Dé Céadaoin, 16 Nollaig, 2009 Wednesday, 16th December, 2009

10.30 a.m.
RIAR NA hOIBRE Order Paper
GNÓ POIBLÍ Public Business

- 1. (1) An Bille Leasa Shóisialaigh agus Pinsean (Uimh. 2) 2009 [Dáil] An Coiste.
  - (a) Social Welfare and Pensions (No. 2) Bill 2009 [Dlpha il] Committee.

Tairiscint: Motion:

2. "Go gcomhthoilíonn Seanad Éireann, de bhun fho-alt 2° d'alt 2 d'Airteagal 25 den Bhunreacht, leis an Rialtas in achainí chun an Uachtaráin go gcuirfidh sí a lámh leis an mBille Leasa Shóisialaigh agus Pinsean (Uimh. 2) 2009, ar dháta is luaithe ná an cúigiú lá tar éis an dáta a thairgfear an Bille di.

That, pursuant to subsection 2° of section 2 of Article 25 of the Constitution, Seanad Éireann concurs with the Government in a request to the President to sign the Social Welfare and Pensions (No. 2) Bill 2009 on a date which is earlier than the fifth day after the date on which the Bill shall have been presented to her.".

—Senator Donie Cassidy.

- **3.** (*l*) An Bille Meabhair-Shláinte (Bearta Ainneonacha) (Leasú) 2008 An Coiste (alt 1, atógáil).
  - (a) Mental Health (Involuntary Procedures) (Amendment) Bill 2008 Committee (section 1, resumed).
- **4.** An Bille um Fhorbairtí Ilaonad 2009 An Coiste. Multi-Unit Developments Bill 2009 Committee.
- **5.** An Bille Cróinéirí 2007 An Coiste. Coroners Bill 2007 Committee.
- **6.** An Bille um Sheirbhísí Maoine (Rialáil) 2009 An Coiste. Property Services (Regulation) Bill 2009 Committee.

7.	Bille na dTeangacha Oifigiúla (Leasú) 2005 — An Dara Céim. Official Languages (Amendment) Bill 2005 — Second Stage. —Senators Joe O'Toole, Paul Coghlan, David Norris. ————————————————————————————————————
	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.
	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.
	An Bille um Chosaint Tomhaltóirí (Leasú) 2008 — An Dara Céim.  Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill 2008 — Second Stage.  —Senators Brendan Ryan, Alex White, Dominic Hannigan, Michael McCarthy, Phil Prendergast.
11.	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.
	An Bille um Fhorais Chreidmheasa (Tacaíocht Airgeadais) (Leasú) 2009 — An Dara Céim.  Credit Institutions (Financial Support) (Amendment) Bill 2009 — Second Stage.  —Senators Paul Coghlan, Maurice Cummins, Frances Fitzgerald.
13.	An Bille chun Airm Úráiniam Laghdaithe a Thoirmeasc 2009 — An Dara Céim.  Prohibition of Depleted Uranium Weapons Bill 2009 — Second Stage.  —Senators Dan Boyle, Déirdre de Búrca, Fiona O'Malley.  ———————————————————————————————————
	e (atógáil) (0.03 n. fágtha): (resumed) (0.03 m. remaining):
14.	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.
	e (atógáil) (0.03 n. fágtha): (resumed) (0.03 m. remaining):
	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.

*Tíolactha: Presented:* 

**16.** 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.

**17.** An Bille um Chúram Leanaí (Leasú) 2009 — Ordú don Dara Céim. Child Care (Amendment) Bill 2009 — Order for Second Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do leasú agus do leathnú an Achta um Chúram Leanaí 1991, do dhéanamh socrú breise i ndáil le cúram agus cosaint leanaí; do leasú Acht na Leanaí 2001 agus an Achta Sláinte 2007; do dhéanamh socrú chun Bord Comhairleach Achtanna na Leanaí a dhíscaoileadh agus chun a shócmhainní, a dhliteanais agus a fhostaithe a aistriú chuig an Aire Sláinte agus Leanaí; d'aisghairm Chuid 11 d'Acht na Leanaí 2001; agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe gaolmhara.

Bill entitled an Act to amend and extend the Child Care Act 1991; to make further provision in relation to the care and protection of children; to amend the Children Act 2001 and the Health Act 2007; to provide for the dissolution of the Children Acts Advisory Board and the transfer of its assets, liabilities and employees to the Minister for Health and Children; to repeal Part 11 of the Children Act 2001; and to provide for related matters.

—Senator Donie Cassidy.

**18.** 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.

**19.** 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):

**20.** Ráitis maidir le Conradh Liospóin um Athchóiriú (*atógáil*). Statements on the Lisbon Reform Treaty (*resumed*).

P.T.O.

**21.** 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*).

**22.** Ráitis maidir leis an mBuiséad 2010 (*atógáil*). Statements on Budget 2010 (*resumed*).

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*Tairiscintí*: Motions:

2009.

23. "Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Ghrinnscrúdú Eorpach dar teideal 'Tuarascáil Iniúchta AE Uimh. 25: COM (2008)650 críochnaitheach — 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' a leagadh

faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 29 Iúil,

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on European Scrutiny entitled 'EU Scrutiny Report No. 25: COM (2008)650 final — 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' which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 29th July, 2009".

—Senator Donie Cassidy. [23 September, 2009]

**24.** "Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Ghrinnscrúdú Eorpach dar teideal '*Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 25 Deireadh Fómhair 2007 - 31 Nollaig 2008 agus Clár Oibre 2009*' a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 6 Lúnasa, 2009.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on European Scrutiny entitled 'Annual Report 25 October 2007 - 31 December 2008 and Work Programme 2009' which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 6th August, 2009''.

—Senator Donie Cassidy. [23 September, 2009]

25. "Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Ghrinnscrúdú Eorpach dar teideal 'Tuarascáil Iniúchta AE Uimh. 26: COM (2008) 414 — Togra le haghaidh Treorach ó Pharlaimint na hEorpa agus ón gComhairle maidir le Cearta Othar a chur chun feidhme i gCúram Sláinte Trasteorann' a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 25 Meán Fómhair 2009.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on European Scrutiny entitled 'EU Scrutiny Report No. 26: COM (2008) 414 — Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the application of Patients' Rights in Crossborder Healthcare' which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 25th September 2009.".

—Senator Donie Cassidy. [6 October, 2009]

**26.** "Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Ghrinnscrúdú Eorpach dar teideal *Tuarascáil Speisialta ar Reachtaíocht nua AE — 1 Eanáir go 30 Meitheamh, 2009*' a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 16 Deireadh Fómhair 2009.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on European Scrutiny entitled 'Special Report on new EU Legislation — 1 January to 30 June, 2009' which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 16 October 2009."

—Senator Donie Cassidy. [21 October, 2009]

**27.** "Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Ghnóthaí Sóisialacha agus Teaghlaigh dar teideal '*Calaois Leasa Shóisialaigh*' a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 21 Deireadh Fómhair, 2009.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on Social and Family Affairs entitled 'Social Welfare Fraud' which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 21 October, 2009.".

—Senator Donie Cassidy. [21 October, 2009]

28. "Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Dhlí agus Ceart, Comhionannas, Cosaint agus Cearta na mBan dar teideal "An Dara Tuarascáil — Rannpháirtíocht na mBan i gCúrsaí Polaitíochta", a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 28 Deireadh Fómhair 2009.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on Justice, Equality, Defence and Women's Rights entitled Second Report — Women's Participation in Politics", which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 28 October 2009.".

—Senator Donie Cassidy. [29 October, 2009]

**29.** "Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Dara Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Athrú Aeráide agus Áirithiú Fuinnimh dar teideal 'An Chúis ar son Dlí Athraithe Aeráide, mar aon le Príomhranna an Bhille' a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 28 Deireadh Fómhair, 2009.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Second Report of the Joint Committee on Climate Change and Energy Security entitled 'the Case for Climate Change Law, together with Heads of Bill' which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 28 October, 2009.".

—Senator Donie Cassidy. [3 November, 2009]

**30.** "Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Thalmhaíocht, Iascach agus Bia dar teideal '*Tuarascáil ar thruailliú táirgí muiceola Éireannaí*' a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 26 Bealtaine, 2009.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food entitled 'Report on the contamination of Irish pork products' which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 26 May, 2009.".

—Senator Donie Cassidy. [11 November, 2009]

**31.** "Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Thalmhaíocht, Iascach agus Bia dar teideal '*Todhchaí na Feirmeoireachta agus an Iascaigh san Iarthar*' a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 10 Iúil, 2009.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food entitled 'The Future of Farming and Fishing in the West' which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 10 July, 2009."

—Senator Donie Cassidy. [11 November, 2009]

32. "Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá haire an Tríú Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Athrú Aeráide agus Áirithiú Fuinnimh dar teideal 'Ag Freastal do Riachtanais Fuinnimh na hÉireann tar éis 2020' a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 2ú Nollaig, 2009.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Third Report of the Joint Committee on Climate Change and Energy Security entitled 'Meeting Ireland's Electricity Needs Post 2020' which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 2nd December, 2009.".

—Senator Donie Cassidy. [4 December, 2009]

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

- 1. "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]

2. "That Seanad Éireann 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]

3. "That Seanad Éireann urges the Irish Government to continue its support for moves to establish an independent international investigation into alleged violations of international humanitarian law during Israel's military action in Gaza including the use of white phosphorus in densely inhabited civilian areas, the use of dime munitions and the 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 collective punishment and to maintain discussions with the representatives of countries such as Belgium, Cyprus, Sweden and Portugal who have also supported this move and that the independent international investigation also investigate the indiscriminate rocket attacks on civilians perpetrated by Hamas and others, the alleged storage of munitions in civilian locations and the allegations of the shooting of innocent Palestinians by Hamas, the alleged use of civilians as human shields by any actor and the alleged firing of rockets from positions adjacent to UN facilities, to schools and hospitals, furthermore, that the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs supports a two state solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict with the objective of the State of Israel and an independent Palestinian State living side by side in peace and security and urges the Government to continue to fully support such resolution of the conflict and to take all appropriate steps in the UN, at EU level and in its bilateral international relations to promote and achieve such resolution; supports the International Quartet (EU, USA, Russia and the UN) in its work, and other initiatives to resolve the conflict; welcomes the appointment by President Obama of George Mitchell as his Middle East peace envoy; calls on Iran to end its opposition to a 2 state solution; commends the initiative taken by Egypt to mediate a durable ceasefire between Israel and Hamas; and urges all sides to fully co-operate with UNRWA to facilitate the provision by it in Gaza of humanitarian relief.".

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

[17 February, 2009]

4. "That Seanad Éireann make special provision for a 90 minute rolling debate on the economy to be taken on a weekly basis following the Order of Business.".

—Senators David Norris, Joe O'Toole, Ivana Bacik, Feargal Quinn, Rónán Mullen. [23 February, 2009]

5. "That Seanad Éireann urges the Government to accept the recommendations of Transparency International including:

- the introduction of laws, similar to those in the UK, to protect whistleblowers in the public and private sector who report concerns of public importance;
- the introduction of a Register of Lobbyists that would bring more transparency to the relationship between government, regulators, business and interest groups.

- the ratification of international conventions against corruption, including the UN Convention described as the "Kyoto Protocol" on global corruption.
- the establishment of a Garda Anti-Corruption Unit and more resources for law enforcement agencies including the Director of Corporate Enforcement, the Competition Authority, the Criminal Assets Bureau, and the Garda Fraud Squad;
- the reform of the Freedom Information fee system as the Irish FOI fees and costs of appeals are the highest in the developed world;
- the publication of local Councillors' declarations of interest on the internet;
- the scrapping of Government plans to treble the amount of gifts and loans politicians can receive and keep secret;
- the publication of an annual report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on some of the most costly public contracts each year;
- the opening of all appointments to the Boards of State bodies to public competition; and
- the publication of clear no-bribe and conflict of interest policies by newspaper organisations and journalist unions.".

—Senators	David	Norris,	Ivana	Bacik,	Rónán	Muli	len.	
					[3 Ma	ırch,	2009]	

# 6. "Ag cuimhneamh:

- go ndearnadh gnó na Chéad Dála 90 bliain ó shin go hiomlán trí Ghaeilge; agus
- gurb í an Ghaeilge an teanga náisiúnta agus an phríomhtheanga oifigiúil faoi Airteagal 8 den Bhunreacht;

# beartaíonn an Seanad:

- úsáid na Gaeilge a mhéadú i ngnó an tSeanaid i 2009 go céatadán a bheidh aontaithe idir na páirtithe; agus
- tús a chur leis seo le linn 'Seachtain na Gaeilge' sa Dáil an 10, 11, 12 Márta nuair a dhéanfar 50% de ghnó an tSeanaid trí mheán na Gaeilge.''.

—Senators Pearse Doherty, Joe O'Toole.

[10 March, 2009]

- 7. "Seanad Éireann calls on the Minister for Transport to ensure:
  - an immediate Moratorium on the issuing of taxi plates;
  - the initiation of a comprehensive and coherent reform of the Taxi Service Industry under the aegis of the Framework for Progress;
  - the absorption of the Taxi Regulator's office into the Department of Transport;

—	the	granting	of	legal	power	to	Local	Authorities	to	establish	and	regulate
	app	ropriate r	ıum	bers of	of taxi l	icer	nces in	their areas; a	and			

—	the reclassification	of taxi	drivers for	PRSI	purposes	to	enable	protection	in
	adverse financial or	· health	circumstan	ces iino	ler the so	rial	welfare	code "	

—Senators David Norris, Joe O'Toole.

[10 March, 2009]

# 8. "That Seanad Éireann.

- while acknowledging that recent budgetary provisions have led to serious inequities and that these inequities will require to be addressed in the near future:
- recognising the crucial role that the trade union movement continues to play in Irish life; and
- having regard to the urgency of the economic situation and the need for unity among all sectors of the community in dealing with this situation;

views with concern the proposal by ICTU to organise a one-day strike on Monday 30th March, 2009 and calls on the leadership of ICTU to cancel the proposed day of action in order to facilitate the best national effort in dealing with the current economic crisis."

—Senators Rónán Mullen, Shane Ross.

[25 March, 2009]

9. "That Seanad Éireann requests the Government to establish as a matter of urgency an expert committee to examine in an impartial fashion the feasibility, benefits and potential hazards of nuclear energy generation.".

—Senators David Norris, Feargal Quinn.

[7 April, 2009]

# 10. "That Seanad Éireann noting;

- that Ireland has one of the highest levels of alcohol consumption in the world;
- that the level of alcohol consumption in Ireland and the economic and social problems which it creates is now such as to amount to a crisis for this country, tarnishing its image both at home and abroad;
- the persistent and serious problem of alcohol related violence, anti-social behaviour and other offences throughout the country;
- that 97% of all public order offences are alcohol related (National Crime Council 2003);
- that alcohol is a significant contributing factor in physical and sexual assaults, domestic violence, fatal road accidents, criminal damage and that almost half of homicides were perpetrated by intoxicated persons (HSE Report on Alcohol Related Harm 2008);

- that alcohol was found to be responsible for 6,584 deaths in the 5 year period 2000-2004 and in the same period 3 million hospitalisations at a cost of €930m, according to research presented at the 2009 Summer Scientific Meeting of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland;
- the fact that alcohol is a gateway drug for many young people amounting to an illegal industry of €145m annually;

# and considering;

- the widespread and extensive exposure of alcoholic products through media outlets such as television, radio, cinema, and billboard advertising;
- the strong links that alcohol advertising has to sponsorship of sport and other cultural activities;
- that advertising of alcohol portrays a simple social activity and one to be encouraged;
- that alcohol advertisements hold a strong appeal for young people and are considered by young people to be stylish and humorous, showing alcohol as promoting a desirable lifestyle, and helping to improve confidence in social skills (the Impact of Alcohol Advertising on Teenagers in Ireland 2001);
- that measures are needed to curtail the demand for alcohol, to complement the measures introduced in the Intoxicating Liquor Act 2008, which restricts the supply of alcohol;
- that voluntary codes of practice on the promotion and advertising of alcoholic drinks is entirely ineffective;
- advice from the Irish Medical Organisation's former President, and public health specialist, Dr. Joe Barry that all alcohol advertising should be banned;
- a call from the Irish College of Psychiatrists (September, 2008) for a complete ban on all alcohol advertising in Ireland;
- the positive impact of France's ban on all televised advertising of alcohol and sponsorship of sport by the alcohol industry introduced in its 1991 Law, Loi Evin;

#### calls on the Government to;

— introduce without delay a total ban on all advertising of alcohol in Ireland.".

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

[28 May, 2009]

- 11. "That Seanad Éireann acknowledging the results of the local and European elections condemns the Government for its failure;
  - to protect the most vulnerable in society;
  - to acknowledge the anger and frustration of the people of Ireland caused by the outcome of Government policy over the last decade; and

16 Nollaig, 2009 1683 — to outline the actions it proposes to protect the future of our economy and social policy.". —Senators Liam Twomey, Frances Fitzgerald, Paddy Burke, Paul Bradford, Jerry Buttimer, Paudie Coffey, Paul Coghlan, Maurice Cummins, Paschal Donohoe, Fidelma Healy-Eames, Nicky McFadden, Joe O'Reilly, John Paul Phelan, Eugene Regan, Joe O'Toole. [10 June, 2009] 12. "That Seanad Éireann requests the Government to include membership of any secretive religious organisations with campaigning or political briefs among items to be declared to the Standards in Public Office Commission.". —Senators David Norris, Joe O'Toole, Ivana Bacik, Feargal Quinn, Alex White, Michael McCarthy, Dominic Hannigan. [16 June, 2009] 13. "That Seanad Éireann calls on the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism and the Minister for Education and Science to ensure that in the restructuring of the Dublin Institute of Technology the positive impact undertaken by D.I.T. Cathal Brugha Street should be neither obstructed nor minimised.". —Senators David Norris, Joe O'Toole, Ivana Bacik, Shane Ross, Feargal Quinn. [30 June, 2009] 14. "That Seanad Éireann, in light of the exorbitant fees being charged by Senior and Junior Counsel, calls on the Government to introduce a Maximum Fees Order, of not more than €969 per diem for Senior Counsel, and, €646 per diem for Junior Counsel (as decided by the Government in July 2004 in respect of Counsels fees for Tribunals of Inquiry).". —Senators Jim Walsh, Mary White, Terry Leyden, Deirdre De Búrca, Mark Daly, Feargal Ouinn, Lisa McDonald, Ivor Callely, Cecilia Keaveney, Eoghan Harris, Marc MacSharry. [30 June, 2009] 15. "That Seanad Éireann requests the Government to review as a matter of urgency the changes to state funding for Protestant, voluntary and Jewish schools in Budget 2009 as well as certain recommendations of the McCarthy Report in so far as they affect the Protestant voluntary and Jewish schools in order to avoid unintentional but serious discriminatory effects.". —Senators David Norris, Ivana Bacik, Rónán Mullen, Shane Ross, Feargal Ouinn. [23 September, 2009] committed during the Israeli Invasion of Gaza in September 2008.". —Senators David Norris, Ivana Bacik, Joe O'Toole.

16. "That Seanad Éireann takes note of the Report of the UN Inquiry into War Crimes

[23 September, 2009]

17. "That Seanad Éireann requests the Government to give serious and detailed consideration to the proposal to move the Abbey Theatre to the GPO.".

—Senators David Norris, Donie Cassidy, Frances Fitzgerald, Paul Coghlan, Alex White, Pearse Doherty, Joe O'Toole, Eoghan Harris.

[13 October, 2009]

- 18. "That Seanad Éireann deplores the delay in implementing the recommendations of the Report on Seanad Reform and demands of Government that it do so immediately.".
  - —Senators Joe O'Toole, Feargal Quinn, David Norris, Shane Ross, Rónán Mullen.

[21 October, 2009]

## 19. "That Seanad Éireann,

- having regard to the urgency of the current economic situation and the need for positive leadership and for unity across all sectors of the community;
- recognising the crucial leadership role of the trade union movement;
- stressing the importance of protecting the most vulnerable members of our society in the budgetary decisions to be made over the coming weeks;
- mindful of the potentially damaging impact of protests and strikes in favour of sectoral interests on the consideration to be given to society's more vulnerable members;

calls for the cancellation of the proposed public sector strike scheduled for 24th November so as to facilitate the best national effort in dealing with the current economic crisis.".

—Senators Rónán Mullen, Shane Ross, Feargal Quinn.
[9 November, 2009]

# 20. "That Seanad Éireann:

noting that:

- the Budget forecasts a further cut in employment levels of 65,000 in 2010, after the estimated fall of 165,000 this year;
- the OECD, the European Commission and the IMF have concluded that, after the end of the debt-fuelled property and public spending bubbles, a return to the export-led economic growth of the 1990s is the only route for Ireland out of recession and back to full employment;
- the National Competitiveness Council has identified high business costs and bottlenecks in energy, broadband and water infrastructures as the biggest barriers to growth in exports;

#### condemns

- the poverty of ambition and vision in the Budget with regard to economic renewal and protecting employment;
- the €1 billion cut in the capital programme (which will alone destroy at least 10,000 jobs);
- the use of scarce resources to cut taxes on car imports rather than to support exporters, which will lead to a diversion of money out of the economy;
- the failure to provide for any across the board cost relief to struggling; exporters and other businesses in areas such as employment taxes, local authority rates and energy costs; and

- the lack of social solidarity in proposed social welfare cuts which will adveresly impact on the most vulnerable in society.".
- —Senators Frances Fitzgerald, Paul Bradford, Paddy Burke, Jerry Buttimer, Ciaran Cannon, Paudie Coffey, Paul Coghlan, Maurice Cummins, Paschal Donohoe, Fidelma Healy-Eames, Nicky McFadden, Joe O'Reilly, John Paul Phelan, Eugene Regan, Liam Twomey.

[15 December, 2009]

#### Leasú:

#### Amendment:

1. To delete all words after "That" and substitute the following:—

## Seanad Éireann:

#### noting that:

- in its response to the worst economic crisis since the foundation of the State, the Government has over the last 18 months identified the right priorities and taken the right actions to stabilise the public finances and restore our competitiveness so that we can benefit from the emerging recovery in the global economy;
- the actions taken by the Government to manage our way through this crisis have been bold, decisive, innovative and effective;
- the Government's concern in all of its actions has been to protect jobs, to provide a functioning banking system and to return this economy to the path of sustainable growth while, at the same time, seeking to do so in a manner that is fair and that protects the most vulnerable;

#### welcomes

- the fact that, because of these decisive actions, the Government is now in a position to stabilise the deficit;
- the approval by international bodies such as the European Central Bank, the European Commission, the IMF and the OECD as well as by the international media and the international markets of the measures taken over the past eighteen months, and by the Government in Budget 2010;
- the provision of nearly €136 million in 2010 for an additional 26,000 training and job support placements bringing to 180,000 the total number of places available to the unemployed;
- the wide range of measures taken in Budget 2010 to stimulate the economy and sustain employment through the reduction of VAT and Excise; VRT relief; establishing a review of the credit system; providing €171 million to help the forestry and agriculture sectors; allocating €130 million for energy efficiency measures and boosting the promotion of tourism;
- the fairness demonstrated by the Government:
  - in protecting older people by maintaining the state pension at its current historically high level;
  - in ensuring that reductions in social welfare rates were less than the fall in prices over the past year;
  - that welfare-dependent families will be fully compensated for the reductions in Child Benefit and

- the Government's commitment to protect those in mortgage arrears and to extend mortgage interest relief;
- the Government's commitment to protect those in mortgage arrears and to extend mortgage interest relief;
- the Government's commitment to develop the long-term capacity of the economy through public investment spending of 5 per cent of GNP in 2010 one of the highest in the EU and €5.5 billion each year for the years 2011 to 2016;

## and commends

- the Government's strategy which is forecasted to return this country to modest economic growth during 2010, with positive annual growth being achieved for 2011 and beyond; and
- the Government's commitment to develop the long-term capacity of the economy through public investment spending of 5 per cent of GNP in 2010 one of the highest in the EU and €5.5 billion each year for the years 2011 to 2016.

—Senator Donie Cassidy.

- 21. "That Seanad Éireann concurs with the view of all 12 Republic of Ireland MEP's in seeking that the EU suspend the negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement with Colombia until their Government respect Human and Trade Union Rights.".
  - —Senators Donie Cassidy, Joe O'Toole, Frances Fitzgerald, Alex White, Pearse Doherty.

[16 December, 2009]

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

# BILLÍ SEANAID SA DÁIL Seanad Bills with the Dáil

500	article Bills will live Bill
An Bille um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí ( Ethics in Public Office (Amendme	` /
An Bille Uchtála 2009. Adoption Bill 2009.	
An Bille Caidrimh Thionscail (Lea Industrial Relations (Amendment)	/
An Bille um Pleanáil agus Forbair Planning and Development (Amer	,

An Bille um Choimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais (Leasú) 2009. Houses of the Oireachtas Commission (Amendment) Bill 2009.

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An Bille um Nós Imeachta Coiriúil 2009. Criminal Procedure Bill 2009.

#### **MEMORANDA**

Dé Céadaoin, 16 Nollaig, 2009. Wednesday, 16th December, 2009.

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 Thalmhaíocht, Iascaigh agus Bia i Seomra Coiste 4, TL 2000, ar 11.30 a.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in Committee Room 4, LH 2000, at 11.30 a.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Thalmhaíocht, Iascach agus Bia i Seomra Coiste 4, TL 2000, ar 2.30 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in Committee Room 4, LH 2000, at 2.30 p.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Ghnóthaí Eachtracha, an Fochoiste um Chearta an Duine i Seomra Coiste 3, TL 2000, ar 3 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Sub-Committee on Human Rights in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, at 3 p.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Iompar i Seomra Coiste 1, TL 2000, ar 3.45 p.m. Meeting of the Joint Committee on Transport in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, at 3.45 p.m.

> Déardaoin, 17 Nollaig, 2009. Thursday, 17th December, 2009.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Shláinte agus Leanaí i Seomra Coiste 4, TL 2000, ar 10.30 a.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Health and Children in Committee Room 4, LH 2000, at 10.30 a.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Ghnóthaí Sóisialacha agus Teaghlaigh i Seomra Coiste 2, TL 2000, ar 11 a.m. (*Príobháideach*).

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Social and Family Affairs in Committee Room 2, LH 2000, at 11 a.m. (*Private*).

P.T.O.

- Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Ghnóthaí Eachtracha i Seomra Coiste 3, TL 2000, ar 11.30 a.m.
- Meeting of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, at 11.30 a.m.
- Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Fhiontair, Trádáil agus Fostaíocht i Seomra Coiste 3, TL 2000, ar 2 p.m.
- Meeting of the Joint Committee on Enterprise, Trade and Employment in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, at 2 p.m.

# PÁIPÉIR A LEAGADH FAOI BHRÁID AN tSEANAID

Papers laid before the Seanad

#### Reachtúil:

- 1) Bord Fiontar Contae Phort Láirge Teoranta. Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, 2008.
- 2) Bord Fiontar Contae Dhún na nGall Teoranta. Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, 2008.
- 3) Bord Fiontar Contae Fhine Gall Teoranta. Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, 2008.
- 4) Bord Fiontar Chorcaí Thuaidh Teoranta. Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, 2008.
- 5) Bord Fiontar Contae Shligigh Teoranta. Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, 2008.
- 6) An tOrdú Tobhaigh fán Acht um Rialáil Leictreachais 1999 (Leictreachas) 2009 (I.R. Uimh. 501 de 2009).
- 7) An tOrdú Tobhaigh fán Acht um Rialáil Leictreachais 1999 agus fán Acht Gáis (Eatramhach) (Rialáil) 2002 (Gás) 2009 (I.R. Uimh. 502 de 2009).
- 8) Scéim Leasúcháin Aoisliúntais Foirne an Údaráis Forbartha Tionscail 2009 (I.R. Uimh. 498 de 2009).
- 9) Scéim Pinsean Ranníocach an Údaráis Forbartha Tionscail do Chéilí agus do Leanaí 2009 (I.R. Uimh. 497 de 2009).
- 10) Na Rialacháin um Thobhaigh agus Táillí Acht an Bhainc Cheannais 1942 (Comhairle an Ombudsman um Sheirbhísí Airgeadais) 2009 (I.R. Uimh. 500 de 2009).
- 11) Na Rialacháin um an gCiste Rásaíochta Capall agus Con 2010 (Dréacht).

#### Neamhreachtúil:

1) Rialacháin na gComhphobal Eorpach (Córais Ardéifeachtúlachta Teasa is Cumhachta in Éineacht) 2009 (I.R. Uimh. 499 de 2009).

# Statutory:

- 1) Waterford County Enterprise Board Limited. Annual Report, 2008.
- 2) Donegal County Enterprise Board Limited. Annual Report, 2008.
- 3) Fingal County Enterprise Board Limited. Annual Report, 2008.
- 4) North Cork Enterprise Board Limited. Annual Report, 2008.
- 5) Sligo County Enterprise Board Limited. Annual Report, 2008.
- 6) Electricity Regulation Act 1999 (Electricity) Levy Order 2009 (S.I. No. 501 of 2009).
- 7) Electricity Regulation Act 1999 and Gas (Interim) (Regulation) Act 2002 (Gas) Levy Order 2009 (S.I. No. 502 of 2009).
- 8) Industrial Development Authority Staff Superannuation Amendment Scheme 2009 (S.I. No. 498 of 2009).
- 9) Industrial Development Authority Spouses' and Children's Contributory Pension Scheme 2009 (S.I. No. 497 of 2009).
- 10) Central Bank Act 1942 (Financial Services Ombudsman Council) Levies and Fees Regulations 2009 (S.I. No. 500 of 2009).
- 11) Horse and Greyhound Racing Fund Regulations 2010 (Draft).

#### *Non-Statutory:*

1) European Communities (High Efficiency Combined Heat and Power) Regulations 2009 (S.I. No. 499 of 2009).

- 2) Seanad Éireann. Deimhniú ar thoradh na vótaíochta i gCorrthoghchán chun folúntas a líonadh i leith an Rolla Talmhaíochta. (14 Nollaig, 2009).

  2) Seanad Éireann. Certificate of result of poll at Bye-Election to fill a vacancy in respect of the Agricultural Panel (14 December, 2009).