

# DÁIL ÉIREANN

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## AN ROGHCHOISTE UM DHLÍ AGUS CEART DHLÍ AGUS CEART

### SELECT COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

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*Dé Máirt, 3 Samhain 2020*

*Tuesday, 3 November 2020*

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Tháinig an Romhchoiste le chéile ag 4 p.m.

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The Select Committee met at 4 p.m.

Comhaltaí a bhí i láthair/Members present:

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| Teachtaí Dála/Deputies     |  |
| James Browne,              |  |
| Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, |  |
| Pa Daly,                   |  |
| Martin Kenny.              |  |

Teachta/Deputy James Lawless sa Chathaoir/in the Chair.

## **Criminal Justice (Mutual Recognition of Decisions on Supervision Measures) Bill 2019: Committee Stage**

**Chairman:** Apologies have been received from Deputy Howlin.

This is the first meeting of this select committee to consider legislation. This is first our engagement with the new Minister of State at the Department of Justice with special responsibility for law reform, Deputy James Browne. I want to give him particular welcome, congratulate him on his appointment and wish him well in all his endeavours. He is a fine colleague and will be a fine Minister of State. We will work with him and the Minister over the term ahead. I look forward to the engagement on many items, starting with this Bill.

The Criminal Justice (Mutual Recognition of Decisions on Supervision Measures) Bill 2019 is before us on Committee Stage. I expect its passage today will be relatively smooth. No amendments have been tabled so we will take the Bill section by section and then we may have closing remarks. If members wish to interject during the course of proceedings that is perfectly acceptable.

Sections 1 to 38, inclusive, agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment.

**Chairman:** We passed our first Bill. Let us hope they will all be as smooth as that one was. That was certainly a smooth passage. There is a general consensus on the matter.

### **Message to Dáil**

**Chairman:** In accordance with Standing Order 101, the following message will be sent to the Dáil:

The Select Committee on Justice has completed its consideration of the Criminal Justice (Mutual Recognition of Decisions on Supervision Measures) Bill 2019 and has made no amendments thereto.

That concludes our consideration of the Bill. I want to afford the Minister of State the opportunity to make a brief remark if he wishes to do so before we close our business.

**Minister of State at the Department of Justice (Deputy James Browne):** I thank the Chair. I congratulate Deputy Lawless on his appointment as Chairman of this committee. I look forward to working with him and all our colleagues on this committee in the future. Hopefully, all Bills will be passed as collegially and quickly as this one.

This is an important Bill, which will give effect to the provisions of the European Council framework decision on the application between member states of the EU, of the principle of mutual recognition to decisions on supervision measures as an alternative to provisional detention. In plainer terms, the framework decision allows for the supervision of fair conditions by

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persons from a member state where that person is accused of a crime elsewhere in the EU. Ireland is obliged to give effect to this framework and, as Deputies will be aware, there has been a small delay in this Bill but it will fully transpose the decision and will fulfil our EU obligations. I am grateful that we can move this Bill speedily through the committee and get it passed as quickly as possible. I thank everybody for their contributions.

**Chairman:** I thank the Minister of State. Indeed, we share that goal and have done so today. I also thank members.

The select committee adjourned at 4.13 p.m. until 4 p.m. on Tuesday, 10 November 2020.