

*(Second Supplementary Order Paper)*

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**DÁIL ÉIREANN**

*Dé Máirt, 3 Deireadh Fómhair, 2017  
Tuesday, 3rd October, 2017*

2 p.m.

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**GNÓ COMHALTAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACHA  
PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

*Fógra i dtaobh Leasuithe ar Thairiscint: Notice of Amendments to Motion*

**144.** “That Dáil Éireann:

recognises:

- the progress made since the introduction of the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013;
- that, despite the progress, there are an increasing number of incidents and reports of animal mistreatment, cruelty and abuse; and
- that this rise in reported incidents of animal cruelty stems from neglect, poor regulations, lack of enforcement of current legislation, inadequate legislation and lack of sanctions for those responsible for these acts of cruelty;

acknowledges the substantial work of individuals, families, animal welfare groups and activists in highlighting these problems; and

calls for:

- the introduction of a comprehensive system of monitoring conditions in which animals are kept;
- robust regulations to protect animals from abuse, cruel treatment, neglect and poor living conditions;
- those accused of abuse or acts of cruelty to be held accountable for their actions;
- transparency in relation to anti-doping protocols, publishing details of testing and more out-of-competition unannounced testing; and
- a clear message from Government that cruelty to animals is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.” — *Maureen O'Sullivan, Clare Daly, Joan Collins, Thomas P. Broughan, Mick Wallace, Catherine Connolly, Thomas Pringle.*

*Leasuithe:*

*Amendments:*

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

“recognises:

- the robust regulatory framework in place under the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013, which ensures the highest standards in animal welfare are maintained and a strict sanctioning regime for offenders;
- how the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013 gives authorised officer status to employees of the Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Dublin Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Turf Club to carry out welfare related duties;
- that the European Communities (Animal Transport and Control Post) Regulations 2006 established a vehicle inspections system nationwide on all forms of animal transport to ensure the protection of animals in transit, strict standards for animal handling, hygiene arrangements, feeding and rest periods;
- that detailed inspections are obligatory before approval is granted to ships transporting animals, with current Irish regulations relating to the approval of livestock transport ships set at a higher level than what applies in many other European Union countries;
- how all live animals being traded from the State must have a veterinary health certificate from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine confirming disease free status and notifying each animal movement via the European Commission's Trade Control and Expert System;
- the significant co-operation between Ireland and Northern Ireland in animal health and welfare with the highly important All Island Animal Health and Welfare Strategy being delivered in both jurisdictions as agreed by the North South Ministerial Council;
- that cruelty to animals is unacceptable and should not be tolerated; and
- the substantial work of individuals, families, animal welfare groups and activists in highlighting animal welfare issues; and

calls:

- on the Government and relevant authorities to ensure that the current animal welfare protection regulations are robustly enforced and that any offences which occur are promptly investigated and the full sanctioning powers applied;
- for adequate animal welfare funding by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to organisations who directly deliver animal care and welfare services; and
- on the Government to ensure that the All Island Animal Health and Welfare Strategy is protected in upcoming Brexit negotiations to guarantee the continued operation of a unified animal health and welfare approach on this island.” — *Charlie McConalogue, Bobby Aylward, John Brassil, Declan Breathnach, James Browne, Mary Butler, Thomas Byrne, Jackie Cahill, Dara Calleary, Pat Casey, Shane Cassells, Jack Chambers, Lisa M. Chambers, Niall Collins, Barry Cowen, John Curran, Éamon Ó Cuív, Stephen S. Donnelly, Timmy Dooley, Sean Fleming, Pat the Cope Gallagher, Seán Haughey, Billy Kelleher, John Lahart, James Lawless, Marc MacSharry, Micheál Martin, Michael McGrath, John McGuinness, Michael Moynihan, Aindrias Moynihan, Eugene Murphy, Jim O'Callaghan, Kevin O'Keeffe, Fiona O'Loughlin, Margaret Murphy O'Mahony, Frank O'Rourke, Darragh O'Brien, Willie O'Dea, Anne Rabbitte, Eamon Scanlon, Brendan Smith, Niamh Smyth, Robert Troy.*

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

“notes that this Government does not tolerate any instances of animal cruelty;

acknowledges the significant progress made in updating animal welfare legislation in recent years, in particular with the introduction of the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013 which updated and modernised over one hundred years of previous legislation in this area;

notes the increased penalties set out in the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013 in respect of animal welfare offences;

acknowledges the extensive system of welfare checks that are systematically carried out on farms and other locations each year;

notes the role of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine's Animal Welfare Helpline in assisting the public's reporting of instances of animal neglect;

acknowledges:

- the important role played by animal welfare charities; and
- that the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine's contribution to animal welfare charities (in excess of €2.4 million paid in 2016) plays an important role in protecting animal welfare;

notes:

- the extended national animal welfare inspection capability through service agreements between the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and certain non-governmental organisations whereby appropriately trained staff are assigned additional powers of inspection under the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013; and
- the increased transparency and success in prosecutions taken in respect of animal welfare offences since the introduction of the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013, with 34 successful prosecutions having been taken by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine head office under the Act and an additional 26 are currently ongoing, and additional prosecutions are taken at a regional level by An Garda Síochána (sometimes in conjunction with the Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), local authorities and Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine regional offices;

acknowledges the strict approval process that exists for livestock vessels transporting live animals from Ireland;

notes the extensive review of procedures for regulatory control of greyhound racing by Bord na gCon (Irish Greyhound Board), including the development of new intelligence led testing that has now resulted in the Greyhound Industry Bill 2017, which has gone through the pre-legislative stage and will be prioritised for speedy passage through the Houses of the Oireachtas this session; and

recognises the significant progress made to date by Bord na gCon (Irish Greyhound Board) in the area of anti-doping, through its establishment of a scientific committee to implement the highest standards of deterrence against the minority of individuals who seek to gain advantage by cheating in the sport and its significant investment in laboratory equipment.” — *An tAire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara*.

3. To insert the following after “held accountable for their actions;”

- “— the prohibition of wild animal circuses and, in doing so, recognises:
  - the growing body of veterinary and animal welfare knowledge which evidences the fact that the complex welfare needs of wild animals cannot be met in travelling circuses; and
  - the public support for a ban and the increasing number of jurisdictions world-wide introducing such bans;” — *Paul Murphy, Mick Barry, Ruth Coppinger, Richard Boyd Barrett, Gino Kenny, Brid Smith*.