

(Supplementary Order Paper)

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DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Máirt, 26 Meitheamh, 2018
Tuesday, 26th June, 2018

2 p.m.

GNÓ COMHALTAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACHA
PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Fógra i dtaobh leasú ar Thairiscint: Notice of Amendment to Motion

190. “That Dáil Éireann:

recognises that:

- Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) are recruited specifically to assist in the care of pupils with disabilities in an educational context;
- SNAs play a key role in supporting children who have additional care needs to attend school and participate in education;
- SNAs do not have job security, they can be let go at any time, the last SNA to be employed is the first to be let go;
- it is difficult to get onto the SNA supplementary assignment panel as an SNA is required to have a minimum of one year's service, however, service in a substitute capacity, i.e., covering for maternity leave, sick leave, career breaks, job-sharing, etc., does not count;
- newly qualified SNAs are discriminated against when applying for vacancies if they are not on the SNA supplementary assignment panel as employers are obliged to give precedence to applicants who are members of that panel;
- parents often have to fight to receive the additional supports their children require; and
- principals and boards of management spend a significant amount of time making applications each year for SNA support for their schools; and

calls on the Government to:

- provide job security to SNAs by providing permanent contracts;
- aspire to assigning an SNA to every school on a full time basis, this will significantly reduce the time spent applying for SNAs every year, ensuring that every child who needs SNA support receives it, and provides job security to SNAs by providing permanent contracts;
- review the SNA supplementary assignment panel arrangements, as substitute work should be taken into consideration to enable all SNAs to gain entry onto the panel;

P.T.O.

- support and provide ongoing professional development options for SNAs in order to maximise responses to a child’s professionally-assessed disability or need; and
- create a statutory forum in which the concerns and feedback of SNAs can be integrated into educational policy development.” — *Mattie McGrath, Michael Collins, Michael J. Healy-Rae, Noel Grealish, Danny Healy-Rae, Michael Harty.*

Leasú:

Amendment:

1. To insert the following after “educational policy development”:

- “— set out how the recommendations of the Comprehensive Review of the Special Needs Assistant Scheme, recently published by the National Council for Special Education, are to be implemented.” — *Thomas Byrne, Bobby Aylward, John Brassil, Declan Breathnach, James Browne, Mary Butler, Jackie Cahill, Dara Calleary, Pat Casey, Shane Cassells, Jack Chambers, Lisa M. Chambers, Niall Collins, Barry Cowen, John Curran, Stephen S. Donnelly, Timmy Dooley, Sean Fleming, Pat the Cope Gallagher, Seán Haughey, Billy Kelleher, John Lahart, James Lawless, Marc MacSharry, Micheál Martin, Charlie McConalogue, Michael McGrath, John McGuinness, Aindrias Moynihan, Michael Moynihan, Eugene Murphy, Margaret Murphy O'Mahony, Darragh O'Brien, Jim O'Callaghan, Éamon Ó Cuív, Willie O'Dea, Kevin O'Keeffe, Fiona O'Loughlin, Frank O'Rourke, Anne Rabbitte, Eamon Scanlon, Brendan Smith, Niamh Smyth, Robert Troy.*