers it appropriate to do so. The Committee has the power to investigate if a member has contravened section 5 or 7 of the 1995 Act as amended or has done a specified act as defined in section 4 of the 2001 Act.

2. Complaint received

On 5 August 2010 the Clerk of Seanad Éireann received a complaint from Mr. Martin O'Sullivan in relation to a statement made by Senator Mullen. The Clerk of Seanad Éireann referred the complaint to the Committee pursuant to section 8 of the Acts.

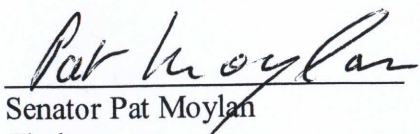
3. Considerations of the complaint by the Committee

The Committee met on 9 August 2010 and commenced its investigation by seeking a statement from Senator Mullen in response to the complaint received. A copy of the complaint received was forwarded to Senator Mullen. Senator Mullen responded by way of letter dated 12 August 2010. The Committee met on 23 August 2010 and considered the complaint and Senator Mullen's response.

4. Findings of the Committee

The Committee considered whether the Senator's actions constituted a "specified act" within the meaning of the Acts. Having duly considered the complaint and the response received from Senator Mullen, the Committee determined that the Senator has not done a specified act within the meaning of the Acts, that there were no reasonable grounds for the complaint in the manner contemplated in the Acts and consequently that no action will be taken against the Senator.

The Committee agreed to write to the Complainant, Senator Mullen and the Clerk of the Seanad Éireann and to attach a copy of its report and findings.



Senator Pat Moylan

Chairman

Committee on Members' Interests of Seanad Éireann

23 August 2010

Houses of the Oireachtas

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Seanad Only

DOCUMENT(S) TO BE LAID BEFORE HOUSE OF OIREACHTAS

Clerk of ~~Dáil~~ Seanad (delete as appropriate)

I enclose ^bcopies* of the under mentioned document(s) to be laid before the House. The information sought below is as set out.

██████████ Clerk to the Select Committee on Members' Interests of Seanad Éireann
For Head of Department or other body (please print)

Date: 23 August 2010 Telephone: 01 618 3226 E-mail: ██████████@oireachtas.ie



1. Department or other body laying document Committee on Members Interests of Seanad Éireann
2. Title of document	Ethics in Public Office Act, 1995 as amended by the Standards in Public Office Act 2001. Report of the Results of an investigation into Complaints concerning Senator Ann Ormonde Ethics in Public Office Act, 1995 as amended by the Standards in Public Office Act 2001. Report of the Results of an investigation into Complaints concerning Senator Rónán Mullen.
3. Parliamentary number (Prn) (available from Government Supplies Agency (01) 647 6628)	N/A
4. ¹ If the requirement to lay the document is set out in an Act please state the title and specific section of the Act	N/A
5. If specified in the Act, within how many sitting days may the House annul or disapprove the document? (e.g. 21 sitting days)	N/A
6. Does the Act specify whether the House must approve the document? (e.g. by resolution) Yes / No (delete as appropriate)
7. Full URL if the document is available online http://

¹ The information required for questions 4 – 6 inclusive can, in general, be found in the specific section of the Act containing the requirement to lay the document before the House.