

Dé Céadaoin, 22 Feabhra, 2006
Wednesday, 22nd February, 2006

10.30 a.m.

ORD GNÓ
ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 14.** (l) An Bille Iascaigh Mhara agus Dlínse Muirí 2005 — Ordú don Tuarascáil.
(a) Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Bill 2005 — Order for Report.
- 1.** An Bille um Athchóiriú an Dlí Leasa Shóisialaigh agus um Pinsin 2006 — An Dara Céim (*atógáil*).
Social Welfare Law Reform and Pensions Bill 2006 — Second Stage (*resumed*).

GNÓ COMHALTAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACHA
PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

- 44.** Tairiscint *maidir le* Roinn Gnóthaí Saothair agus Comhchoiste Oireachtais um Ghnóthaí Saothair a Bhunú (*atógáil*).
Motion *re* Labour Affairs: Establishment of Department of and Joint Oireachtas Committee on (*resumed*).

FÓGRA I dTAOBH GNÓ NUA
NOTICE OF NEW BUSINESS

- 24a.** An Bille Iomaíochta (Leasú) 2005 [*Seanad*] — Ordú don Tuarascáil.
Competition (Amendment) Bill 2005 [*Seanad*] — Order for Report.

**ORDUITHE AN LAE
ORDERS OF THE DAY**

1. An Bille um Athchóiriú an Dlí Leasa Shóisialaigh agus um Pinsin 2006 — An Dara Céim (*atógáil*).
Social Welfare Law Reform and Pensions Bill 2006 — Second Stage (*resumed*).
-

14. (l) An Bille Iascaigh Mara agus Dlíne Muirí 2005 — Ordú don Tuarascáil.
(a) Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Bill 2005 — Order for Report.
-

- 24a. An Bille Iomaíochta (Leasú) 2005 [*Seanad*] — Ordú don Tuarascáil.
Competition (Amendment) Bill 2005 [*Seanad*] — Order for Report.
-

**GNÓ COMHALTAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACHA
PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

Tairiscint (atógáil) (1 ur. 30 n fágtha):

Motion (resumed)(1 hr. 30 m remaining):

44. “That Dáil Éireann,

affirming the responsibility of the State to uphold the rights of workers and, in particular, to ensure, protect and uphold the realisation of the following workers rights:

- the right to be free from exploitation;
- the right to a fair remuneration sufficient for a decent standard of living for themselves and their families and to equal pay for equal work;
- the right to form, join and be represented by trade unions, to negotiate contracts of employment, and to engage in industrial action;
- the right to work in safe conditions that are not harmful to health and well-being; and
- the right to access life-long learning opportunities and vocational training and re-training;

recognising:

- that the failure to give adequate priority and focus to labour affairs finds expression in a failure to fully uphold Ireland’s obligations under Article 23 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Articles 6, 7 and 8 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and Articles 1 to 10 of the European Social Charter (Revised), and in the failure of the State to ratify the UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and members of their Families;
- that the current configuration of labour affairs as a secondary responsibility within the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, whose primary responsibilities are enterprise and competition policy, prevents the State from giving the required priority to the protection of workers rights and to upholding labour standards;
- the inherent conflict of interest which exists within the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment as a result of that Department having responsibility for both enterprise policy, including competition policy and labour affairs. This conflict is exemplified by the attack by the Competition Authority, which falls under the aegis of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, on the right of certain freelance workers, including musicians, actors and journalists, to be collectively represented;

- the failure of the State to prevent the exploitation of migrant workers as evidenced by the numerous incidences of abuse of these workers, which have come to public attention during the last 12 months;
- the failure of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment to ensure that the State has a labour inspectorate of sufficient strength and with sufficient powers to enforce existing employment law; and
- the increasing priority that must be given to the protection of labour standards in light of the current push by certain employers to drive down pay and conditions;

shall, in order to ensure that appropriate priority and focus is given to the protection and promotion of workers' rights and in order to replace the current model of weak labour regulation and non-enforcement with comprehensive regulation, including the increased use of Employment Regulation Orders and Registered Employment Agreements, and stringent enforcement, establish:

- a separate and stand-alone Department of Labour Affairs whose primary responsibilities shall be the improvement and enforcement of employment rights and entitlements, the protection of labour standards, industrial relations, the promotion of health and safety at work and the implementation of policies to improve work-life balance and to promote life long learning; and
- an Oireachtas Joint Committee on Labour Affairs.” — *Arthur Morgan, Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin, Seán Crowe, Martin Ferris, Aengus Ó Snodaigh.*

[21 February, 2006]

Leasú (atógáil):

Amendment (resumed):

1. To delete all words after “Dáil Éireann” and substitute the following:

“welcomes,

- the commitment of the Government to uphold the rights of workers, which are set out in Irish labour law. These rights include:
 - statutory rates of pay;
 - limitations on hours worked;
 - health and safety provisions;
 - statutory redundancy; and
 - carers, maternity and adoptive leave;
- the record of this Government in introducing a comprehensive range of legislative and other measures which are aimed at and have significantly improved the terms and conditions available to workers in the Irish labour market, including, health and safety, part-time and fixed-term workers, national minimum wage levels, substantial increases in redundancy entitlements and improvements for carers and parents;
- measures taken by this Government to improve compliance by a minority of employers who fail to fulfill their statutory obligations to their workers. These measures include:
 - a substantial increase in the number of Labour Inspectors; and
 - active engagement with the social partners to agree significant improvements to the regime for employment rights compliance;
- the fact that the interests of both employers and employees are overseen by a single Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment since enterprise and employment policies are complementary and not in competition with each other, and notes that

it is only by growing our competitiveness, increasing our trade performance and expanding enterprise development that this Government in particular has produced sustainable high quality jobs while simultaneously ensuring that Ireland has a well-trained and confident workforce, which enjoys the protection of our Health and Safety and Employment Rights legislation;

- the efforts of this Government to promote the training and retraining of those in employment in the context of life long learning through its One Step Up and other initiatives;
- the commitment of this Government to uphold Irish and EU law and wider international conventions, where these are consistent with our EU obligations and with our social and economic objectives; and
- the Government's commitment to the Social Partnership Model as the most appropriate mechanism for advancing these issues in the interests of both employees and employers." — *An tAire Fiontar, Trádála agus Fostaíochta.*

MEMORANDA

Dé Céadaoin, 22 Feabhra, 2006
Wednesday, 22nd February, 2006

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Chomhshaol agus Rialtas Áitiúil i Seomra Coiste 2, TL2000, ar 11 a.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on the Environment and Local Government in Committee Room 2, LH2000, at 11 a.m.

An Bille Airgeadais 2006:

Finance Bill 2006:

Cruinniú den Roghchoiste um Airgeadas agus an tSeirbhís Phoiblí i Seomra Coiste 3, TL2000, ar 11 a.m.

Meeting of the Select Committee on Finance and the Public Service in Committee Room 3, LH2000, at 11 a.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Thalmhaíocht agus Bia i Seomra Coiste 4, TL2000, ar 2 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Agriculture and Food in Committee Room 4, LH2000, at 2 p.m.

SCRÍBHINNÍ A LEAGADH FAOI BHRÁID NA DÁLA DOCUMENTS LAID BEFORE THE DÁIL

Reachtúil:

1) An tAthbhreithniú Náisiúnta Pinsean. Tuarascáil ón mBord Pinsean, Deireadh Fómhair, 2005.

2) Togra le haghaidh Rialacháin ón gComhairle lena séantar an Comhaontú idir Comhphobal Eacnamaíochta na hEorpa agus Rialtas Dhaon-Phoblacht Angóla maidir le hiascaigh amach ó Angóla agus ag maolú ar Rialachán (CE) Uimh. 2792/1999 mar aon le nóta faisnéise míniúcháin. COM (2005) 677.

Statutory:

1) National Pensions Review. Report of the Pensions Board, October, 2005.

2) Proposal for a Council Regulation denouncing the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the People's Republic of Angola on fisheries off Angola and derogating from Regulation (EC) No. 2792/1999 together with explanatory information note. COM (2005) 677.

3) Togra le haghaidh Cinnidh ón gComhairle lena bhfadaítear tréimhse feidhme na mbeart i gCinneadh 2002/148/CE lenar críochnaíodh comhchomhairliúcháin leis an tSiombáib faoi Airteagal 96 de Chomhaontú Comhpháirtíochta ACC-CE mar aon le nóta faisnéise míniúcháin. COM (2006) 24.

4) Coimisiún na hÉireann-na Stát Aontaithe um Malartú Oideachasúil. Ráitis Airgeadais don bhliain dar críoch 30 Meán Fómhair, 1998.

5) Coimisiún na hÉireann-na Stát Aontaithe um Malartú Oideachasúil. Ráitis Airgeadais don bhliain dar críoch 30 Meán Fómhair, 1999.

6) Coimisiún na hÉireann-na Stát Aontaithe um Malartú Oideachasúil. Ráitis Airgeadais don bhliain dar críoch 30 Meán Fómhair, 2000.

7) Coimisiún na hÉireann-na Stát Aontaithe um Malartú Oideachasúil. Ráitis Airgeadais don bhliain dar críoch 30 Meán Fómhair, 2001.

8) Coimisiún na hÉireann-na Stát Aontaithe um Malartú Oideachasúil. Ráitis Airgeadais don bhliain dar críoch 30 Meán Fómhair, 2002.

9) Beartas um Cheadúnú Bád Iascaireachta Mara — Treoir Beartais 1/2006.

10) An tAcht Maoine Stáit 1954. Tuarascáil chun críocha Alt 10(6) den Acht Maoine Stáit 1954 ar Dhíolacháin a rinneadh nó a deonaíodh i rith na leathbhliana dar críoch an 30 Meitheamh, 2005.

11) An tAcht Maoine Stáit 1954. Tuarascáil chun críocha Alt 10(6) den Acht Maoine Stáit 1954 ar Dhíolacháin a rinneadh nó a deonaíodh i rith na leathbhliana dar críoch an 31 Nollaig, 2005.

Neamhrechtúil:

1) An Comhlachas Snámha agus Tarrthála. Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, 2004.

2) Iarraidh ar mhíniú de réir Airteagal 52 den Choinbhinsiún Eorpach um Chearta an Duine maidir le Saoirse a Bhaint gan Admháil — Freagra ó Rialtas na hÉireann.

3) Proposal for a Council Decision extending the period of application of the measures in Decision 2002/148/EC concluding consultations with Zimbabwe under Article 96 of the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement together with explanatory information note. COM (2006) 24.

4) The Ireland-United States Commission for Educational Exchange. Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September, 1998.

5) The Ireland-United States Commission for Educational Exchange. Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September, 1999.

6) The Ireland-United States Commission for Educational Exchange. Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September, 2000.

7) The Ireland-United States Commission for Educational Exchange. Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September, 2001.

8) The Ireland-United States Commission for Educational Exchange. Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September, 2002.

9) Sea Fishing Boat Licensing Policy — Policy Directive 1/2006.

10) State Property Act 1954. Report for the purposes of Section 10(6) of the State Property Act 1954 of Sales made or granted during the half - year ended 30 June, 2005.

11) State Property Act 1954. Report for the purposes of Section 10(6) of the State Property Act 1954 of Sales made or granted during the half - year ended 31 December, 2005.

Non-Statutory:

1) Irish Water Safety Association. Annual Report, 2004.

2) Request for an explanation in accordance with Article 52 of the European Convention on Human Rights in respect of Unacknowledged Deprivation of Liberty — Reply of the Government of Ireland.