

*Dé Máirt, 24 Márta, 2009*  
*Tuesday, 24th March, 2009*

2.30 p.m.

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**GNÓ COMHALTAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACHA**  
**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

*Fógra i dtaobh leasú ar Thairsceint : Notice of Amendment to Motion*

**49.** “That Dáil Éireann:

- recognising the unnecessary expansion of the numbers of Ministers of State in 2007;
- mindful of the need to reform and upgrade the way that Government undertakes its work on behalf of the people; and
- understanding the need for the Oireachtas and the Government to be seen to lead by example in the current economic crisis facing the country;

calls on the Government to:

- reduce the number of Ministers of State by eight, from twenty to twelve; and
- reduce the ministerial staff allocated to work on constituency matters to two per Minister.” — *Phil Hogan, Enda Kenny, Bernard Allen, James Bannon, Seán Barrett, Pat Breen, Richard Bruton, Ulick Burke, Catherine Byrne, Joe Carey, Deirdre Clune, Paul Connaughton, Noel J. Coonan, Simon Coveney, Seymour Crawford, Michael Creed, Lucinda Creighton, Michael D'Arcy, John Deasy, Jimmy Deenihan, Andrew Doyle, Bernard J. Durkan, Damien English, Olwyn Enright, Frank Feighan, Charles Flanagan, Terence Flanagan, Brian Hayes, Tom Hayes, Paul Kehoe, Pádraic McCormack, Shane McEntee, Dinny McGinley, Joe McHugh, Olivia Mitchell, Denis Naughten, Dan Neville, Michael Noonan, Kieran O'Donnell, Fergus O'Dowd, Jim O'Keeffe, John O'Mahony, John Perry, James Reilly, Michael Ring, Alan Shatter, Tom Sheahan, P. J. Sheehan, David Stanton, Billy Timmins, Leo Varadkar.*

*Leasú:*

*Amendment:*

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

- “ — acknowledges that the business of Government has grown in terms of volume and complexity, and that Ministers of State play an important role in the delivery of the policy aims set out in the Programme for Government;
- notes that Ministers and Ministers of State have taken a 10% reduction of pay in addition to the Public Sector Pension Levy;

- acknowledges that the Minister for Finance has asked that savings of at least 10% be made in the costs of running Ministers' offices and that reduction has been implemented;
- acknowledges the work being overseen by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to progress the issue of Seanad reform;
- acknowledges that the Cabinet has established a Committee to draw-up a comprehensive programme of reforms to ensure that the Dáil carries out the business of Parliament within an efficient and modern framework, and recognises the need to ensure the best return to the Exchequer;
- acknowledges the proposals set out by the Oireachtas Commission, which will result in savings of up to €4 million in the Commission's annual budget, and urges a speedy outcome to the discussions which are ongoing with the Minister for Finance;
- recognises that the Government will continue the process of reducing the costs of the Oireachtas and the political system in general; and
- urges the Expenditure Review Group to expedite its review of where reductions can be achieved within the Oireachtas." — *An tAire Airgeadais*.