

*Dé Céadaoin, 11 Feabhra, 2009*  
*Wednesday, 11th February, 2009*

10.30 a.m.

---

RIAR NA hOIBRE

*Order Paper*

---

GNÓ POIBLÍ

*Public Business*

- 
1. (l) An Bille Gáis (Leasú) 2008 [*Dáil*] — An Coiste.  
(a) Gas (Amendment) Bill 2008 [*Dáil*] — Committee.

---

  2. (l) An Bille Cuanta (Leasú) 2008 — An Coiste (*leasú 8, atógáil*).  
(a) Harbours (Amendment) Bill 2008 — Committee (*amendment 8, resumed*).

---

  3. (l) An Bille Toghcháin (Leasú) 2008 [*Dáil*] — An Coiste.  
(a) Electoral (Amendment) Bill 2008 [*Dáil*] — Committee.

---

  4. An Bille Cróinéirí 2007 — An Coiste.  
Coroners Bill 2007 — Committee.

---

  5. Bille na dTeangacha Oifigiúla (Leasú) 2005 — An Dara Céim.  
Official Languages (Amendment) Bill 2005 — Second Stage.  
—*Senators Joe O’Toole, Paul Coghlan, David Norris.*

---

  6. An Bille um Chosaint Coigiltis Comhair Creidmheasa 2008 — An Dara Céim.  
Credit Union Savings Protection Bill 2008 — Second Stage.  
—*Senators Joe O’Toole, David Norris, Feargal Quinn, Shane Ross, Ivana Bacik, Rónán Mullen.*

---

  7. An Bille um Chumas Meabhrach agus Caomhnóireacht 2008 — An Dara Céim.  
Mental Capacity and Guardianship Bill 2008 — Second Stage.  
—*Senators Joe O’Toole, David Norris, Feargal Quinn, Shane Ross, Ivana Bacik.*

---

  8. An Bille um Chosaint Tomhaltóirí (Leasú) 2008 — An Dara Céim.  
Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill 2008 — Second Stage.  
—*Senators Brendan Ryan, Alex White, Dominic Hannigan, Alan Kelly, Michael McCarthy, Phil Prendergast.*
-

- 9.** An Bille um Dhliteanas Sibhialta (Leasú) (Uimh. 2) 2008 — An Dara Céim.  
Civil Liability (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2008 — Second Stage.  
—*Senators Eugene Regan, Frances Fitzgerald, Maurice Cummins.*
- 

*Bille (atógáil) (0.03 n. fágtha):*

*Bill (resumed) (0.03 m. remaining):*

- 10.** An Bille um Chosaint Aeráide 2007 — An Dara Céim (*atógáil*).  
Climate Protection Bill 2007 — Second Stage (*resumed*).  
—*Senators Ivana Bacik, Joe O'Toole, Shane Ross, David Norris, Feargal Quinn.*
- 

*Bille (atógáil) (0.03 n. fágtha):*

*Bill (resumed) (0.03 m. remaining):*

- 11.** An Bille Meabhair-Shláinte (Bearta Ainneonacha) (Leasú) 2008 — An Dara Céim  
(*atógáil*).  
Mental Health (Involuntary Procedures) (Amendment) Bill 2008 — Second Stage  
(*resumed*).  
—*Senators Dan Boyle, Déirdre de Búrca, David Norris.*
- 

*Bille (atógáil) (0.03 n. fágtha):*

*Bill (resumed) (0.03 m. remaining):*

- 12.** An Bille um Orgáin de chuid Chorp an Duine agus Fíocháin Dhaonna 2008 — An  
Dara Céim (*atógáil*).  
Human Body Organs and Human Tissue Bill 2008 — Second Stage (*resumed*).  
—*Senator Feargal Quinn.*
- 

*Bille (atógáil) (0.03 n. fágtha):*

*Bill (resumed) (0.03 m. remaining):*

- 13.** An Bille um Thaighde Gaschille (Suthanna Daonna a Chosaint) 2008 — An Dara  
Céim. (*atógáil*).  
Stem-Cell Research (Protection of Human Embryos) Bill 2008 — Second Stage.  
(*resumed*).  
—*Senators Rónán Mullen, Jim Walsh, John Hanafin.*
- 

*Tíolactha:*

*Presented:*

- 14.** An Bille um Príobháideacht 2006 — Ordú don Dara Céim.  
Privacy Bill 2006 — Order for Second Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do dhéanamh  
socrú maidir le Tort arb éard é  
Príobháideacht a Shárú; agus do dhéanamh  
socrú i dtaobh nithe a bhaineann leis an  
méid sin.

Bill entitled an Act to provide for a Tort  
of Violation of Privacy; and to provide for  
matters connected therewith.

—*Senator Donie Cassidy.*

---

**15. An Bille Uchtála 2009 — Ordú don Dara Céim.**  
Adoption Bill 2009 — Order for Second Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do dhéanamh socrú maidir leis an mBord Uchtála a dhíscaoileadh agus maidir le comhlacht a bhunú ar a dtabharfar, sa Ghaeilge, Údarás Uchtála na hÉireann nó, sa Bhéarla, *the Adoption Authority of Ireland*; do dhéanamh socrú maidir le nithe a bhaineann le leanaí a uchtáil; do thabhairt feidhm dlí don Choinbhinsiún um Chosaint Leanáí agus Comhar i leith Uchtála idir Tíortha a síníodh sa Háig an 29 Bealtaine, 1993; do dhéanamh socrú maidir le huchtálacha idir tíortha a dhéanamh agus a aithint de réir comhaontuithe déthaobhacha agus de réir socrúithe eile; do dhéanamh socrú maidir le huchtálacha áirithe a dhéantar lasmuigh den Stát a aithint; d'aisghairm na nAchtanna Uchtála 1952 go 1998; agus do dhéanamh leasuithe iarmhartacha ar Achtanna eile.

Bill entitled an Act to provide for the dissolution of An Bord Uchtála and the establishment of a body to be known in the Irish language as *Údarás Uchtála na hÉireann* or in the English language as the *Adoption Authority of Ireland*; to provide for matters relating to the adoption of children; to give the force of law to the Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption signed at the Hague on 29 May 1993; to provide for the making and recognition of intercountry adoptions in accordance with bilateral agreements and with other arrangements; to provide for the recognition of certain adoptions effected outside the State; to repeal the Adoption Acts 1952 to 1998; and to make consequential amendments to other Acts.

—*Senator Donie Cassidy.*

**16. Bille Toghcháin an tSeanaid (Rolla-Chomhaltaí) (Leasú) 2008 — Ordú don Dara Céim.**

Seanad Electoral (Panel Members) (Amendment) Bill 2008 — Order for Second Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do leasú Acht Toghcháin an tSeanaid (Rolla-Chomhaltaí) 1947 i ndáil le clárú maidir leis an rolla riaracháin.

Bill entitled an Act to amend the Seanad Electoral (Panel Members) Act 1947 in relation to registration in respect of the administrative panel.

—*Senators Maurice Cummins, Frances Fitzgerald, Paul Coghlan.*

**17. An Bille um Fhorais Chultúir Náisiúnta (Leasú) 2008 — Ordú don Dara Céim.**

National Cultural Institutions (Amendment) Bill 2008 — Order for Second Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do leasú an Achta um Fhorais Chultúir Náisiúnta 1997.

Bill entitled an Act to amend the National Cultural Institutions Act 1997.

—*Senator Alex White.*

*Ráitis (atógáil):*

*Statements (resumed):*

**18. Ráitis maidir le Conradh Liospóin um Athchóiriú (atógáil).**

Statements on the Lisbon Reform Treaty (*resumed*).

**19. Ráitis faoin Tuarascáil maidir le Grinnscrúdú AE (Uimh. 21) dar teideal Faisnéis faoi Bhia a Sholáthar do Thomhaltóirí (atógáil).**

Statements on the Report on EU Scrutiny (No. 21) entitled Provision of Food Information to Consumers (*resumed*).

*Tairiscintí:*  
*Motions:*

20. “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Ghnóthaí Eorpacha dar teideal ‘Conradh Liospóin um Athchóiriú’ a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 29 Bealtaine, 2008.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on European Affairs entitled ‘The Lisbon Reform Treaty’ which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 29 May 2008.”

—*Senator Donie Cassidy.*  
**[18 November, 2008]**

21. “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Ghrinnscrúdú Eorpach dar teideal ‘COM(2007) 654 críochnaitheach — Togra le haghaidh Creat-Chinnidh ón gComhairle maidir le Taifead Ainmneacha Paisinéirí (TAP) a úsáid chun críocha forfheidhmithe dlí a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 13 Samhain, 2008.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on European Scrutiny entitled ‘COM(2007) 654 final — Proposal for A Council Framework Decision on the use of Passenger Name Record (PNR) for law enforcement purposes’ which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 13th November 2008.”

—*Senator Donie Cassidy.*  
**[18 November, 2008]**

22. “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Ghnóthaí Eorpacha dar teideal ‘Tuarascáil ón bhFochoiste um thodhchaí na hÉireann san Aontas Eorpach: Todhchaí na hÉireann san Aontas Eorpach: Dúshláin, Saincheisteanna agus Roghanna’ a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 27 Samhain, 2008.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on European Affairs entitled ‘Report of the Sub-Committee on Ireland’s future in the European Union: Ireland’s future in the European Union: Challenges, Issues and Options’ which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 27 November, 2008.”

—*Senator Donie Cassidy.*  
**[3 December, 2008]**

23. “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Ghrinnscrúdú Eorpach dar teideal ‘Tuarascáil Iniúchta AE Uimh. 21: COM(2008)40 críochnaitheach — Togra le haghaidh Rialacháin ó Pharlaimint na hEorpa agus ón gComhairle maidir le Faisnéis faoi Bhia a Sholáthar do Thomhaltóirí’ a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 13 Samhain, 2008.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on European Scrutiny entitled ‘EU Scrutiny Report No. 21: COM(2008)40 final — Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Provision of Food Information to Consumers’ which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 13th November, 2008.”

—*Senator Donie Cassidy.*  
**[27 January, 2009]**

24. “Go gceadaíonn Seanad Éireann na Rialacháin seo a leanas ina ndrúacht:

That Seanad Éireann approves the following Regulations in draft:

Na Rialacháin um Pleanáil agus Forbairt (Treoirlínte Pleanála Réigiúnacha) 2009,

The Planning and Development (Regional Planning Guidelines) Regulations 2009,

ar leagadh cóipeanna díobh ina ndrúacht copies of which were laid in draft form  
faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 10 before Seanad Éireann on 10 February,  
Feabhra, 2009. 2009.”

—*Senator Donie Cassidy.*

---

**25. Tairiscintí nach ón Rialtas:**  
Non-Government Motions:

1. “That Seanad Éireann, in the light of the recent comments by Nobel Prize winning poet Seamus Heaney and others, calls on the Government to revisit plans and examine an alternative routing and methodology to that of the M3 through the Tara Valley which will win acceptance among all interested parties.”

—*Senators David Norris, Ivana Bacik.*

**[5 March, 2008]**

- 
2. “That Seanad Éireann ask FARC to release immediately on humanitarian grounds, Ingrid Betancourt and other ill hostages held in Colombia.”

—*Senators David Norris, Ivana Bacik, Joe O’Toole, Feargal Quinn, Rónán Mullen, Shane Ross.*

**[8 April, 2008]**

- 
3. “That Seanad Éireann regrets and distances itself from the comments of Senator Jim Walsh at the Order of Business on Tuesday 22 April 2008 in relation to Chairmen of Tribunals established by these Houses.”

—*Senators Frances Fitzgerald, Joe O’Toole, Alex White, David Norris.*

**[24 April, 2008]**

- 
4. “That Seanad Éireann condemns the Government for:

- squandering significant budget surpluses,
- its failure to control inflation,
- its failure to deliver necessary infrastructure on time and within budget, and,
- its failure to reform the public service;

and, in light of the changing economic outlook for our economy calls on the Government to outline the results of measures taken (if any) to stress test our economy and provide detail cost benefits analysis of major projects, and

to outline the steps that are being taken to:

- restore competitiveness,
- restore the low rates of inflation that were the hallmark of our economy,
- prevent rising unemployment, and

- ensure that vital health services, education services and infrastructural projects will be available to the citizens of Ireland.”

—*Senators Maurice Cummins, Frances Fitzgerald, Paul Bradford, Paddy Burke, Jerry Buttimer, Paudie Coffey, Paul Coghlan, Paschal Donohoe, Fidelma Healy Eames, Nicky McFadden, Eugene Regan, John Paul Phelan, Liam Twomey, Joe O’Reilly.*

**[7 May, 2008]**

- 
5. “That Seanad Éireann urges the Minister for Arts, Sports and Tourism, in the light of the proposed redevelopment of a very large site at the north end of O’Connell Street which includes the former Carlton Cinema, to take steps to ensure that the Abbey Theatre is located in the former Carlton site which all authorities agree is by far the best and most practical location.”

—*Senators David Norris, Ivana Bacik, Joe O’Toole, Rónán Mullen, Shane Ross.*

**[20 May, 2008]**

- 
6. “That Seanad Éireann requests the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism as a matter of urgency, to immediately outline the Government’s programme and intention regarding the construction of a new Abbey National Theatre, dealing with all aspects of the project.”

—*Senators Paul Coghlan, Frances Fitzgerald, Paul Bradford, Paddy Burke, Jerry Buttimer, Paudie Coffey, Maurice Cummins, Paschal Donohoe, Fidelma Healy Eames, Nicky McFadden, Eugene Regan, John Paul Phelan, Liam Twomey, Joe O’Reilly.*

**[22 May, 2008]**

- 
7. “That Seanad Éireann calls on the Minister for Arts, Sports and Tourism to reform the current system for the funding of the arts in Ireland to ensure that there is a coherent, transparent and accessible basis for funding the arts, and artists in Ireland and to develop clear criteria against which funding applications can be prepared, submitted and assessed so that *ad hoc* funding decisions are not taken by disparate bodies, agencies or the Department without regard to any wider strategic issues; and entrusts the Arts Council with primary responsibility to allocate funding to the arts.”

—*Senators Paul Coghlan, Frances Fitzgerald, Paddy Burke, Paul Bradford, Jerry Buttimer, Paudie Coffey, Maurice Cummins, Paschal Donohoe, Fidelma Healy Eames, Nicky McFadden, Joe O’Reilly, Eugene Regan, John Paul Phelan, Liam Twomey.*

**[24 September, 2008]**

- 
8. “That Seanad Éireann is appalled by and deplores the outrageous decision by the Department of Education and Science to close the Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education; and this decision represents a significant set-back for the early childhood sector and in particular the promotion of consistent, high quality standards in this crucial area.”

—*Senators Joe O’Toole, Ivana Bacik, David Norris, Shane Ross, Feargal Quinn.*

**[30 September, 2008]**

- 
9. “That Seanad Éireann expresses grave concern at water quality in Ireland; recent cases of lead pollution in County Louth, contamination of water supplies in major urban areas such as Galway city and the possible detrimental effect of the fluoridation scheme presently in operation.”

—*Senators David Norris, Joe O’Toole, Feargal Quinn, Shane Ross, Rónán Mullen, Ivana Bacik.*

**[7 October, 2008]**

10. “That Seanad Éireann takes note of the Annual Report 2007 of the Irish Human Rights Commission.”  
—*Senators David Norris, Joe O’Toole, Shane Ross, Ivana Bacik, Rónán Mullen, Feargal Quinn.*  
**[14 October, 2008]**
- 
11. “That Seanad Éireann calls on the Government to examine the status of charities and charitable collections and in particular to investigate the practice of so called ‘chugging’ or charity mugging by street collectors.”  
—*Senators David Norris, Joe O’Toole, Ivana Bacik, Shane Ross, Feargal Quinn.*  
**[21 October, 2008]**
- 
12. “That Seanad Éireann requests the Minister for Foreign Affairs to seek the establishment of a monitoring group to supervise the implementation of the Human Rights Attachments to the External Association Agreement between the European Union and the State of Israel.”  
—*Senators David Norris, Joe O’Toole, Ivana Bacik, Shane Ross.*  
**[21 October, 2008]**
- 
13. “That Seanad Éireann requests the Minister for Arts, Sports and Tourism to come into the House to give a full account of the current situation regarding the future of the Abbey Theatre and its possible relocation.”  
—*Senators David Norris, Joe O’Toole, Ivana Bacik, Shane Ross, Feargal Quinn.*  
**[21 October, 2008]**
- 
14. “That Seanad Éireann expresses its concern at growing reports of climate change in various parts of the world; and requests the Minister to come into the House and give a progress report on our position concerning Ireland reaching its target under the Kyoto Protocol.”  
—*Senators David Norris, Joe O’Toole, Ivana Bacik, Shane Ross, Feargal Quinn.*  
**[21 October, 2008]**
- 
15. “That Seanad Éireann, in the light of the Ferns Report, requests the Government to re-examine the exemption of the churches from the operations of equality legislation.”  
—*Senators David Norris, Joe O’Toole, Ivana Bacik, Shane Ross.*  
**[21 October, 2008]**
- 
16. “That Seanad Éireann requests the Government to give serious examination to the Dargan Metro Project involving an orbital metro route as well as an airport metro line and which, fully costed, presents a more economic prospect than the existing proposal.”  
—*Senators David Norris, Joe O’Toole, Ivana Bacik, Shane Ross, Feargal Quinn.*  
**[21 October, 2008]**
- 
17. “That Seanad Éireann calls on the Government in the light of the fact that Ireland is one of the few EU countries that does not facilitate citizens living abroad but within the EU in the exercise of their voting rights in Dáil Elections, Presidential Elections and referenda to make appropriate provisions without delay.”  
—*Senators David Norris, Joe O’Toole, Ivana Bacik, Shane Ross.*  
**[21 October, 2008]**
-

18. “That Seanad Éireann calls on the Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, notwithstanding their differences on Tibet’s historical relationship with China, to continue the dialogue in a forward-looking manner which will lead to pragmatic solutions that respect the Chinese constitutional framework, the territorial integrity of China and fulfil the aspirations of the Tibetan people for a unified and genuinely autonomous Tibet.”

—*Senators David Norris, Ivana Bacik, Shane Ross, Joe O’Toole, Rónán Mullen, Feargal Quinn.*

**[21 October, 2008]**

---

19. “That Seanad Éireann takes note of the Environmental Protection Agency’s report ‘Key Meteorological Indicators of Climate Change in Ireland.’”

—*Senators David Norris, Joe O’Toole, Shane Ross, Ivana Bacik, Rónán Mullen, Feargal Quinn.*

**[21 October, 2008]**

---

20. “That Seanad Éireann strongly recommends that the Government:

- excludes the minimum wage from the proposed 1% income levy;
- reinstates in full, the universal entitlement of the over 70s to a medical card and;
- reverses the budget proposal to worsen class size in primary and post primary schools.”

—*Senators Joe O’Toole, Ivana Bacik, Rónán Mullen, Shane Ross, David Norris.*

**[22 October, 2008]**

---

21. “That Seanad Éireann demands the immediate reversal of the Government decision to withdraw the automatic entitlement to a medical card from citizens aged over 70 years.”

—*Senators, Frances Fitzgerald, Paddy Burke, Paul Bradford, Jerry Buttimer, Paudie Coffey, Paul Coghlan, Maurice Cummins, Paschal Donohoe, Fidelma Healy Eames, Nicky McFadden, Joe O’Reilly, Eugene Regan, John Paul Phelan, Liam Twomey.*

**[22 October, 2008]**

---

22. “That Seanad Éireann requests the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform to explain the Government’s actions in imposing savage cut backs and other negative measures on the Equality Agency, the Combat Poverty Agency, the Irish Human Rights Commission and other state established bodies which have the responsibility of representing the marginalised and vulnerable in our Society.”

—*Senators David Norris, Ivana Bacik, Joe O’Toole.*

**[13 November, 2008]**

---

23. “That Seanad Éireann noting:

- the findings of the Health Information and Quality Authority whereby the introduction of the HPV cervical cancer vaccination programme could see a 34 per cent reduction in pre-cancers, a 56 per cent reduction in cervical cancer and a 56 per cent reduction in deaths from cervical cancer;
- that the total cost of introducing the vaccine is estimated to be €9.7 million according to the Health Information and Quality Authority;



- that the direct savings in treatment costs due to the disease being avoided is more than €2.7 million per annum according to the Health Information and Quality Authority, excluding broader savings;
- the breakthrough nature of this medical advance; and
- that the total health budget is more than €16,000 million this year;

condemns the decision of the Minister for Health and Children to abandon this programme as short-sighted and unjustifiable, and calls on the Minister for Health and Children to immediately reverse her decision.”

—*Senators, Frances Fitzgerald, Paddy Burke, Paul Bradford, Jerry Buttimer, Paudie Coffey, Paul Coghlan, Maurice Cummins, Paschal Donohoe, Fidelma Healy Eames, Nicky McFadden, Joe O’Reilly, Eugene Regan, John Paul Phelan, Liam Twomey.*

**[13 November, 2008]**

- 
24. “That Seanad Éireann deplores the murder of an innocent victim in Limerick by gangland criminals last week, making him the 17th gangland murder victim this year; and calls on the Government to take definitive action steps to quell the activities of criminal gangs.”

—*Senators Eugene Regan, Frances Fitzgerald, Paul Bradford, Paddy Burke, Jerry Buttimer, Paudie Coffey, Paul Coghlan, Maurice Cummins, Paschal Donohoe, Fidelma Healy Eames, Nicky McFadden, Joe O’Reilly, Eugene Regan, John Paul Phelan, Liam Twomey.*

**[18 November, 2008]**

- 
25. “That Seanad Éireann calls on the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform to cut off the source of gangland criminals’ wealth and weapons, namely drugs, by providing adequate resources to An Garda Síochána and the Customs and Excise Service with the necessary manpower and modern equipment.”

—*Senators Eugene Regan, Frances Fitzgerald, Paul Bradford, Paddy Burke, Jerry Buttimer, Paudie Coffey, Paul Coghlan, Maurice Cummins, Paschal Donohoe, Fidelma Healy Eames, Nicky McFadden, Joe O’Reilly, Eugene Regan, John Paul Phelan, Liam Twomey.*

**[18 November, 2008]**

- 
26. “That Seanad Éireann calls on the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, as a matter of urgency, to outline immediately the government’s plans regarding the construction of the proposed new prison, Thornton Hall, dealing with all aspects of the project.”

—*Senators Eugene Regan, Frances Fitzgerald, Paul Bradford, Paddy Burke, Jerry Buttimer, Paudie Coffey, Paul Coghlan, Maurice Cummins, Paschal Donohoe, Fidelma Healy Eames, Nicky McFadden, Joe O’Reilly, Eugene Regan, John Paul Phelan, Liam Twomey.*

**[18 November, 2008]**

- 
27. “That Seanad Éireann calls on the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform to implement measures to reduce the high numbers of repeat offenders in Ireland as revealed in a 2006 UCD study.”

—*Senators Eugene Regan, Frances Fitzgerald, Paul Bradford, Paddy Burke, Jerry Buttimer, Paudie Coffey, Paul Coghlan, Maurice Cummins, Paschal Donohoe, Fidelma Healy Eames, Nicky McFadden, Joe O’Reilly, Eugene Regan, John Paul Phelan, Liam Twomey.*

**[18 November, 2008]**

28. “That Seanad Éireann hereby states and resolves that the proposed deportation of Pamela Izevbekhai and her daughters was not the sort of action envisaged by this House when the original legislation was passed.”

—*Senators David Norris, Senator Ivana Bacik, Rónán Mullen, Joe O’Toole.*

**[25 November, 2008]**

- 
29. “That Seanad Eireann condemns utterly the disgraceful action of the Government in destroying the Combat Poverty Agency and the Equality Agency and the gutting of the Irish Human Rights Commission and calls on the Government to rescind these decisions.”

—*Senators David Norris, Ivana Bacik, Joe O’Toole.*

**[15 December, 2008]**

- 
30. “That Seanad Éireann condemns the Government for the abolition of the Combat Poverty Agency which successfully:

- represented the vulnerable and forgotten in Irish society;
- provided vital data on poverty and health inequalities;
- highlighted social welfare reform proposals;

for imposing excessive cutbacks of 43% of the annual budget of the Equality Authority and decentralising its offices resulting in a loss of expertise, thus

- purposely diminishing its ability to provide its services;
- effectively forcing its Chief Executive to resign his post;

for the cuts of 24% to the budget of the Irish Human Rights Commission, thus

- weakening its role within the context of the Good Friday agreement;
- “substantially hampering” its ability to execute its core activities; and

for severely impairing the ability of the Equality Authority and Irish Human Rights Commission to carry out their functions and thereby damaging Ireland’s reputation as a vigilant democracy in respect of human rights.”

—*Senators Eugene Regan, Frances Fitzgerald, Paul Bradford, Paddy Burke, Jerry Buttimer, Paudie Coffey, Maurice Cummins, Paschal Donohue, Fidelma Healy Eames, Nicky McFadden, Paul Coghlan, John Paul Phelan, Liam Twomey, Joe O’Reilly.*

**[30 January, 2009]**

- 
31. “That Seanad Eireann urges the Irish Government to continue its support for moves to establish an International War Crimes Inquiry into certain aspects of the Israeli attack on Gaza including the use of white phosphorus in densely inhabited civilian areas, the use of dime munitions and the apparently deliberate shelling of the U.N. facilities, including schools which were being used as places of sanctuary by Palestinian

civilians as well as the question of illegal collective punishment and to maintain discussions with the representatives of countries such as Cyprus, Sweden and Portugal who have also supported this move.”

—*Senators David Norris, Ivana Bacik, Joe O’Toole, Rónán Mullen.*

**[10 February, 2009]**

32. “That Seanad Éireann acknowledges:

- that over 76,000 children are living in poverty in Ireland;
- the fact that 1 in 5 children are living in households where the income is so low that they are at risk of poverty;
- that the Towards 2016 agreement includes a commitment to work towards the elimination of child poverty;

Seanad Éireann therefore calls on the Government to:

- develop a clear strategy to address child poverty and set a date in law by which child poverty will be eliminated in Ireland;
- increase basic social welfare payments for families at risk of poverty;
- ensure there is access to quality, affordable and flexible Early Childhood Education and Care;
- tackle educational disadvantage by fully resourcing and implementing the Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) strategy;
- increase medical card eligibility for families; and
- ensure every family has prompt access to a secure, affordable and appropriate home.”

—*Senators Alex White, Dominic Hannigan, Alan Kelly, Phil Prendergast, Brendan Ryan and Michael McCarthy*

**[10 February, 2009]**

*Leasú:*

*Amendment:*

To delete all words after “Seanad Éireann” and substitute the following:

- acknowledges that combating poverty and building an inclusive society are key priorities for the Government;
- supports the overall goal of the National Plan for Social Inclusion is to reduce the number of those experiencing consistent poverty, to between 2%-4% by 2012, with the aim of eliminating consistent poverty by 2016;
- welcomes the vision and long term goals for children as set out in Towards 2016;
- acknowledges the considerable improvements in the level and structure of social welfare payments for families with children in recent years;
- welcomes the investment in the infrastructure required to support Early Childhood Care and Education places as well as the development of Síolta, the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education;

- notes the significant progress made on the implementation of DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools), the action plan for educational inclusion, which represents an integrated, strategic approach to addressing the educational needs of children and young people from disadvantaged communities;
- acknowledges that income allowances for medical cards have increased significantly since 2004 and that higher rates of increase have been applied to families with children; and
- welcomes the Government's significant achievement in delivering real and tangible outcomes for households in need by delivering more and better quality housing responses and by doing this in a more strategic way, focused on the building of sustainable communities."

—*Senator Donie Cassidy.*

---

**26. An Seanad a chur ar athló.**  
Adjournment of the Seanad.

---

**BILLÍ SEANAID SA DÁIL**  
*Seanad Bills with the Dáil*

An Bille um Athchóiriú an Dlí Talún agus Tíolactha 2006.  
Land and Conveyancing Law Reform Bill 2006.

---

An Bille um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí (Leasú) 2007.  
Ethics in Public Office (Amendment) Bill 2007.

---

An Bille um Chlúmhilleadh 2006.  
Defamation Bill 2006.

---

An Bille Craolacháin 2008.  
Broadcasting Bill 2008.

---

Bille na dTithe (Forálacha Ilghnéitheacha) 2008.  
Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2008.

---

An Bille um Fhorbairt Tionscail 2008.  
Industrial Development Bill 2008.

---

**MEMORANDA**

*Dé Céadaoin, 11 Feabhra, 2009.*  
*Wednesday, 11th February, 2009.*

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste ar an mBunreacht i Seomra Coiste 3, TL 2000, ar 9.30 a.m.  
Meeting of the Joint Committee on the Constitution in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, at 9.30 a.m.

---

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Chumarsáid, Fuinneamh agus Acmhainní Nádúrtha i Seomra Coiste 1, TL 2000, ar 9.45 a.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Communications, Energy and Natural Resources in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, at 9.45 a.m.

---

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Airgeadas agus an tSeirbhís Phoiblí i Seomra Coiste 4, TL 2000, ar 2.15 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Finance and the Public Service in Committee Room 4, LH 2000, at 2.15 p.m.

---

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Ghnóthaí Eachtracha i Seomra Coiste 3, TL 2000, ar 3.30 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, at 3.30 p.m.

---

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um an Leasú Bunreachtá maidir le Leanaí i Seomra Coiste 2, TL 2000, ar 5 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on the Constitutional Amendment on Children in Committee Room 2, LH 2000, at 5 p.m.

---

*Déardaoin, 12 Feabhra, 2009.*

*Thursday, 12th February, 2009.*

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Oideachas agus Eolaíocht i Seomra Coiste 2, TL 2000, ar 10 a.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Education and Science in Committee Room 2, LH 2000, at 10 a.m.

---

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Ghnóthaí Eorpacha i Seomra Coiste 4, TL 2000, ar 11.30 a.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on European Affairs in Committee Room 4, LH 2000, at 11.30 a.m.

---

## PÁIPÉIR A LEAGADH FAOI BHRÁID AN tSEANAID

*Papers laid before the Seanad*

### *Reachtúil:*

### *Statutory:*

1) Ráitis i leith Comhairleoirí Speisialta don Aire Stáit ag an Roinn Oideachais agus Eolaíochta, Seán Ó hEochaidh, T.D., de réir na nAchtanna um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí 1995 agus 2001 [2008] [9 Feabhra, 2009].

1) Statements in respect of Special Advisers to the Minister of State at the Department of Education and Science, Seán Haughey, T.D., in accordance with the Ethics in Public Office Acts 1995 and 2001 [2008] [9 February, 2009].

2) An tOrdú um Shéadchomharthaí Náisiúnta (Buanchoimeád) Uimh. 4 de 2008.

2) National Monuments (Preservation) Order No. 4 of 2008.

3) Ráitis i leith Comhairleoirí Speisialta don Aire Stáit ag an Roinn Sláinte agus Leanaí, Máire de Bhailís, T.D., de réir na

3) Statements in respect of Special Advisers to the Minister of State at the Department of Health and Children, Mary Wallace,

nAchtanna um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí 1995 agus 2001 [2008] [5 Feabhra, 2009].

4) Ráitis i leith Comhairleoirí Speisialta don Aire Stáit ag an Roinn Sláinte agus Leanaí, Máire Ní Eachtair, T.D., de réir na nAchtanna um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí 1995 agus 2001 [2008] [5 Feabhra, 2009].

5) Togra le haghaidh Molta ón gComhairle maidir le sábháilteacht othar, lena n-áirítear cosc agus rialú ionfhabhtuithe a bhaineann le cúram sláinte mar aon le nóta faisnéise míniúcháin. COM (2008) 837.

6) Togra le haghaidh Rialacháin ón gComhairle (CE) Uimh. .../... lena leagtar síos formáid aonghnéitheach le haghaidh víosaí (leagan códaithe) mar aon le nóta faisnéise míniúcháin. COM (2008) 891.

7) Togra le haghaidh Rialacháin ón gComhairle lena liostaítear na tríú tíortha nach mór dá náisiúnaigh víosaí a bheith ina seilbh acu le linn dul trasna na dteorainneacha seachtracha agus na tríú tíortha sin a bhfuil a náisiúnaigh díolmhaithe ón gceanglas sin mar aon le nóta faisnéise míniúcháin. COM (2008) 761.

8) Togra le haghaidh Cinnidh ón gComhairle maidir le haontachas an Chomhphobail Eorpach le Rialachán Uimh. 61 ó Choimisiún Eacnamaíochta na Náisiún Aontaithe don Eoraip maidir le forálacha a bhaineann le ceadú feithiclí tráchtála maidir lena starrphointí seachtracha ó phainéal cúil an chábáin aniar mar aon le nóta faisnéise míniúcháin. COM (2008) 675.

9) Togra le haghaidh Treorach ó Pharlaimint na hEorpa agus ón gComhairle lena leasaítear Treoir 2002/15/CE maidir le heagrú ama oibre daoine i mbun gníomhaíochtaí soghluaiste iompair ar bhóithre mar aon le nóta faisnéise míniúcháin. COM (2008) 650.

10) Togra le haghaidh Rialacháin ó Pharlaimint na hEorpa agus ón gComhairle maidir le líonra iarnróid Eorpach le haghaidh faradh iomaíoch mar aon le nóta faisnéise míniúcháin. COM (2008) 852.

11) An Oifig um Rialú Tobac. Ráitis Airgeadais, 2006.

T.D., in accordance with the Ethics in Public Office Acts 1995 and 2001 [2008] [5 February, 2009].

4) Statements in respect of Special Advisers to the Minister of State at the Department of Health and Children, Máire Hctor, T.D., in accordance with the Ethics in Public Office Acts 1995 and 2001 [2008] [5 February, 2009].

5) Proposal for a Council Recommendation on patient safety, including the prevention and control of healthcare associated infections together with explanatory information note. COM (2008) 837.

6) Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) No . . ./... laying down a uniform format for visas (codified version) together with explanatory information note. COM (2008) 891.

7) Proposal for a Council Regulation listing the third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and those whose nationals are exempt from that requirement together with explanatory information note. COM (2008) 761.

8) Proposal for a Council Decision on the accession of the European Community to United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Regulation No. 61 on provisions concerning the approval of commercial vehicles with regard to their external projections forward of the cab's rear panel together with explanatory information note. COM (2008) 675.

9) Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2002/15/EC on the organisation of the working time of persons performing mobile road transport activities together with explanatory information note. COM (2008) 650.

10) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning a European rail network for competitive freight together with explanatory information note. COM (2008) 852.

11) Office of Tobacco Control. Financial Statements, 2006.

- |                                                                                               |                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12) An Chomhairle Náisiúnta um Dhul in Aois agus Daoine Scothaosta. Ráitis Airgeadais, 2007.  | 12) National Council on Ageing and Older People. Financial Statements, 2007.          |
| 13) An Bord Cáilíochtaí Náisiúnta d'Obair Shóisialta. Ráitis Airgeadais, 2007.                | 13) National Social Work Qualifications Board. Financial Statements, 2007.            |
| 14) An Chomhairle Fiaclóireachta. Ráitis Airgeadais, 2007.                                    | 14) The Dental Council. Financial Statements, 2007.                                   |
| 15) Na Rialacháin um Pleanáil agus Forbairt (Treoirilínte Pleanála Réigiúnacha) 2009 (Draft). | 15) Planning and Development (Regional Planning Guidelines) Regulations 2009 (Draft). |

*Neamhrechtúil:*

Tithe an Oireachtais. An Comhchoiste um Chomhshaol, Oidhreacht agus Rialtas Áitiúil. Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2007 - 2008 agus Clár Oibre 2009. Feabhra, 2009.

*Non-Statutory:*

Houses of the Oireachtas. Joint Committee on the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Annual Report 2007 - 2008 and Work Programme 2009. February, 2009.

---