



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 13 Deireadh Fómhair, 2010
Wednesday, 13th October, 2010

RIAR NA hOIBRE
ORDER PAPER

Dé Céadaoin, 13 Deireadh Fómhair, 2010
Wednesday, 13th October, 2010

10.30 a.m.

ORD GNÓ
ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 12a.** Tairiscint *maidir le* Comhaltas Coistí.
Motion re Membership of Committees.
- 4.** An Bille Oideachais (Leasú) 2010 — Ordú don Dara Céim.
Education (Amendment) Bill 2010 — Order for Second Stage.

GNÓ COMHALTAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACHA
PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

- 75.** (l) Tairiscint maidir le Bochtaineacht Breosla. (*atógáil*).
(a) Motion re Fuel Poverty (*resumed*).

I dTOSACH GNÓ PHOIBLÍ
AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Billí a thionscnamh : Initiation of Bills

Tíolactha:

Presented:

4. An Bille Oideachais (Leasú) 2010 — Ordú don Dara Céim.
Education (Amendment) Bill 2010 — Order for Second Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do leathnú na bhfeidhmeanna a chomhlíonann Coistí Gairmoideachais, agus chun na críche sin agus chun críoch eile do leathnú fheidhm na nAchtanna Gairmoideachais 1930 go 2006, do leasú an Achta Oideachais 1998, agus do leathnú fheidhm an Achta sin, do leasú an Achta um Chomhairle Mhúinteoireachta 2001, agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe gaolmhara eile.

Bill entitled an Act to extend the functions performed by vocational education committees, and for that and other purposes to extend the application of the Vocational Education Acts 1930 to 2006, to amend, and extend the application of, the Education Act 1998, to amend the Teaching Council Act 2001, and to provide for other related matters.

—An Tánaiste agus Aire Oideachas agus Scileanna.

Fógraí Tairisceana : Notices of Motions

12a. “Go ndéanfar na Teachtaí Deirdre Ní Chlúin agus Pádraic Mac Cormaic a urscaoileadh ón gCoiste um Chuntais Phoiblí agus na Teachtaí Micheál Ó Darsaigh agus Olwyn Nic Ionnrachtaigh a cheapadh ina n-ionad.

That Deputies Deirdre Clune and Pádraic McCormack be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and that Deputies Michael D’Arcy and Olwyn Enright be appointed in substitution for them.

Go ndéanfar na Teachtaí Síomón Ó Cómhanaigh agus Aindrias Ó Dubhail a urscaoileadh ón gComhchoiste um Athrú Aeráide agus Áirithiú Fuinnimh agus na Teachtaí Leo Varadkar agus Seymour Crawford a cheapadh ina n-ionad.

That Deputies Simon Coveney and Andrew Doyle be discharged from the Joint Committee on Climate Change and Energy Security and that Deputies Leo Varadkar and Seymour Crawford be appointed in substitution for them.

Go ndéanfar na Teachtaí Micheál Ó Darsaigh, Donnacha Ó Neachtain agus Tomás Ó hAodha a urscaoileadh ón gComhchoiste ar an mBunreacht agus na Teachtaí Olwyn Nic Ionnrachtaigh, Cathal Ó Flanagan agus Pól Mac Eochaidh a cheapadh ina n-ionad.

That Deputies Michael D’Arcy, Denis Naughten and Tom Hayes be discharged from the Joint Committee on the Constitution and that Deputies Olwyn Enright, Charles Flanagan and Paul Kehoe be appointed in substitution for them.

Go ndéanfar an Teachta Fergus Ó Dubhda a urscaoileadh ón gComhchoiste um Ghnóthaí Rialála Geilleagair agus an Teachta Oilibhia Mistéil a cheapadh ina ionad.

That Deputy Fergus O’Dowd be discharged from the Joint Committee on Economic Regulatory Affairs and that Deputy Olivia Mitchell be appointed in substitution for him.

Go ndéanfar na Teachtaí Micheál Ó Críod agus Pádraig Seosamh Ó Síothcháin a urscaoileadh ón Roghchoiste um Thalmhaíocht, Iascaigh agus Bia agus na Teachtaí Micheál Ó Darsaigh agus Olwyn Nic Ionnrachtaigh a cheapadh ina n-ionad.

Go ndéanfar an Teachta Seosamh Mac Aodha a urscaoileadh ón Roghchoiste um Chumarsáid, Fuinneamh agus Acmhainní Nádirtha agus an Teachta Oilibhia Mistéil a cheapadh ina ionad.

Go ndéanfar an Teachta Brian Ó hAodha a urscaoileadh ón Roghchoiste um Oideachas agus Scileanna agus an Teachta Deirdre Ní Chlúin a cheapadh ina ionad.

Go ndéanfar an Teachta Deirdre Ní Chlúin a urscaoileadh ón Roghchoiste um Fhiontair, Trádáil agus Nuálaíocht agus an Teachta Ciarán Ó Domhnaill a cheapadh ina ionad.

Go ndéanfar an Teachta Lucinda Ní Chríodáin a urscaoileadh ón Roghchoiste um Ghnóthaí Eorpacha agus an Teachta Micheál Ó Críod a cheapadh ina hionad.

Go ndéanfar na Teachtaí Risteárd de Briotún agus Ciarán Ó Domhnailla a urscaoileadh ón Roghchoiste um Airgeadas agus an tSeirbhís Phoiblí agus na Teachtaí Damien Inglis agus Brian Ó hAodha a cheapadh ina n-ionad.

Go ndéanfar na Teachtaí Liam Ó Toimín agus John Deasy a urscaoileadh ón Roghchoiste um Ghnóthaí Eachtracha agus na Teachtaí Pádraig Ó Briain agus Pól Ó Connachtáin a cheapadh ina n-ionad.

Go ndéanfar na Teachtaí Pól Ó Connachtáin agus Bearnard Ó hAilín a urscaoileadh ón Roghchoiste um Shláinte agus Leanaí agus na Teachtaí Cathal Ó Flanagáin agus Donnacha Ó Neachtain a cheapadh ina n-ionad.

Go ndéanfar na Teachtaí Donnacha Ó Neachtain agus Donnchadh Mac Fhionnlaoich a urscaoileadh ón Roghchoiste um Dhlí agus Ceart, Cosaint agus Cearta na mBan agus na Teachtaí Lucinda Ní Chríodáin agus Seosamh Ó Ciardha a cheapadh ina n-ionad.

That Deputies Michael Creed and P.J Sheehan be discharged from the Select Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and that Deputies Shane McEntee and Noel Coonan be appointed in substitution for them.

That Deputy Joe McHugh be discharged from the Select Committee on Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and that Deputy Olivia Mitchell be appointed in substitution for him.

That Deputy Brian Hayes be discharged from the Select Committee on Education and Skills and that Deputy Deirdre Clune be appointed in substitution for him.

That Deputy Deirdre Clune be discharged from the Select Committee on Enterprise, Trade and Innovation and that Deputy Kieran O'Donnell be appointed in substitution for her.

That Deputy Lucinda Creighton be discharged from the Select Committee on European Affairs and that Deputy Michael Creed be appointed in substitution for her.

That Deputies Richard Bruton and Kieran O'Donnell be discharged from the Select Committee on Finance and the Public Service and that Deputies Damien English and Brian Hayes be appointed in substitution for them.

That Deputies Billy Timmins and John Deasy be discharged from the Select Committee on Foreign Affairs and that Deputies Pat Breen and Paul Connaughton be appointed in substitution for them.

That Deputies Paul Connaughton and Bernard Allen be discharged from the Select Committee on Health and Children and that Deputies Charles Flanagan and Denis Naughten be appointed in substitution for them.

That Deputies Denis Naughten and Dinny McGinley be discharged from the Select Committee on Justice, Defence and Women's Rights and that Deputies Lucinda Creighton and Joe Carey be appointed in substitution for them.

Go ndéanfar na Teachtaí Seosamh Ó Ciardha agus Seymour Crawford a urscaoileadh ón Roghchoiste um Choimirce Shóisialach agus na Teachtaí Liam Ó Toimín agus Brian Mac Dhurcáin a cheapadh ina n-ionad.

That Deputies Joe Carey and Seymour Crawford be discharged from the Select Committee on Social Protection and that Deputies Billy Timmins and Bernard Durkan be appointed in substitution for them.

Go ndéanfar na Teachtaí Seán Mac an tSaoi agus Frank Feighan a urscaoileadh ón Roghchoiste um Iompar agus na Teachtaí Tomás Ó hAodha agus Seosamh Mac Aodha a cheapadh ina n-ionad.

That Deputies Shane McEntee and Frank Feighan be discharged from the Select Committee on Transport and that Deputies Tom Hayes and Joe McHugh be appointed in substitution for them.”

—*Seán Ó Curráin, Aire Stáit ag Roinn an Taoisigh.*

GNÓ COMHALTAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACHA PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

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

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

75. “That Dáil Éireann, noting that:

- electricity prices increased by almost 5% from 1st October, 2010;
- there is a significant pressure from this electricity price increase on small and medium enterprises (SMEs) experiencing financial hardship and households dependent on low incomes;
- electricity disconnections have increased to an alarming level of approximately 2,500 every month;
- similarly gas disconnections have risen to 20 disconnections a day with approximately 90,000 customers experiencing debt difficulties;
- there is a changing demographic of those in fuel poverty as indicated by research that shows that approximately 60% of gas disconnections taking place are in owner occupied housing;
- €35 million in grant aid set aside for crucial insulation schemes in 2009 was handed back, unspent, to the Department of Finance;
- the cost of disconnections and reconnections as levied on the customer is prohibitive in many cases;
- the Minister for Finance stated that the revenue from the carbon tax would, in part, be used to alleviate fuel poverty yet he has failed to deliver on this promise;
- the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources has so far failed to enable the allocation of funding promised by the Electricity Regulation (Amendment) (Carbon Revenue Levy) Act 2010 to large energy users; and
- the Minister for Finance has failed to implement a vouched fuel allowance scheme, as promised in Budget 2010;

calls on the Government to:

- publish a fuel poverty strategy as a matter of urgency in view of the Programme for Government commitment that it would be ‘published by the end of 2009’;
- adopt the Fuel Poverty and Energy Conservation Bill as published by the Labour Party in 2008;

- scrap the plan by the Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) to insist on the rebranding of Bord Gáis and ESB, which Bord Gáis alone, estimate will cost them €40 million, a cost to be borne by the consumer;
- direct the CER to implement a zero disconnection policy through the use of pre-payment meters and to develop an acceptable policy in relation to disconnection fees;
- implement a National Retrofit Programme as a matter of urgency, with payment plans which will ensure participation from all sections of society, not just those with disposable incomes and to ensure that all monies allocated are actually spent;
- ring-fence funds raised through the carbon tax to combat fuel poverty in line with commitments given by the Minister for Finance;
- consider extending the carbon revenue levy to SMEs;
- implement a vouched fuel allowance scheme to offset the financial pressures on low income households following the introduction of the carbon tax on 1st May, 2010, as promised by the Minister for Finance; and
- extend a National Retrofit Programme to public buildings, including schools and hospitals in order to bring unemployed construction workers into the workforce and enable apprentices to complete their apprenticeships, in line with Government commitments for 33% energy saving across the public sector by 2020.” — *Liz McManus, Eamon Gilmore, Joan Burton, Emmet Stagg, Joe Costello, Michael D. Higgins, Brendan Howlin, Ciarán Lynch, Kathleen Lynch, Brian O'Shea, Jan O'Sullivan, Willie Penrose, Ruairi Quinn, Pat Rabbitte, Seán Sherlock, Róisín Shortall, Joanna Tuffy, Mary Upton, Jack Wall.*

[12 October, 2010]

Leasú (atógáil):

Amendment (resumed):

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

“recognises that:

- Ireland faces particular challenges in terms of energy cost competitiveness, including significant dependence on volatile imported fossil fuels, particularly gas and a requirement for major investment in energy infrastructure, following two decades of under-investment;
- the implementation of Government policies, along with falling natural gas prices, has led to significant reductions in Irish electricity prices in recent years, bringing them closer to and in some cases below EU and Eurozone averages for both domestic and business consumers;
- Government policy to foster competition in energy markets is working, with multiple suppliers offering a range of products to all segments of the market and that significant discounts are available to households and businesses who simply switch their supplier;
- the Public Service Obligation (PSO) levy in place for this year accounts for the entirety of the rise in electricity prices from 1st October, 2010, that the Government has decided to cover the full cost of the levy for those households in receipt of the free electricity allowance and that a significant number of domestic and business customers could reduce their electricity bills and more than offset this cost by availing

of reductions offered in the competitive electricity market or by engaging in Government supported energy efficiency programmes;

- improving energy efficiency has been widely agreed internationally as a key mechanism to offset energy price rises, enhance security of supply and reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- increasing the contribution of renewable energy in the Irish fuel mix is the best protection against further fossil fuel price rises;
- the Electricity Regulation (Amendment) (Carbon Revenue Levy) Act 2010 commenced on 1st July, 2010, that the Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) and the Department have put in place the necessary administrative procedures and arrangements and that the CER has been administering the scheme since 1st October, 2010; and
- re-branding is a necessary part of deepening the EU internal market liberalisation process and enhancing competition in the national market, in the best interests of consumers;

commends the Government for:

- its comprehensive actions to deliver a secure, sustainable and competitive energy supply, including its commitment to increasing competition as the best means of exerting downward pressure on electricity prices in the long term, and improving the regulation of energy markets, with resultant benefits to consumers;
- its policy of enhancing security of supply and reducing our exposure to volatile international fuel prices through increased fuel diversity, with particular focus on indigenous and renewable resources;
- its continuing commitment to those most at risk of energy poverty, through the creation of a cohesive and coordinated approach to energy affordability issues overseen by the inter-Departmental/Agency Group on Affordable Energy;
- its commitment to produce a comprehensive Affordable Energy Strategy which will outline actions to protect vulnerable households with a view to ensuring that existing and future measures are targeted at households where the risk of energy poverty is greatest;
- its commitment to 340,000 fuel allowance recipients by providing over €231 million in 2009/2010 via the fuel allowance and smokeless fuel scheme as a contribution towards a person's home heating costs;
- its commitment to 380,000 Household Benefits Package recipients, which will cost in excess of €200 million in 2010;
- committing to domestic and non-domestic energy efficiency programmes including for social housing, including:
 - its continued commitment to the Warmer Homes Scheme, which has supported community-based organisations and private sector contractors to provide nearly 51,000 energy efficiency improvements in low-income households over the past nine years; This year alone will see energy efficiency expenditure near €30 million in vulnerable homes;
 - its commitment towards improving the quality of private housing for vulnerable groups through the provision of €80 million in 2010 for the operation of the housing adaptation grant schemes for older people and people with a disability; and

- its commitment to providing incentives for domestic retrofits through the Home Energy Saving (HES) schemes, which was launched in March 2009 and since then has processed over 86,000 applications resulting in expenditure of over €48 million;
- its commitment to introducing a new national retrofit programme in 2011 on foot of the most recent consultation exercise which closed in mid-September 2010 and which aims to deliver energy efficiency upgrades to one million residential, public and commercial buildings in Ireland, involving energy supply companies, energy services providers, construction workers, energy auditors and policymakers;
- the provision of significant programme supports for all businesses, including an energy efficiency tax incentive under the Accelerated Capital Allowance scheme; Over 1,600 businesses have already availed of this programme, all of whom have identified immediate savings, typically greater than 10% of costs; Total business cost savings from the programme already total close to €60 million a year;
- the creation in June 2010 of an Energy Efficiency Fund, which supports exemplar energy efficiency projects in the public and commercial sectors; 43 projects have been approved to date which will deliver lifetime savings of over €70 million; and
- its comprehensive package of measures to mitigate energy costs for large energy users, including the taking of windfall gains from the electricity industry, the provision of rebates and the rebalancing of network charges.” — *An tAire Cumarsáide, Fuinnimh agus Acmhainní Nádurtha*.

MEMORANDA

Dé Céadaoin, 13 Deireadh Fómhair, 2010
Wednesday, 13th October, 2010

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Chumarsáid, Fuinneamh agus Acmhainní Nádurtha i Seomra Coiste 1, TL2000, ar 9.45 a.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Communications, Energy and Natural Resources in Committee Room 1, LH2000, at 9.45 a.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Choimirce Shóisialach i Seomra Coiste 2, TL2000, ar 11 a.m.
Meeting of the Joint Committee on Social Protection in Committee Room 2, LH2000, at 11 a.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Thalmhaíocht, Iascach agus Bia i Seomra Coiste 4, TL2000, ar 11.30 a.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in Committee Room 4, LH2000, at 11.30 a.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Ghnóthaí Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Spóirt, Pobail, Comhionannais agus Gaeltachta i Seomra Coiste 4, TL2000, ar 2 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Tourism, Culture, Sport, Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs in Committee Room 4, LH2000, at 2 p.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Athrú Aeráide agus Áirithiú Fuinnimh i Seomra Coiste 1, TL2000, ar 2.15 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Climate Change and Energy Security in Committee Room 1, LH2000, at 2.15 p.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Dhlí agus Ceart, Cosaint agus Cearta na mBan i Seomra Coiste 2, TL2000, ar 2.15 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Justice, Defence and Women's Rights in Committee Room 2, LH2000, at 2.15 p.m.

Cruinniú de Choiste Feidhmiúcháin an Chumainn Pharlaimintigh i Seomra 2 (tríd an bPríomh-Halla), Teach Laighean, ar 6 p.m. (*priobháideach*).

Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Parliamentary Association in Room 2 (off the Main Hall), Leinster House, at 6 p.m. (*private*).

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

Reachtúil:

Statutory:

1) Togra le haghaidh Rialacháin ón gComhairle lena socraítear na deiseanna iascaireachta don bhliain 2011, le haghaidh stoc éisc áirithe agus le haghaidh grúpaí áirithe de stoic éisc, is infheidhme i Muir Bhailt mar aon le nóta faisnéise míniúcháin. COM (2010) 470.

1) Proposal for a Council Regulation fixing for 2011 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea together with explanatory information note. COM (2010) 470.

2) Na Rialacháin um Orgánaigh Ghéinmhodhnaithe (Úsáid Imshrianta) (Leasú) 2010 (I.R. Uimh. 442 de 2010).

2) Genetically Modified Organisms (Contained Use) (Amendment) Regulations 2010 (S.I No. 442 of 2010).

3) An tOrdú fán Acht um Ghalair Ainmhithe 1966 (Galair Ainmhithe a Fhógairt agus a Rialú) (Leasú) 2010 (I.R. Uimh. 475 de 2010).

3) Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (Notification and Control of Animal Diseases) (Amendment) Order 2010 (S.I. No. 475 of 2010).

4) An tOrdú fán Acht um Ghalair Ainmhithe 1966 (An Chéad Sceideal) 2010 (I.R. Uimh. 476 de 2010).

4) Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (First Schedule) Order 2010 (S.I. No. 476 of 2010).

5) Na Rialacháin um Acht na gCuideachtaí 1963 (An Naoú Sceideal) 2010 (I.R. Uimh. 484 de 2010).

5) Companies Act 1963 (Ninth Schedule) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 484 of 2010).

6) An Coimisiún um Chaidreamh Oibreachais. Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, 2009.

6) Labour Relations Commission. Annual Report, 2009.

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| 7) An tOrdú fán Acht um Údarás Iompair Bhaile Átha Cliath 2008 (Alt 58) (Tosach Feidhme) 2010 (I.R. Uimh. 468 de 2010). | 7) Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008 (Section 58) (Commencement) Order 2010 (S.I. No. 468 of 2010). |
| 8) An Ghníomhaireacht um Thoirchis Ghéarchéime. Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, 2009. | 8) Crisis Pregnancy Agency. Annual Report, 2009. |
| 9) Comhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis – Rialacha Clárúcháin 2009 (I.R. Uimh. 591 de 2009). | 9) Medical Council - Registration Rules 2009 (S.I. No. 591 of 2009). |
| 10) Rialacha Chomhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis lena Sonraítear Sonraí atá le Bheith ar Chlár na Lia-Chleachtóirí (I.R. Uimh. 592 de 2009). | 10) Medical Council Rules Specifying Particulars to be Contained in the Register of Medical Practitioners (S.I. No. 592 of 2009). |
| 11) Rialacha Chomhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis Maidir le Fáil agus Taifeadadh Fianaise ag an gCoiste um Fheidhmiúlacht chun Cleachta (I.R. Uimh. 593 de 2009). | 11) Medical Council Rules Regarding the Receiving and Recording of Evidence by the Fitness to Practice Committee (S.I. No. 593 of 2009). |
| 12) Rialacha Chomhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis lena Sonraítear Critéir a bheidh le Breithniú maidir le hIarratais ar Dhuine a Chur ar Ais ar an gClár (I.R. Uimh. 594 de 2009). | 12) Medical Council Rules Specifying Criteria to be Considered for Applications for Restoration to the Register (S.I. No. 594 of 2009). |

Neamhreachtuil:

1) An Conradh ar an Aontas Eorpach: Doiciméid a fuarthas de bhun an Phrótacail maidir le ról Parlaimintí Náisiúnta san Aontas Eorpach. 4 go 8 Deireadh Fómhair, 2010.

Non-Statutory:

1) Treaty on European Union: Documents received pursuant to Protocol on the role of National Parliaments in the European Union. 4 to 8 October, 2010.