DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 23 *Iúil*, 2020
Thursday, 23*rd July*, 2020

RIAR NA hOIBRE
ORDER PAPER

Déardaoin, 23 *Iúil*, 2020
Thursday, 23*rd July*, 2020

An Lárionad Coinbhinsiúin, Baile Átha Cliath
Convention Centre Dublin

9.30 a.m.

ORD GNÓ
ORDER OF BUSINESS

8*a*. Iarrthóir chun bheith ina Leas-Cheann Comhairle a Roghnú.
Selection of a candidate for Leas-Cheann Comhairle.

6. Meastacháin Athbhreithnithe i gcomhair Seirbhísí Poiblí 2020 [Vótaí 11 go 15, 17 go 19, 39 agus 43].
Revised Estimates for Public Services 2020 [Votes 11 to 15, 17 to 19, 39 and 43].

4. An Bille Sláinte (Seirbhís Lia-Chleachtóirí Ginearálta agus Critéir Incháilitheachta a Athrú), 2020 — Ordú don Dara Céim.
Health (General Practitioner Service and Alteration of Criteria for Eligibility) Bill 2020 — Order for Second Stage.

13. (*l*) Tairiscint *maidir le* Cúram Leanaí Luathbhlianta (*vótáil a cuireadh siar*).
(*a*) Motion *re* Early Years Childcare (*postponed division*).

14. (*l*) Tairiscint *maidir le* Debenhams Ireland (*vótáil a cuireadh siar*).
(*a*) Motion *re* Debenhams Ireland (*postponed division*).

FÓGRA I dTAOBH GNÓ NUA
NOTICE OF NEW BUSINESS

***a*4*a*.** An Bille Leasa Shóisialaigh (Covid-19) (Leasú), 2020 — Ordú don Dara Céim.
Social Welfare (Covid-19) (Amendment) Bill 2020 — Order for Second Stage.

7*a*. Tairiscint maidir le Ceadú beartaithe ag Dáil Éireann i ndáil leis na Rialacháin fán Acht um Pleanáil agus Forbairt, 2000 (Forbairt Dhíolmhaithe) (Uimh. 3), 2020.
Motion *re* proposed approval by Dáil Éireann of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (Exempted Development) (No. 3) Regulations 2020.

14*a*. Tairiscint *maidir leis* an mBille um Mionnú Éithigh agus Cionta Gaolmhara, 2018.
Motion *re* Perjury and Related Offences Bill 2018.

I dTOSACH GNÓ PHOIBLÍ
AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Billí a thionscnamh: Initiation of Bills

Tíolactha:
Presented:

4. An Bille Sláinte (Seirbhís Lia-Chleachtóirí Ginearálta agus Critéir Incháilitheachta a Athrú), 2020 — Ordú don Dara Céim.
Health (General Practitioner Service and Alteration of Criteria for Eligibility) Bill 2020 — Order for Second Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do leasú an Achta Sláinte, 1970 chun na critéir maidir le hincháilitheacht le haghaidh seirbhísí faoin Acht sin a athrú; do dhéanamh socrú, go breisitheach, maidir le seirbhís liachta agus máinliachta lia-chleachtóirí ginearálta a chur ar fáil do dhaoine a bhfuil gnáthchónaí orthu sa Stát agus nach bhfuil trí bliana déag d'aois slánaithe acu; do dhéanamh socrú maidir le leasuithe ilghnéitheacha eile ar an Acht sin; agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe gaolmhara.

Bill entitled an Act to amend the Health Act 1970 to alter the criteria in relation to eligibility for services under that Act; to provide, incrementally, for the making available of a general practitioner medical and surgical service to persons who are ordinarily resident in the State and who have not attained the age of thirteen years; to provide for other miscellaneous amendments to that Act; and to provide for related matters.

—An tAire Sláinte.

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a4a. An Bille Leasa Shóisialaigh (Covid-19) (Leasú), 2020 — Ordú don Dara Céim.
Social Welfare (Covid-19) (Amendment) Bill 2020 — Order for Second Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do leasú agus do leathnú na nAchtanna Leasa Shóisialaigh; do dhéanamh socrú maidir le sochar nua chun maolú a dhéanamh ar na droch-éifeachtaí eacnamaíocha a bhainfidh le leathadh an ghalair ar a dtugtar Covid-19; do dhéanamh socrú maidir le ranníocaí árachais shóisialaigh a bheidh íoctha a chur síos i leith íocaíochtaí a eascraíonn go díreach as éifeachtaí eacnamaíocha an ghalair sin; agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe gaolmhara.

Bill entitled an Act to amend and extend the Social Welfare Acts; to provide for a new benefit to mitigate the adverse economic effects of the spread of the disease known as Covid-19; to provide for the attribution of paid social insurance contributions in respect of payments arising directly from the economic impacts of that disease; and to provide for related matters.

—An tAire Gnóthaí Fostaíochta agus Coimirce Sóisialaí.

Fógraí Tairisceana: Notices of Motions

6. "Measatacháin i gcomhair Seirbhísí Poiblí [2020]:

Vóta 11 — Caiteachas Poiblí agus

Estimates for Public Services [2020]:

Vote 11 — Public Expenditure and Reform

Athchóiriú (Meastachán Athbhreithnithe).

Go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €42,745,000 chun íoctha an mhuirir a thiocfaidh chun bheith iníoctha i rith na bliana dar críoch an 31ú lá de Nollaig, 2020, le haghaidh thuarastail agus chostais Oifig an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe, le haghaidh seirbhísí áirithe atá faoi riaradh Oifig an Aire agus chun deontais áirithe a íoc, agus go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €146,000 trí leithreasaí nár caitheadh agus a bhféadfar a dtabhairt suas a iarchur faoi Alt 91 den Acht Airgeadais, 2004 a chur chun feidhme le haghaidh seirbhísí soláthair chaipitiúil.

Vóta 12 — Aoisliúntas agus Liúntais Scoir (Meastachán Athbhreithnithe).

Go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €375,517,000 chun íoctha an mhuirir a thiocfaidh chun bheith iníoctha i rith na bliana dar críoch an 31ú lá de Nollaig, 2020, le haghaidh pinsean, aoisliúntais, díobhálacha ceirde, agus liúntais agus aiscí breise agus eile, faoi na hAchtanna Aoisliúntais, 1834 go 2004 agus faoi reachtanna iolartha eile; le haghaidh pinsin, liúntais agus aiscí seach-reachtúla arna ndámhachtain ag an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe, táillí do lia-réiteoirí agus táillí ócáideacha do dhochtúirí; cúitimh agus íocaíochtaí eile i leith díobhálacha pearsanta; táillí don Údarás Pinsean agus táillí gairmiúla eile, íocaíochtaí ilghnéitheacha, etc.

Vóta 13 — Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí (Meastachán Athbhreithnithe).

Go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €490,427,000 chun íoctha an mhuirir a thiocfaidh chun bheith iníoctha i rith na bliana dar críoch an 31ú lá de Nollaig, 2020, le haghaidh thuarastail agus chostais Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí; le haghaidh seirbhísí atá faoi riaradh na hOifige sin agus chun deontais áirithe a íoc agus chun caiteachas áirithe a chúiteamh, agus go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €8,000,000 trí leithreasaí nár caitheadh agus a bhféadfar a dtabhairt suas a iarchur faoi Alt 91 den Acht Airgeadais, 2004 a chur chun feidhme le haghaidh

(Revised Estimate).

That a sum not exceeding €42,745,000 be granted to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2020, for the salaries and expenses of the Office of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, for certain services administered by the Office of the Minister and for payment of certain grants and that a sum not exceeding €146,000 be granted by way of the application for capital supply services of unspent appropriations, the surrender of which may be deferred under Section 91 of the Finance Act 2004.

Vote 12 — Superannuation and Retired Allowances (Revised Estimate).

That a sum not exceeding €375,517,000 be granted to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2020, for pensions, superannuation, occupational injuries, and additional and other allowances and gratuities under the Superannuation Acts 1834 to 2004 and sundry other statutes; extra-statutory pensions, allowances and gratuities awarded by the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, fees to medical referees and occasional fees to doctors; compensation and other payments in respect of personal injuries; fees to Pensions Authority and other professional fees, miscellaneous payments, etc.

Vote 13 — Office of Public Works (Revised Estimate).

That a sum not exceeding €490,427,000 be granted to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2020, for the salaries and expenses of the Office of Public Works; for services administered by that Office and for payment of certain grants and for the recoupment of certain expenditure and that a sum not exceeding €8,000,000 be granted by way of the application for capital supply services of unspent appropriations, the surrender of which may be deferred under Section 91 of

seirbhísí soláthair chaipitiúil.

Vóta 14 — An tSaotharlann Stáit (Meastachán Athbhreithnithe).

Go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €10,271,000 chun íoctha an mhuirir a thiocfaidh chun bheith iníoctha i rith na bliana dar críoch an 31ú lá de Nollaig, 2020, le haghaidh thuarastail agus chostais na Saotharlainne Stáit.

Vóta 15 — An tSeirbhís Shicréideach (Meastachán Athbhreithnithe).

Go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €2,000,000 chun íoctha an mhuirir a thiocfaidh chun bheith iníoctha i rith na bliana dar críoch an 31ú lá de Nollaig, 2020, le haghaidh na Seirbhíse Sicréidí.

Vóta 17 — An tSeirbhís um Cheapacháin Phoiblí (Meastachán Athbhreithnithe).

Go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €16,291,000 chun íoctha an mhuirir a thiocfaidh chun bheith iníoctha i rith na bliana dar críoch an 31ú lá de Nollaig, 2020, le haghaidh thuarastail agus chostais na Seirbhíse um Cheapacháin Phoiblí, agus go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €150,000 trí leithreasaí nár caitheadh agus a bhféadfar a dtabhairt suas a iarchur faoi Alt 91 den Acht Airgeadais, 2004 a chur chun feidhme le haghaidh seirbhísí soláthair chaipitiúil.

Vóta 18 — An Oifig Náisiúnta um Sheirbhísí Comhroinnte (Meastachán Athbhreithnithe).

Go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €55,400,000 chun íoctha an mhuirir a thiocfaidh chun bheith iníoctha i rith na bliana dar críoch an 31ú lá de Nollaig, 2020, le haghaidh thuarastail agus chostais na hOifige Náisiúnta um Sheirbhísí Comhroinnte, agus go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €1,024,000 trí leithreasaí nár caitheadh agus a bhféadfar a dtabhairt suas a iarchur faoi Alt 91 den Acht Airgeadais, 2004 a chur chun feidhme le haghaidh seirbhísí soláthair chaipitiúil.

Vóta 19 — Oifig an Ombudsman (Meastachán Athbhreithnithe).

Go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €11,839,000 chun íoctha an mhuirir a

the Finance Act 2004.

Vote 14 — State Laboratory (Revised Estimate).

That a sum not exceeding €10,271,000 be granted to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2020, for the salaries and expenses of the State Laboratory.

Vote 15 — Secret Service (Revised Estimate).

That a sum not exceeding €2,000,000 be granted to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2020, for Secret Service.

Vote 17 — Public Appointments Service (Revised Estimate).

That a sum not exceeding €16,291,000 be granted to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2020, for the salaries and expenses of the Public Appointments Service and that a sum not exceeding €150,000 be granted by way of the application for capital supply services of unspent appropriations, the surrender of which may be deferred under Section 91 of the Finance Act 2004.

Vote 18 — National Shared Services Office (Revised Estimate).

That a sum not exceeding €55,400,000 be granted to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2020, for the salaries and expenses of the National Shared Services Office and that a sum not exceeding €1,024,000 be granted by way of the application for capital supply services of unspent appropriations, the surrender of which may be deferred under Section 91 of the Finance Act 2004.

Vote 19 — Office of the Ombudsman (Revised Estimate).

That a sum not exceeding €11,839,000 be granted to defray the charge which will

thiocfaidh chun bheith iníoctha i rith na bliana dar críoch an 31ú lá de Nollaig, 2020, le haghaidh thuarastail agus chostais Oifig an Ombudsman, Oifig an Choimisiúin um Cheapacháin Seirbhíse Poiblí, an Choimisiúin um Chaighdeáin in Oifigí Poiblí, Oifig an Choimisinéara Faisnéise agus Oifig an Choimisinéara um Fhaisnéis Comhshaoil.

come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2020, for the salaries and expenses of the Office of the Ombudsman, the Office of the Commission for Public Service Appointments, the Standards in Public Office Commission, the Office of the Information Commissioner and the Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Information.

Vóta 39 — An Oifig um Shainfháil Rialtais (Meastachán Athbhreithnithe).

Go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €18,352,000 chun íoctha an mhuirir a thiocfaidh chun bheith iníoctha i rith na bliana dar críoch an 31ú lá de Nollaig, 2020, le haghaidh thuarastail agus chostais na hOifige um Shainfháil Rialtais, agus go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €59,000 trí leithreasaí nár caitheadh agus a bhféadfar a dtabhairt suas a iarchur faoi Alt 91 den Acht Airgeadais, 2004 a chur chun feidhme le haghaidh seirbhísí soláthair chaipitiúil.

Vote 39 — Office of Government Procurement (Revised Estimate).

That a sum not exceeding €18,352,000 be granted to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2020, for the salaries and expenses of the Office of Government Procurement and that a sum not exceeding €59,000 be granted by way of the application for capital supply services of unspent appropriations, the surrender of which may be deferred under Section 91 of the Finance Act 2004.

Vóta 43 — Oifig Phríomh-Oifigeach Faisnéise an Rialtais (Meastachán Athbhreithnithe).

Go ndeonófar suim nach mó ná €21,704,000 chun íoctha an mhuirir a thiocfaidh chun bheith iníoctha i rith na bliana dar críoch an 31ú lá de Nollaig, 2020, le haghaidh thuarastail agus chostais Oifig Phríomh-Oifigeach Faisnéise an Rialtais.

Vote 43 — Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (Revised Estimate).

That a sum not exceeding €21,704,000 be granted to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2020, for the salaries and expenses of the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer."

—An tAire Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe.

7*a*. "Go gceadaíonn Dáil Éireann na Rialacháin seo a leanas ina ndréacht:

Na Rialacháin fán Acht um Pleanáil agus Forbairt, 2000 (Forbairt Dhíolmhaithe) (Uimh. 3), 2020,

ar leagadh cóipeanna díobh ina ndréacht faoi bhráid Dháil Éireann an 22 Iúil 2020.

That Dáil Éireann approves the following Regulations in draft:

Planning and Development Act 2000 (Exempted Development) (No. 3) Regulations 2020,

copies of which were laid in draft form before Dáil Éireann on 22nd July, 2020."

—An tAire Tithíochta, Pleanála, Pobail agus Rialtais Áitiúil.

ORDUITHE AN LAE
ORDERS OF THE DAY

8*a*. Iarrthóir chun bheith ina Leas-Cheann Comhairle a Roghnú.
Selection of a candidate for Leas-Cheann Comhairle.

GNÓ COMHALTAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACHA
PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Tairiscint (*vótáil a cuireadh siar*):
Motion (*postponed division*):

13. "That Dáil Éireann:

notes:

— the early years sector has been acutely underfunded for many years and as a result Ireland is ranked the lowest country in the European Union (EU) for investment in this vital area;

— this lack of adequate and sustainable funding has ensured fees for parents are amongst the highest in the EU;

— that the steep costs accrued by parents in securing early years childcare places a significant financial burden on families;

— this sector, which employs approximately 30,000 people, has some of the most highly qualified professionals who are paid some of the lowest wages of any sector, with many existing on minimum wage;

— that the public health emergency has further highlighted sustainability issues within the sector, with many early years providers fearing closure; and

— the barrier to employment, particularly for women, as a direct result of accessing childcare and the exorbitant costs which are particularly cumbersome; and

calls on the Government to:

— introduce a comprehensive early years plan that:

  — defines the early years as a distinct phase with unique learning and developmental requirements;

  — recognises the diversity of the early years sector and acknowledges that a one-size-fits-all solution is insufficient to address this diversity;

  — delivers an early years sustainability fund for the whole sector;

  — commits to significantly ramping up investment year-on-year, fast-tracking to a spend of at least one per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as recommended by the early years sector and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF);

  — reinstates the wage subsidy scheme at the full amount, as the basis of investment in the sector, so that entry level wages increase to the living wage;

  — fully commits to implement pay scales and full continuous professional development for all staff which properly value childcare as a viable long-term career choice; and

  — ensures, once proper investment is in place, that a maximum weekly childcare

fee is set, incrementally reducing until the service is free at the point of use; and

— commit to engage with the sector in the development of the plan and ensure that representatives of the sector are consulted with." — *Kathleen Funchion, Chris Andrews, John Brady, Martin Browne, Pat Buckley, Matt Carthy, Sorca Clarke, Rose Conway-Walsh, Réada Cronin, Seán Crowe, David Cullinane, Pa Daly, Pearse Doherty, Paul Donnelly, Dessie Ellis, Mairéad Farrell, Thomas Gould, Johnny Guirke, Martin Kenny, Claire Kerrane, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Mary Lou McDonald, Denise Mitchell, Imelda Munster, Johnny Mythen, Eoin Ó Broin, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Ruairí Ó Murchú, Louise O'Reilly, Darren O'Rourke, Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Maurice Quinlivan, Patricia Ryan, Brian Stanley, Pauline Tully, Mark Ward, Violet-Anne Wynne*.

[21 *July*, 2020]

Leasú (*atógáil*):
Amendment (*resumed*):

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

"acknowledges the challenges faced by the early learning and care sector, and welcomes the commitment in the Programme for Government to reform the childcare system to create one that:

— brings together the best of community and private childcare provision, using key State supports to ensure affordable, quality outcomes for children and parents;

— is focused on children's rights and providing a trusted developmental environment for our young children to flourish in;

— is inclusive, ensuring access to quality childcare is provided fairly to all children, including children with a disability or with additional developmental needs;

— promotes quality outcomes in terms of both education and care;

— addresses current inequalities;

— appropriately values the work of staff and encourages their retention; and

— substantially reduces costs for parents; and

furthermore, welcomes the Government's commitment to:

— increase State investment in the sector in a manner that improves the affordability of early learning and care for parents;

— establish an agency, Childcare Ireland, to lead in the expansion of high-quality childcare and the professionalisation of the workforce;

— build on the benefits for children and parents of the National Childcare Scheme and the Early Childhood Care and Education Programme, to deliver increased investment and reduce costs for parents;

— develop and introduce a long-term, sustainable funding model by fast tracking the work of the Expert Group to develop a new Funding Model for Early Learning and Care and School Age Childcare;

— develop supports for parents, whether they choose childcare outside or inside the home;

and

— support the achievement of appropriate terms and conditions for the early learning and care workforce." — *An tAire Leanaí agus Gnóthaí Óige*.

Tairiscint (*vótáil a cuireadh siar*):
Motion (*postponed division*):

14. "That Dáil Éireann:

notes that:

— over 1,400 workers in Debenhams Ireland faced mass layoffs when the United Kingdom (UK) parent company announced it would no longer support the Irish subsidiary in April of this year;

— the company have not negotiated with the workers' representatives since and that liquidators have been appointed;

— the workers have a collective agreement with Debenhams that guarantees an enhanced redundancy payment package of two weeks statutory plus two weeks;

— initially workers were informed that the company had liabilities of around €19 million, but this estimate has since been revised upwards to around €225 million;

— Debenhams Ireland had entered an arrangement as co-guarantor of a major debt facility of around £200 million utilised by the UK parent company in 2019;

— the Bank of Ireland is part of the consortium that includes Barclays bank and two United States based hedge funds that triggered this process and this consortium are now effectively the owners of Debenhams UK; and

— workers are fearful that the insolvency of their company has all the hallmarks of a tactical insolvency which will leave them as creditors with nothing other than statutory entitlements;

further notes that:

— five years ago, Clerys' department store closed and its workers were made redundant with no notification by their company;

— the Oireachtas responded by commissioning a report into the causes of the closure, and the manner in which workers were abandoned;

— the subsequent 'Expert Examination and Review of Laws on the Protection of Employee Interests when assets are separated from the operating entity (Duffy-Cahill Report)' made several suggestions for legislative reform to ensure workers would not be abandoned in any subsequent closure or liquidation process; and

— to date the Oireachtas has failed to legislate for any of the areas examined by the Duffy-Cahill Report;

condemns:

— the failure of past Governments to legislate to protect workers in these situations; and

— the actions of the consortium now in control of Debenhams and specifically the role of the Bank of Ireland who were bailed out by the Irish State in 2008;

sends a message of support to the Debenhams' workers for the stance they have taken to protect their livelihoods;

recognises:

— the plight of the Debenhams' workers and the decades of service many have rendered to their company;

— the threat of mass redundancies facing many other workers in many sectors and industries in the coming period; and

— in the case of Debenhams, the State is the first creditor that the liquidators seek to settle with on amounts due for various taxes and rates owed;

calls on the Government to:

— legislate as a priority to strengthen the rights of workers facing redundancies and layoffs, and specifically to legislate to:

  — reorder the priority afforded to workers as creditors in any liquidation process by amending section 621 of the Companies Act 2014;

  — amend the Protection of Employment Act 1977 to increase the compensation for workers from four weeks to two years in cases where their employer has contravened sections 9 and 10 of the Act; and

  — amend all appropriate legislation such as the 'Protection of Employment Acts' as called for in the Duffy-Cahill Report to ensure that where agreements for enhanced redundancies have been negotiated with workers, these are honoured as preferential creditors in any subsequent liquidation process; and

in recognition of the failure of the State to act in this area and to protect workers like those in Debenhams, calls on the Minister for Finance, Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection and the Taoiseach to:

— notify the liquidators in Debenhams that the State will forego its priority as a creditor and instruct the liquidator to use funds realised instead to pay the enhanced redundancy payments agreed between the Debenhams' workers and the company; and

— immediately initiate negotiations with representatives of the Bank of Ireland to ensure the workers receive the full collective redundancy package previously agreed with the Debenhams' company." — *Richard Boyd Barrett, Bríd Smith, Gino Kenny, Paul Murphy, Mick Barry.*

[21 *July*, 2020]

Leasú (*atógáil*):
Amendment (*resumed*):

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

"extends its sympathy to the employees of Debenhams Ireland who have lost their jobs given the liquidation of the company;

acknowledges the distress and worry that this is causing for employees of Debenhams Ireland, and the added difficulty at the present time when mobility remains restricted;

notes that:

— Debenhams Ireland is undergoing a court-supervised liquidation, and that the case remains before the High Court and accordingly is *sub judice*;

— a company cannot merely assert that it is insolvent, it must apply for an official court

liquidation and as such the liquidation will be under the supervision of the Irish courts system;

— the Companies Act 2014 already provides for a court power to order the return of assets improperly transferred in appropriate cases;

— the Workplace Relations Commission continues to be fully operational and available to any interested parties who may require it;

— the Government's job loss protocol has been activated for employees of Debenhams Ireland putting in place all available supports and information for workers, including on welfare entitlements, job-search assistance and upskilling needs and opportunities;

— the Protection of Employment Act 1977 imposes a number of obligations on employers who are proposing collective redundancies;

— in respect of redundancy entitlements, it is the responsibility of the employer in the first instance to pay statutory redundancy and other wage related entitlements to eligible employees;

— the Social Insurance Fund provides an important safety net for employees in situations where the employer cannot pay statutory redundancy due to financial difficulties or insolvency; and

— the State will guarantee statutory employment rights to the workers of Debenhams;

recalls that in response to concerns in earlier cases, the then Government, in 2016, commissioned two reports in parallel: the 'Expert Examination and Review of Laws on the Protection of Employee Interests when assets are separated from the operating entity (Duffy-Cahill Report)' in March 2016, and the report of the Company Law Review Group (CLRG) on 'Protection of Employees and Unsecured Creditors' in June 2017;

recognises the need for the Government to have a strong focus on job creation, training and re-skilling in the July Stimulus announcement and forthcoming National Economic Plan, given the number of people whose employment has been threatened or lost as a result of the Covid-19 public health emergency;

further notes that the Tánaiste and Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation will meet with Debenhams worker representatives; and

endorses the intention to immediately commence the Programme for Government's commitments regarding employee protections by:

— reviewing whether the current legal provisions surrounding collective redundancies and the liquidation of companies effectively protect the rights of workers;

— reviewing the Companies Act 2014, with a view to addressing the practice of trading entities splitting their operations between trading and property, with the result being the trading business (including the jobs) goes into insolvency and the assets are taken out of the original business; and

— examining the legal provision that pertains to any sale to a connected party following the insolvency of a company including who can object and the allowable grounds of an objection." — *An Tánaiste agus Aire Gnó, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta.*

14*a*. "That, pursuant to Standing Order 198, the Perjury and Related Offences Bill 2018, which lapsed on the dissolution of the 32nd Dáil, shall be restored to the Order Paper at Order for Committee Stage." — *Denis Naughten, Peadar Tóibín, Noel Grealish, Cathal Berry, Verona Murphy, Peter Fitzpatrick, Seán Canney, Matt Shanahan, Michael Lowry.*

SCRÍBHINNÍ A LEAGADH FAOI BHRÁID NA dTITHE
DOCUMENTS LAID BEFORE THE HOUSES[1]

Reachtúil	***Statutory***
Tairiscint Ceadaithe ag Teastáil	*Requiring Motion of Approval*
Níl aon scríbhinn á leagan faoin gCatagóir seo	None
In-neamhnithe le Tairiscint	*Open to Motion to Annul*
Na Rialacháin fán Acht um Chúiteamh d'Infheisteoirí, 1998 (Comhlachtaí agus Daoine a Fhorordú) (Leasú), 2020 (I.R. Uimh. 255 de 2020).	Investor Compensation Act 1998 (Prescription of Bodies and Persons) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 (S.I. No. 255 of 2020).
An Fodhlí um Chomhaltaí a Thoghadh lena gCeapadh ar Bhord Clárúcháin na bhFisiteiripeoirí, 2020 (I.R. Uimh. 253 de 2020).	Election of Members for Appointment to the Physiotherapists Registration Board Bye-law 2020 (S.I. No. 253 of 2020).
Eile	*Other*
Na Cuntais Airgeadais. Ráitis Airgeadais Iniúchta an Státchiste don Bhliain Airgeadais 1 Eanáir 2019 go 31 Nollaig 2019 (D).	Finance Accounts. Audited Financial Statements of the Exchequer for the Financial Year 1st January, 2019 to 31st December, 2019 (D).
Bórd na Móna. An Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, 2020.	Bord na Móna. Annual Report, 2020.
Tuarascáil ón bPríomh-Oifig Staidrimh don Oireachtas faoi Alt 2 (5) d'Acht an Aontais Eorpaigh (Grinnscrúdú), 2002. Eanáir go Iúil 2020.	Report of the Central Statistics Office to the Oireachtas under Section 2 (5) of the European Union (Scrutiny) Act 2002. January to June, 2020.
Neamhreachtúil	***Non-Statutory***
Níl aon scríbhinn á leagan faoin gCatagóir seo	None

[1]I gcás nach leagtar scríbhinn ach faoi bhráid aon Teach amháin, cuirfear (D) – Dáil nó (S) – Seanad ina diaidh dá réir sin.
Where a document is laid before one House only it will be appended with (D) – Dáil or (S) – Seanad accordingly.