



# **SEANAD ÉIREANN**

*Dé Máirt, 27 Meitheamh, 2017*  
*Tuesday, 27th, June, 2017*

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**RIAR NA hOIBRE**  
**ORDER PAPER**



*Dé Máirt, 27 Meitheamh, 2017*  
*Tuesday, 27th June, 2017*

2.30 p.m.

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RIAR NA hOIBRE  
*Order Paper*

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GNÓ POIBLÍ  
*Public Business*

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*Tairiscint:*

*Motion:*

1. “Go gceadaíonn Seanad Éireann an tOrdú seo a leanas ina dhréacht:

That Seanad Éireann approves the following Order in draft:

An tOrdú um an bhForas Taighde ar Oideachas (Bunú) (Leasú), 2017,

Educational Research Centre (Establishment) (Amendment) Order 2017,

ar Ordú é ar leagadh cóipeanna de ina dhréacht faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 15 Meitheamh 2017.

copies of which Order in draft were laid before Seanad Éireann on 15th June, 2017.”

– *Senator Jerry Buttimer.*  
**[19<sup>th</sup> June, 2017]**

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2. Ráitis maidir le Seirbhísí Cairdeolaíochta in Ospidéal na hOllscoile, Port Láirge.  
 Statements on University Hospital Waterford Cardiology Services.

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3. An Bille um Iascach Intíre (Leasú), 2017 [*Dáil*] – An Coiste.  
 Inland Fisheries (Amendment) Bill 2017 [*Dáil*] – Committee.

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4. (l) An Bille um Fhorbairt Peitri Liam agus Mianraí Eile (Toirmeasc ar Scoilteadh Hiodrálach i dTír Mór), 2016 *athraithe ó* An Bille um Thoirmeasc ar Pheitri Liam i dTír Mór a Thaiscéaladh agus a Astarraingt, 2016 [*Dáil*] – An Coiste.  
 (a) Petroleum and Other Minerals Development (Prohibition of Onshore Hydraulic Fracturing) Bill 2016 *changed from* Prohibition of the Exploration and Extraction of Onshore Petroleum Bill 2016 [*Dáil*] – Committee.

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*Tíolactha:*  
*Presented:*

5. An Bille um Chomhairle na mBreithiúna, 2017 – Ordú don Dara Céim.  
Judicial Council Bill 2017 – Order for Second Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do dhéanamh socrú maidir le comhlacht a bhunú ar a dtabharfar Comhairle na mBreithiúna nó, sa Bhéarla, *the Judicial Council*; do dhéanamh socrú maidir lena feidhmeanna; agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe gaolmhara.

Bill entitled an Act to provide for the establishment of a body to be known as *Comhairle na mBreithiúna* or, in the English language, the Judicial Council; to provide for its functions and for related matters.

– Senator Jerry Buttimer.

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6. (l) An Bille Sláinte Poiblí (Alcól), 2015 – An Coiste (*leasú 10, atógáil*).  
(a) Public Health (Alcohol) Bill 2015 – Committee (*amendment 10, resumed*).

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7. (l) An Bille Iascaigh Mhara (Leasú), 2017 – An Coiste (*leasú 1, atógáil*).  
(a) Sea-Fisheries (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Committee (*amendment 1, resumed*).

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8. (l) An Bille um Fhoréigean Baile, 2017– An Coiste (*leasú 1, atógáil*).  
(a) Domestic Violence Bill 2017 – Committee (*amendment 1, resumed*).

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9. An Bille Uchtála (Faisnéis agus Lorgaireacht), 2016 – An Coiste.  
Adoption (Information and Tracing) Bill 2016 – Committee.

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10. Bille an Bhainc Ceannais agus Údarás Seirbhísí Airgeadais na hÉireann (Leasú), 2014 [*Dáil*] – An Coiste.  
Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland (Amendment) Bill 2014 [*Dáil*] – Committee.

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11. Ráitis maidir le Cumarsáid, le Gníomhú ar son na hAeráide agus leis an gComhshaol (*atógáil*).  
Statements on Communications, Climate Action and the Environment (*resumed*).

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12. Ráitis maidir le hOifig an Stiúrthóra um Fhorfheidhmiú Corparáideach.  
Statements on the Office of the Director of Corporate Enforcement.

*Tugadh Isteach:*  
*Introduced:*

13. An Bille um Pá Íosta Náisiúnta (Deireadh a Chur le Rátaí Pá Fo-Íosta), 2017 – An Chéad Céim.  
National Minimum Wage (Removal of Sub-minimum Rates of Pay) Bill 2017– First Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do leasú an

Bill entitled an Act to amend the

Achta um Pá Íosta Náisiúnta, 2000 chun deireadh a chur le rátaí pá fo-íosta do dhaoine a bhfuil 16 bliana d'aois slánaithe acu, agus do dhaoine atá ag dul isteach sa chéad dá bhliain dá bhfostaíocht.

National Minimum Wage Act 2000 to end sub-minimum rates of pay for those who have attained the age of 16, and for those who are entering their first two years of employment.

– *Senators Paul Gavan, Lynn Ruane, Fintan Warfield.*

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*Tugadh Isteach:  
Introduced:*

- 14.** An Bille um Threalamh Tarrthála Beatha, 2017 – An Chéad Céim.  
Life Saving Equipment Bill 2017– First Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do dhéanamh socrú maidir le cion sonrach arb éard é cur isteach ar threalamh tarrthála beatha agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe gaolmhara.

Bill entitled an Act to provide for a specific offence of interfering with Life Saving Equipment and to provide for related matters.

– *Senators Paul Daly, Robbie Gallagher, Keith Swanick, Diarmuid Wilson.*

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- 15.** An Bille um Thréimhsí Íosta faoi Choimeád ar Chiontú i nDúnmharú, 2017 – An Dara Céim (atógáil).

Minimum Custodial Periods upon Conviction for Murder Bill 2017 – Second Stage (*resumed*).

– *Senators Marie-Louise O'Donnell, Gerard P. Craughwell, Kevin Humphreys.*

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- 16.** An Bille um Chóipcheart agus Cearta Gaolmhara a Chosaint i ndáil leis an Rosc Náisiúnta (Leasú) (Uimh. 2), 2016 – An Dara Céim.

National Anthem Protection of Copyright and Related Rights (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2016 – Second Stage.

– *Senators Mark Daly, Gerry Horkan, Diarmuid Wilson.*

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- 17.** An Bille Cróinéirí (Leasú), 2016 – An Dara Céim.

Coroners (Amendment) Bill 2016 – Second Stage.

– *Senators Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Rose Conway-Walsh, Máire Devine.*

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- 18.** An Bille um Pá Íosta Náisiúnta (Séisíní Fostaithe a Chosaint), 2017 – An Dara Céim.

National Minimum Wage (Protection of Employee Tips) Bill 2017 – Second Stage.

– *Senators Paul Gavan, Trevor Ó Clochartaigh and Fintan Warfield.*

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- 19.** An Bille um Lá na Faisnéise Neamhspleáchais, 2017 – An Dara Céim.

Declaration of Independence Day Bill 2017 – Second Stage.

– *Senators Keith Swanick, Diarmuid Wilson, Mark Daly and Paul Daly.*

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- 20.** An Bille um Údarás na Gaeltachta (Leasú), 2017 – An Dara Céim.

Údarás na Gaeltachta (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Second Stage.

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- 21.** An Bille um Dhrugaí Rialaithe agus um Dhochar a Laghdú, 2017 – Dara Céim (*atógáil*).  
Controlled Drugs and Harm Reduction Bill 2017 – Second Stage (*resumed*).

– *Senators Lynn Ruane, Aodhán Ó Ríordáin, Colette Kelleher, Alice-Mary Higgins, Grace O’Sullivan, John Dolan, Frances Black, David Norris, Michael McDowell, Gerard Craughwell, Victor Boyhan, Billy Lawless, Joan Freeman, Brian Ó Domhnaill, Ivana Bacik, Ged Nash, Kevin Humphreys.*

*Leasú ar an Tairiscint don Dara Léamh:*  
*Amendment to Motion for Second Reading:*

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

“Seanad Éireann declines to give the Bill a second reading in view of the fact that:

- the Steering Committee mandated to develop a new National Drugs Strategy is expected to submit its final report shortly;
- this report is expected to provide advice on an approach which would enable the case for a change in policy in relation to the current legislative regime that applies to simple possession offences to be examined.”

– *Senator Jerry Buttimer.*  
**[30<sup>th</sup> May, 2017]**

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- 22.** An Bille Sláinte (Leasú) (Cúram Baile Gairmiúil), 2016 – Ordú don Choiste.  
Health (Amendment) (Professional Home Care) Bill 2016 – Order for Committee.

– *Senators Colm Burke, Neale Richmond, Maura Hopkins.*

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- 23.** An Bille um an Seanad, 2016 – An Coiste.  
Seanad Bill 2016 – Committee.

– *Senators Michael McDowell, Frances Black, Victor Boyhan, Gerard P. Craughwell, John Dolan, Alice-Mary Higgins, Rónán Mullen, Grace O’Sullivan, Lynn Ruane.*

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- 24.** An Bille um Dhúnorgain Chorporáideach (Uimh. 2), 2016 – An Coiste.  
Corporate Manslaughter (No. 2) Bill 2016 – Committee.

– *Senators Mark Daly, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Robbie Gallagher.*

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- 25.** An Bille um Chaomhnú Fostaíochta (Uaireanta Éiginnte), 2016 – An Coiste.  
Protection of Employment (Uncertain Hours) Bill 2016 – Committee.

– *Senators Gerald Nash, Kevin Humphreys, Aodhán Ó Ríordáin.*

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- 26.** An Bille um Chlárú Uachtanna, 2016 – An Coiste.  
Registration of Wills Bill 2016 – Committee.

– *Senators Terry Leyden, Catherine Ardagh, Lorraine Clifford-Lee.*

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- 27.** An Bille um Chionta Gnéasacha Áirithe (Leithscéal a Ghabháil agus Saoradh), 2016 – An Coiste.

Convictions for Certain Sexual Offences (Apology and Exoneration) Bill 2016 – Committee.  
– *Senators Ged Nash, Ivana Bacik, Kevin Humphreys, Aodhán Ó Ríordáin.*

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- 28.** An Bille um an Dlí Sibhialta (Daoine atá ar Iarraidh), 2016 – An Coiste.  
Civil Law (Missing Persons) Bill 2016 – Committee.  
– *Senators Colm Burke, Marie-Louise O'Donnell, Lynn Ruane.*
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- 29.** Bille na bPinsean (Déileáil Chomhionann i dtaca le Pinsin i Scéim Sochair Ceirde) (Leasú), 2016 – An Coiste.  
Pensions (Equal Pension Treatment in Occupational Benefit Scheme) (Amendment) Bill 2016 – Committee.  
– *Senators Ivana Bacik, Kevin Humphreys, Ged Nash, Aodhán Ó Ríordáin.*
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- 30.** An Bille um Aosaigh a Chosaint, 2017 – An Coiste.  
Adult Safeguarding Bill 2017 – Committee.  
– *Senators Colette Kelleher, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Frances Black, Alice-Mary Higgins, Jerry Buttimer, Victor Boyhan, John Dolan, Lynn Ruane, Ivana Bacik, Marie-Louise O'Donnell.*
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- 31.** An Bille Deochanna Meisciúla (Leasú), 2017 – An Coiste.  
Intoxicating Liquor (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Committee.  
– *Senators Billy Lawless, Victor Boyhan, Michael McDowell, Gerard P. Craughwell.*
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- 32.** An Bille um Inscne a Aithint (Leasú), 2017 – An Coiste.  
Gender Recognition (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Committee.  
– *Senators Fintan Warfield, David Norris, Grace O'Sullivan.*
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- 33.** An Bille um Thruailliú ó Bhruscar (Leasú), 2017 – An Coiste.  
Litter Pollution (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Committee.  
– *Senators Catherine Ardagh, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, Ned O'Sullivan, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher and Gerry Horkan.*
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- 34.** An Bille um Neamhord Speictream an Uathachais, 2017 – An Coiste.  
Autism Spectrum Disorder Bill 2017 – Committee.  
– *Senators James Reilly, Jerry Buttimer, Gabrielle McFadden, John O'Mahony, Ray Butler, Catherine Noone, Colm Burke, Tim Lombard, Martin Conway, Maria Byrne.*
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- 35.** An Bille fá Choimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta an Duine agus Comhionannas (Faisnéis faoin Difríocht Pá idir na hInscní), 2017- An Coiste.  
Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (Gender Pay Gap Information) Bill 2017 – Committee.  
– *Senators Ivana Bacik, Kevin Humphreys, Ged Nash, Aodhán Ó Ríordáin.*
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**36.** An Bille Meabhair-Shláinte (Leasú), 2016 – An Coiste.  
Mental Health (Amendment) Bill 2016 – Committee.

– *Senators Joan Freeman, Gerard P. Craughwell, Marie-Louise O'Donnell.*

**37.** “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Airgeadas, Caiteachas Poiblí agus Athchóiriú, agus an Taoiseach dar teideal ‘Tuarascáil maidir leis na Méaduithe ar Chostas Árachais Mótair’ ar leagadh cóipeanna di faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 24 Samhain 2016.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach entitled ‘Report on the Rising Costs of Motor Insurance’, copies of which were laid before Seanad Éireann on 24th November, 2016.”

– *Senator Jerry Buttimer.*  
[9<sup>th</sup> June, 2017]

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

**1.** “That, notwithstanding anything in Standing Orders–

(a) there shall be established a Committee on Seanad Political Reform which will sit two weeks from the date of the first sitting of the Seanad;

(b) the Committee on Seanad Political Reform shall be chaired by the Cathaoirleach and include not more than 20 other members of the Seanad, of which membership will be determined on a proportionate basis as per groups and independent senators; and that provision be made for the substitution of members as allowed for under Standing Orders;

(c) the Cathaoirleach shall announce the names of the members appointed for the information of the Seanad on the first sitting day following their appointment;

(d) the report and recommendations of the Seanad Reform Working Group established in 2015 shall provide the framework but any member or group may make a submission on Seanad political reform to the Committee which shall review these submissions and report back to the Seanad within four weeks with a series of recommendations for the approval of the House, including the role of a reformed Seanad within the political process, powers and functions of a reformed Seanad and any further legislative change, and how the institution conducts its business, including a review of Standing Orders.

(e) the Committee shall present an interim report on its working arrangements at a full sitting of the Seanad within one week of its establishment and first meeting of the Committee, and that it will include initial consideration on appropriate rules regarding the arrangements for the management of the ordering of Seanad business in the interim period while the Committee is sitting.”

– *Senators Rose Conway-Walsh, Máire Devine, Paul Gavan, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Trevor Ó Clochartaigh, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield, David Norris, Frances Black.*

[15<sup>th</sup> June, 2016]



*Leasuithe:*

*Amendments:*

1. To delete all words after “That, notwithstanding anything in Standing Orders-” and insert the following:

“(a) there shall be established, within two weeks of the passage of this motion, an Implementation Group on Seanad Reform, to include as members the Cathaoirleach, Leas-Chathaoirleach, and the Leaders of each of the Seanad groupings;

(b) this implementation group shall have a time frame of 12 months to carry out its work. The remit of the Group will be the implementation of the recommendations of the 2015 Report of the Seanad Reform Working Group (the Manning Report).

(c) this group shall be established on the basis that there have already been several groups and committees over many years which have examined different models for Seanad reform, and that the time is now overdue to implement existing recommendations for reform prepared by the most recent of these groups.”

– *Senators Ivana Bacik, Kevin Humphreys, Denis Landy, Ged Nash, Aodhán Ó Ríordáin.*

2. In paragraph (a) to delete “the first sitting of the Seanad” and substitute “this Seanad debate”.

– *Senators Gerard P. Craughwell, Victor Boyhan.*

3. In paragraph (b) to delete “20” and substitute “21”.

– *Senators Gerard P. Craughwell, Victor Boyhan.*

4. To insert the following new paragraph:

“(c) the membership of the Committee shall include Senator Billy Lawless as the representative of the diaspora.”

– *Senators Gerard P. Craughwell, Victor Boyhan.*

5. To insert the following new paragraph:

“(d) the Committee shall have the powers defined in paragraphs (1) and (2) of Standing Order 71 and shall –

- invite written submissions from the executive committees of LAMA and the AILG so that the views of the Vocational Panels electorate are properly represented;
- invite written submissions from the NUI, the HEA and the University of Dublin so that the Universities electorate as envisaged in the 1979 referendum is fully represented; and
- consider inviting written submissions from the bodies listed in the Register of Nominating Bodies;”

– *Senators Gerard P. Craughwell, Victor Boyhan.*

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2. “That Seanad Éireann:

- recognises the commitment and dedication of city and county councillors to their

communities;

- acknowledges the impact that the Local Government Reform Act 2014 has had on serving councillors with respect to —
  - the greatly increased size of the electoral area,
  - the increased workload associated with such large geographical areas, and
  - the increased annual travel across the constituencies;
- calls on the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government to sanction the capacity of local authorities to increase the fixed allowance for city and county councillors;
- believes that the representational payment of €16,950 is no longer commensurate with the workload of city and county councillors and calls on the Minister immediately to increase payment to reflect the time and effort associated with the work involved;
- asks the Minister to ensure that councillors are employed under proper Fixed Term Contracts of Employment and are protected fully under the Terms of Employment (Information) Act 1994 and the Protection of Employees (Fixed Term Work) Act 2003 to include provision for —
  - sick leave arrangements,
  - maternity leave, and
  - pension entitlements.”

– *Senators Gerard P. Craughwell, Victor Boyhan.*  
[9<sup>th</sup> June, 2016]

*Leasuithe:*

*Amendments:*

1. In the third paragraph, after “councillors” to insert “under Article 5 of the Regulations from the current range of €2,286 to €2,667 per councillor per year, to a uniform figure of €4,500 per annum, to be known in future as an administrative assistance payment to better reflect its purpose.”

– *Senators Denis Landy, Ged Nash.*

2. In the fourth paragraph after “work involved” to insert “as highlighted in a number of surveys carried out by the A.I.L.G and the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.”

– *Senators Denis Landy, Ged Nash.*

3. In the fifth paragraph to delete “-pension entitlements” and substitute “-a proper system of PRSI payment for councillors which provides benefits similar to all other employees.”

– *Senators Denis Landy, Ged Nash.*

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3. “That Seanad Éireann:

- supports the replacement of flat-rate bin charges with pay-by-weight bin charges for households to reduce residual waste going to landfills, to give households more control over their waste costs and to reward households for recycling, however, acknowledges that the implementation of the new charging régime has been highly problematic, due to the opacity and lack of transparency on the new pricing models;
- notes the following arrangements agreed between the Government and the waste industry to facilitate the effective roll-out of pay-by-weight charging:
  - a price freeze for customers for the next 12 months on the basis of their current pricing plans;
  - during the second half of 2016, the Government and the waste industry are committed to an intensive public awareness, information and promotion campaign to promote the benefits of the pay-by-weight charging model, support customers in understanding how they can change their waste management behaviour and manage better their waste costs under the pay-by-weight system;
  - no later than 1st January, 2017, customers will receive a dual pricing bill listing the amount of waste they are disposing of, their costs under their current price plan and details of the comparative pay-by-weight charge, and they will be given the option to transition, should they so choose, to pay-by-weight charging or to remain on their current price plan; and
  - after the transitional 12 months, the operation of pay-by-weight and of the wider waste market will be reviewed to inform decisions in relation to the arrangements beyond 1st July, 2017; notes the Government's intention, in advance of 1st July, to underpin the requirements regarding provision of comparative billing information and the pay-by-weight opt-in arrangements through amendments to the relevant Statutory Instrument, and the intention to keep the operation of the price freeze under review, with further legislative intervention being considered, as necessary; and acknowledges the commitment of the waste industry to provide a full weight allowance for the 60,000 Health Service Executive patients supplied with incontinence wear to reduce their waste charges, and the Government's provision of a 50 per cent exemption to the waste industry from the landfill levy in respect of such waste; and

calls for:

- a bin charge waiver to be introduced for low income households and households with special needs who cannot afford to pay as well as larger households who could be unduly affected by these charges;
- further mechanisms to be put in place for apartment dwellers and those living in areas where they cannot store wheelie bins to ensure that they get fair pricing; and
- further measures to increase diversion of food and compostable waste from landfill as well as to increase the reuse and recycling of green waste, such as a ministerial order compelling waste collectors to provide separate compostable waste bins to areas that do not have them or a ministerial order

compelling waste collectors to provide a service enabling all households to recycle glass in green waste bins.”

– *Senators Catherine Ardagh, Mark Daly, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Paul Daly, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher, Gerry Horkan, Terry Leyden, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, Brian Ó Domhnaill, Ned O'Sullivan, Keith Swanick, Diarmuid Wilson.*

**[21<sup>st</sup> June, 2016]**

4. “That Seanad Éireann calls for an urgent debate on the implications for Ireland of the result of the UK referendum on EU membership.”

– *Senators Catherine Ardagh, Mark Daly, Diarmuid Wilson, Gerry Horkan, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Paul Daly, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher, Terry Leyden, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, Brian Ó Domhnaill, Ned O'Sullivan, Keith Swanick.*

**[24<sup>th</sup> June, 2016]**

5. “That Seanad Éireann, in light of new evidence to the contrary which is in the public domain, discuss whether all waste management companies that are empowered by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to implement Statutory Instrument no. 24 of 2016, are doing so in such a way that:

- under no circumstances allows a situation whereby households would be mandated to switch over to a new charging system that would result in dramatic increases for their households, including:
  - those that previously disposed of their own waste, or
  - those who purchased pre-paid bags or tags from the waste companies, as they needed to, to dispose of their own waste;
- ensures that instead we have a different approach that involves a 12 month freeze in charges for all households, so no-one needs to worry about being charged substantially more than they previously paid; and
- customers who previously purchased bags or tags to dispose of their refuse will not, from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2016, be forced to pay standing charges, buy them in advance in bulk lots, give bank details to or have monies on deposit with the waste companies if they choose to continue using this method of waste disposal.”

– *Senators Rose Conway-Walsh, Máire Devine, Paul Gavan, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Trevor Ó Clochartaigh, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield.*

**[28<sup>th</sup> June, 2016]**

6. “That Seanad Éireann:

notes that:

- in November, 2012, Ireland voted in favour of the United Nations General Assembly motion granting ‘non-member observer state’ status to Palestine;
- Seanad Éireann, on 22nd October, 2014, unanimously agreed a motion calling on the Government ‘to formally recognise the State of Palestine and do everything it can at the international level to help secure a viable two-state solution to the Israeli-

Palestinian conflict’;

- Dáil Éireann, on 10th December, 2014, agreed a motion to ‘officially recognise the State of Palestine on the basis of the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as the capital, as established in UN resolutions, as a further positive contribution to securing a negotiated two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict’;
- the European Parliament on 17th December, 2014, passed a resolution supporting ‘in principle recognition of Palestinian statehood and the two-state solution, and believes these should go hand in hand with the development of peace talks’;
- as of 22nd June, 2016, 136 countries have formally recognised the State of Palestine, including eight EU Member States - the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, Malta, Cyprus and Sweden; and
- the Partnership Programme for Government states that ‘We will continue to play a role in advancing a stronger role for the EU in the Middle East Peace Process, having regard to the stalled nature of the process at present, and honour our commitment to recognise the State of Palestine as part of a lasting settlement of the conflict’;

recognises:

- the failure to advance peace talks and a two-state solution;
- continued Israeli settlement construction and extension activities in the West Bank, including in East Jerusalem, which is illegal under international law and severely threatens the establishment of a viable Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders;
- the continued illegal blockade of Gaza and that a report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, that was released in September, 2015, states that Gaza could become uninhabitable by 2020;
- the denial of basic human rights to the Palestinian people; and
- the need to stimulate new efforts to break the current deadlock;

calls on:

- the Government to act on motions passed in both Houses in 2014 and to expedite the process to formally recognise the State of Palestine, on the basis of the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as the capital, as established in United Nations resolutions, independent of and coexisting with Israel;

and concludes that:

- the international law criteria for recognition of a Palestinian state have been fulfilled;
- such official recognition underscores the commitment of this House to realise the right of Palestinian people to self-determination;
- official recognition will give parity of status to Israel and Palestine;
- official recognition of the State of Palestine by Ireland can strengthen, advance and further legitimise the two-state solution; and

- the Government will continue to actively engage with both the Israelis and Palestinians and work to encourage direct talks between both sides to secure a sustainable and secure settlement of the conflict.”

– *Senators Mark Daly, Diarmuid Wilson, Catherine Ardagh, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Paul Daly, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher, Gerry Horkan, Terry Leyden, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, Brian Ó Domhnaill, Ned O'Sullivan, Keith Swanick.*

**[29<sup>th</sup> June, 2016]**

## 7. “That Seanad Éireann:

having regard to:

- the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights of 1950;
- Article 10 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights;
- the EU Guidelines on the Death Penalty, adopted in June, 1998 and revised and updated in April, 2013;
- the UN General Assembly resolutions, in particular that of 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 on a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (A/RES/69/186);
- the issuing, by President al-Sisi of Egypt on the 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2014, known as Law 140, whereby he may, upon a proposal filed by the Prosecutor General and with the agreement of the Council of Ministers, agree to the transfer of defendants to their home countries; and
- Rule 135 of Rules of Procedure;

whereas:

- Mr. Ibrahim Halawa is an EU citizen, born in Ireland of Egyptian parents and was arrested in Egypt in August, 2013 following a protest in Cairo, aged 17 years old and faces a mass trial;
- since the military takeover of June, 2013, it has been reported that a great number of detentions of protesters and prisoners of conscience have been conducted in Egypt; reports indicate that since July, 2013, more than 41,000 people have been detained following mass arrests; the freedoms of association, assembly and expression have remained areas of particular concern since July, 2013;
- Mr. Halawa faces mass trial along with others charged with attending an illegal protest during which protesters allegedly caused deaths and criminal damage and are now being held jointly responsible for these offences;
- a large number of death sentences have been handed down through mass trials since 2013 against alleged Muslim Brotherhood members and alleged supporters of ousted President Morsi; these sentences and procedures are in breach of Egypt's obligations under international law; Mr. Halawa could face a real danger of receiving the death

penalty given the nature of his mass trial;

- freedom of expression and freedom of assembly are indispensable pillars of a democratic and pluralist society; the Egyptian constitution adopted in 2014 enshrines fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression and assembly;
- Article 10 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights considers that everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his/her rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him/her;
- Mr. Halawa has now spent more than two years in prison, over a year of this without having been charged, in serious violation to his right to a speedy trial;
- Mr. Halawa's trial is now in progress having been postponed on a number of occasions; his most recent hearing took place on the 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2016;
- Mr. Halawa has been on hunger strike previously and his physical and mental health is rapidly deteriorating;
- any decision to release Mr. Halawa must ultimately be taken by the Egyptian authorities;

and:

- expresses its deepest concern at the deteriorating condition of Mr. Halawa due to his alleged poor conditions in prison;
- calls on the Egyptian authorities, as a matter of priority, to ensure that the good health and wellbeing of Mr. Halawa is maintained while he remains in prison;
- asks the Egyptian authorities to ensure that Article 10 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which states that all persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person, is respected;
- welcomes that Egypt has facilitated consular access to Mr. Halawa, an Irish and European citizen, for the Irish Government, and access to his legal representation;
- calls on the Egyptian authorities, in regard to Mr. Halawa's Irish and European citizenship, to continue to facilitate consular access for the Irish Government;
- strongly condemns the use of a mass trial in the judicial process and urges the Egyptian Government to ensure that the human right to a fair and independent trial as outlined in Article 10 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights is respected and upheld;
- asks the Egyptian authorities to ensure an independent and credible investigation in the case of Mr. Halawa, to respect the right for a fair and timely trial based on clear charges, and to ensure the respect of the defendant's rights;
- reiterates Ireland's absolute opposition to the use of the death penalty under all circumstances and calls for a full moratorium on the issuance of capital punishment

in Egypt;

- urges Egypt to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 1996 aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
  - stresses its strong desire to see Mr. Halawa returned to Ireland by the Egyptian authorities under the Presidential Decree / Law 140 as soon as possible;
  - calls on the Taoiseach and Minister for Foreign Affairs to keep the case of Mr. Halawa with high priority on the agenda of political dialogue with Egypt;
  - instructs the Cathaoirleach to forward this resolution to the President of Ireland, the Taoiseach, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the governments and parliaments of the EU Member States, the Egyptian Government and Parliament, the UN Secretary General and the UN Human Rights Council.”
- *Senators Mark Daly, Catherine Ardagh, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Paul Daly, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher, Gerry Horkan, Terry Leyden, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, Brian Ó Domhnaill, Ned O'Sullivan, Keith Swanick, Diarmuid Wilson.*

**[5<sup>th</sup> July, 2016]**

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8. “That Seanad Éireann:

- considers the restoration of pay under the Haddington Road Agreement of up to €5,000 for members of the Government and Dáil Éireann as unwarranted at this time;
- and
- believes that the Representational Payment of €16,950 paid to City and County Councillors is no longer commensurate with their workload; and

calls on the Government instead to:

- sanction the capacity of local authorities to increase the fixed allowance for city and county councillors; and
- immediately increase the Representational Payment to reflect the time and effort associated with their workload.”

*Senators Gerard P. Craughwell, Victor Boyhan .*

**[11<sup>th</sup> October, 2016]**

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9. “That Seanad Éireann:

- aware of a report by Amnesty International dated 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2007, which stated that between 27<sup>th</sup> July, 1988 and the end of that year, thousands of political prisoners in Iran, including prisoners of conscience, were executed in prisons nationwide;
- bearing in mind that those alleged to have been personally responsible for these mass executions include senior officials serving in the current Government of Iran;
- noting that the audio file of Ayatollah Montazeri, Deputy to Ayatollah Khomeini in



1988, revealed new evidence about the massacre of more than 30,000 political prisoners in Iran's prisons in the summer of 1988 including women and children and all political prisoners who supported the opposition movement of the People's Mujahedin of Iran (PMOI); and

- understanding that the massacre was carried out following a fatwa by the Supreme Leader Khomeini who ordered all political prisoners loyal to the PMOI to be immediately executed;
- is concerned by Ayatollah Montazeri's comments that this is the biggest crime to have occurred in the Islamic Republic and that the world would not forgive them for this crime;
- agrees that the impunity of the authorities of the Iranian regime in the past three decades is the main cause for the continuation of these crimes in Iran;
- expresses concern that those alleged to have been in charge of the massacre go unpunished and are currently in senior positions in the Iranian Government; and

urges the Government to:

- recognise and condemn this massacre as a crime against humanity; and
- ask the UN Human Rights Commissioner, the Human Rights Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council to order an investigation and bring the perpetrators to justice.”  
– *Senators David Norris, Gerard P. Craughwell, Frances Black, John Dolan, Joan Freeman, Alice-Mary Higgins, Colette Kelleher, Brian Ó Domhnaill, Grace O’Sullivan.*

[11<sup>th</sup> November, 2016]

#### 10. “That Seanad Éireann:

- recognises that Ireland has one of the highest population levels per local government unit in the OECD;
- recognises that the 2014 local government reforms have negatively impacted upon the level of local democratic representation with local government in Ireland;
- recognises the need to increase financial autonomy, possess available functions and influence councillors over expenditure within Irish local government;
- recognises that devolved decision-making possesses the potential to strengthen the tapestry of Irish local government;
- recognises that the capacity of Irish Local Government must be strengthened, as the functions it executes matter, both to the citizen and the State; and

calls for:

- the introduction of an element of direct democracy infused into the Irish local

government mix, to see local council referendums being introduced under legislation, whereby such a process mandates meaningful consultation (referendum) prior to any decision, affecting the territorial structure of local councils;

- the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government to approve additional resources to local democratic practitioners, ensuring that citizens continue to receive sufficient channels of responsiveness;
- the recognition of research-based findings, demonstrating that the councillors who remain, following the 2014 reforms, are under-resourced, hence, if this is not addressed in the short-term, many councillors will either forfeit their roles, due to financial pressures stemming from professional strains or, will maintain their roles, only on the basis of their own long-term financial independence;
- careful recognition of the fact that the 2014 local government reforms have significantly altered the structure of local government and, therefore, must be addressed to protect the democratic legitimacy of local government in Ireland.”  
*– Senators Brian Ó Domhnaill, Mark Daly, Catherine Ardagh, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Paul Daly, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher, Gerry Horkan, Terry Leyden, Jennifer Murnane O’Connor, Ned O’Sullivan, Keith Swanick, Diarmuid Wilson.*

[23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2016]

#### 11. “That Seanad Éireann:

- recognises a newly released audio file of the late Ayatollah Montazeri, former successor to the Supreme Leader Khomeini, in 1988, revealing new evidence about the massacre of more than 30,000 political prisoners in Iran’s prisons in the summer of 1988, including women and children and all political prisoners who supported the opposition movement of the People’s Mojahedin Organisation of Iran (PMOI), which Amnesty International in 2008 called one of the worst abuses to be committed in Iran;
- acknowledges that this massacre was carried out following a fatwa by the Supreme Leader Khomeini who ordered all political prisoners loyal to the PMOI to be immediately executed;
- notes that in the new audio recording, Ayatollah Montazeri, comments that it is ‘the greatest crime committed during the Islamic Republic, for which history will condemn us.’;
- expresses its deepest concern that human rights abuses and executions continue today in Iran because of the impunity enjoyed by Iranian authorities in the past three and a half decades;
- recognises that, according to Ayatollah Montazeri’s revelations and survivors’ accounts, those in charge of the massacre go unpunished and are currently in senior positions in the Iranian Government;
- notes that Ayatollah Montazeri’s son, Mr. Ahmed Montazeri, has been put on trial without a lawyer in the Special Clerical Court on 19th October, 2016, on charges of ‘acting against national security’ for publishing an audio file of his father’s meeting with the ‘Death Commission’;

- notes that Amnesty International warned in 2013 that the Iranian authorities still seek to ‘erase the “1988 political massacre” from memories’ and ‘have also persecuted and harassed the families of the victims, including by dispersing gatherings and arresting them on the commemoration day held annually on the last Friday before 1 September in Khavaran Cemetery in southern Tehran.’;
- supports the efforts to end these decades long atrocities being pursued by the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI) and its President elect, Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, and further supports the ten point plan for a future Iran that envisions a democratic, secular republic with the abolition of the death penalty and torture as well as establishing the rule of law and respect for the United Nations Charter;

and

- calls for the Government to recognise and condemn this brutal massacre as a crime against humanity;
- requests the United Nations Human Rights Commissioner, Human Rights Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council to order an investigation and bring the perpetrators to justice;
- urges the Government to back the efforts of the Iranian people and the NCRI to make Mrs. Rajavi’s ten point democratic platform a reality in Iran; and
- instructs the Cathaoirleach to forward this resolution to the President of Ireland, the Taoiseach, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, the UN Secretary General, the UN Human Rights Council and the UN Human Rights Commissioner.”  
 – *Senators Brian Ó Domhnaill, David Norris, Catherine Ardagh, Paul Daly, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher, Colette Kelleher, Billy Lawless, Pádraig Ó Céidigh, Ned O’Sullivan.*

**[23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2016]**

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12. “That Seanad Éireann calls on the Minister for Health to negotiate a ‘risk sharing’ arrangement with Orkambi drug manufacturer Vertex Pharmaceuticals, whereby Orkambi will be made available to every patient who needs the drug and the HSE will meet the expense in the cases where the drug is effective.”

– *Senators Keith Swanick, Catherine Ardagh, Mark Daly, Diarmuid Wilson, Gerry Horkan, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Paul Daly, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher, Terry Leyden, Jennifer Murnane O’Connor, Ned O’Sullivan, Brian Ó Domhnaill.*

**[5<sup>th</sup> December, 2016]**

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13. “That Seanad Éireann:

- reaffirms Article 6.1 of the Constitution of Ireland which states: ‘All powers of government, legislative, executive and judicial, derive, under God, from the people, whose right it is to designate the rulers of the State and, in final appeal, to decide all questions of national policy, according to the requirements of the common good.’;
- notes that the 31st Dáil established a Constitutional Convention by resolution on 10th July, 2012;

- further notes that on 9th June, 2013, the Constitutional Convention voted overwhelmingly that direct democracy (citizens' initiatives) with adequate safeguards be introduced;
- upholds the principle of direct democracy and the holding of Constitutional referendums to affect legislative change;
- acknowledges that a newly constituted Citizens' Assembly would help implement the principles of direct democracy by adding citizen-initiated referendums to the Constitution of Ireland;
- supports empowering a Citizens' Assembly for the period of one year so that it can devise a new mechanism that will enable citizens to robustly scrutinise proposed legislation, assess and advocate for citizens' initiatives, and table amendments and counter proposals to Government-sponsored legislation;
- agrees that:
  - membership of the new One Year Citizens' Assembly will consist of:
    - a Chairperson, to be appointed by the Taoiseach;
    - a minimum of 66 citizens randomly selected so as to be broadly representative of Irish society and who are entitled to vote;
      - on a referendum; and
      - in local authority elections;
    - a member of the Northern Ireland Assembly from each of the political parties; and
    - one member of the Oireachtas appointed by their political party/grouping; and
  - substitutes may be appointed to sit on the Assembly by their political parties/groupings who will be entitled to full participation rights on the Assembly including the right to vote; and
- further agrees that:
  - the Assembly will agree its own rules of procedure to ensure effective conduct of its business which will be done in as economical a manner as possible;
  - the Assembly will give appropriate regard to the conventions and clauses contained within the Good Friday and St. Andrew's Agreements;
  - the Assembly will present an interim report to the Houses of the Oireachtas, including its recommendations, within two months of completing its deliberations;
  - the Assembly may invite and accept submissions from interested bodies and

members of the public and will seek advice and guidance whenever necessary to aid its members in their deliberations;

- all matters before the Assembly will be determined by a majority of the votes cast by members present;
  - the Chairperson will have the casting vote in the event of a hung vote; and
  - the Taoiseach will provide to the Houses of the Oireachtas a response to the recommendation(s) of the Assembly within one month of receiving the interim and final reports, and he/she will indicate the timeframe for when the Dáil envisages holding any related referendum.”
- *Senators Paul Gavan, Rose Conway-Walsh, Máire Devine, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Trevor Ó Clochartaigh, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield.*

**[16<sup>th</sup> December, 2016]**

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14. “That Seanad Éireann calls on the Minister for Social Protection to acknowledge the concerns being raised in communities across the country concerning the Jobpath scheme and to immediately carry out a full review of the scheme operated by Turas Nua and Seetec.”

– *Senators Trevor Ó Clochartaigh, Rose Conway-Walsh, Máire Devine, Paul Gavan, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield.*

**[16<sup>th</sup> December, 2016]**

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15. “That Seanad Éireann calls on the Government to impose a total ban on trade and imports that are proven to either originate or be tied to Israel's illegal settlements in occupied Jerusalem, the West Bank and Golan Heights and to ensure that the Republic of Ireland distinguishes, in all relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967 by acting in compliance with our obligations under international law and treaties which require the Government, along with all third parties, with specific regard to Israel's illegal settlements to (i) ensure respect for international law, (ii) to not recognise an illegal situation arising from such breaches and (iii) to refrain from any activity that would render aid or assistance to serious breaches of peremptory norms of international law.”

– *Senators David Norris, Frances Black, Lynn Ruane.*

**[12<sup>th</sup> January, 2017]**

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16. “That Seanad Éireann calls on the Minister of State with responsibility for the Diaspora to update the house on the implementation of the Global Irish - Irish Diaspora Policy with particular focus on the progress that has been made by the Interdepartmental Committee on the Irish Abroad.”

– *Senators Trevor Ó Clochartaigh, Paul Gavan, Rose Conway-Walsh, Máire Devine, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield.*

**[16<sup>th</sup> February, 2017]**

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17. “That Seanad Éireann:

notes that:

- in November 2012, Ireland voted in favour of the United Nations General Assembly

motion granting ‘non-member observer state’ status to Palestine;

- Seanad Éireann, on 22nd October, 2014, unanimously agreed a motion calling on the Government ‘to formally recognise the State of Palestine and do everything it can at an international level to help secure a viable two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.’;
- Dáil Éireann, on 10th December, 2014, agreed a motion to ‘officially recognise the State of Palestine on the basis of the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as the capital, as established in UN resolutions, as a further positive contribution to securing a negotiated two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict’;
- the European Parliament on 17th December, 2014, passed a resolution supporting ‘in principle recognition of Palestinian statehood and the two state solution, and believes these should go hand in hand with the development of peace talks’;
- as of 22nd June, 2016, 136 countries have formally recognised the State of Palestine, including eight EU Member States - the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, Malta, Cyprus and Sweden; and
- the Partnership Programme for Government states that ‘We will continue to play a role in advancing a stronger role for the EU in the Middle East Peace Process, having regard to the stalled nature of the process at present, and honour our commitment to recognise the State of Palestine as part of a lasting settlement of the conflict’;

recognises:

- the failure to advance peace talks and a two-state solution;
- continued Israeli settlement construction and extension activities in the West Bank, including in East Jerusalem, which is illegal under international law and severely threatens the establishment of a viable Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders;
- the continued illegal blockade of Gaza and that a report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, that was released in September 2015, states that Gaza could become uninhabitable by 2020;
- the denial of basic human rights to the Palestinian people; and
- the need to stimulate new efforts to break the current-deadlock;

calls on the Government to act on motions passed in both Houses in 2014 and to expedite the process to formally recognise the State of Palestine, on the basis of the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as the capital, as established in United Nations resolutions, independent of and co-existing with Israel; and

concludes that:

- the international law criteria for recognition of a Palestinian state have been fulfilled;
- such official recognition underscores the commitment of this House to realise the right of Palestinian people to self-determination;

- official recognition will give parity of status to Israel and Palestine;
  - official recognition of the State of Palestine by Ireland can strengthen, advance and further legitimise the two-state solution; and
  - the Government will continue to actively engage with both the Israelis and Palestinians and work to encourage direct talks between both sides to secure a sustainable and secure settlement of the conflict.”
- *Senators Catherine Ardagh, Mark Daly, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Paul Daly, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher, Gerry Horkan, Terry Leyden, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, Ned O'Sullivan, Keith Swanick, Diarmuid Wilson, Brian Ó Domhnaill, Rose Conway-Walsh, Máire Devine, Paul Gavan, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Trevor Ó Clochartaigh, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield, Ivana Bacik, Kevin Humphreys, Denis Landy, Ged Nash, Aodhán Ó Ríordáin, Frances Black, Alice-Mary Higgins, Grace O'Sullivan, Lynn Ruane, Colette Kelleher, Gerard P. Craughwell, Victor Boyhan, David Norris.*

**[22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2017]**

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18. “That Seanad Éireann calls for:

- the retention of mountain sheep grazing (mountain type land) as a separate category after the review of the Areas of Natural Constraints (ANC) Scheme;
  - the payments going forward to properly reflect both the multiple bio-physical and specific constraints experienced by farmers who farm mountain type land, and for those payments to be set at similar rates to the current offshore islands rate;
  - the new mapped ANC areas to be published in time to have a proper consultation before they are sent in draft to the EU.”
- *Senators Trevor Ó Clochartaigh, Rose-Conway Walsh, Máire Devine, Paul Gavan, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield.*

**[3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2017]**

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19. “That Seanad Éireann supports the implementation of a comprehensive, rights-based Irish Language Act in the North, as agreed in the St. Andrews Agreement 2007 and supports the recommendations outlined by Conradh na Gaeilge in their discussion document ‘Irish Language Act: A Discussion Document’.”

– *Senators Niall Ó Donnghaile, Trevor Ó Clochartaigh, Rose-Conway Walsh, Máire Devine, Paul Gavan, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Fintan Warfield.*

**[15<sup>th</sup> May, 2017]**

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20. “That Seanad Éireann:

- is confident that capital investment can provide both social benefits as well as economic growth, rather than presenting a false choice in relation to such investment;
- together with the International Monetary Fund, the Irish Congress Trade Unions and the Irish Business and Employers Confederation believes that, in order to

tackle infrastructural bottlenecks, make up for historical underinvestment, deal with the rapid growth within the domestic economy, deal with a growing and ageing population, as well as tackle the particular challenges posed by Brexit, much greater capital investment is required than the €2.65 billion envisaged in the Capital Plan;

- notes that the Irish national debt-to-Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ratio continues to fall at a rapid pace, due to economic growth and continued achievement of budgetary targets, the costs of servicing the national debt have consistently been declining and the banking system poses no systemic threat to the economy;
- is concerned that the Government's debt-to-GDP target of 45 per cent, significantly below the Stability and Growth Pact target of 60 per cent, and its commitment to establishing a €1 billion per year rainy-day fund from 2019 are unnecessary obstacles to tackling our significant public investment deficit;
- further notes that the State's long established rainy-day fund, the Irish Strategic Investment Fund, has a discretionary portfolio of €8.1 billion and a directed portfolio valued at €12.6 billion, consisting of State shareholdings in Allied Irish Banks (AIB) and Bank of Ireland that were paid for out of the National Pension Reserve Fund;
- believes that the directed portfolio, as it grows, should be made available for commercial investment in projects of national significance and commercial potential in the public sector and asserts, in particular, that the proceeds of a sale of bank shares should be used for additional capital investment;
- further asserts that the European Union (EU) Stability and Growth Pact and fiscal rules currently prevent appropriate levels of investment and should be amended in order to facilitate a much needed increase in capital spending;
- notes, with approval, efforts currently underway to achieve these reforms and calls on Irish political parties to advance this agenda through their EU political groups and also on the Government to vigorously pursue the issue at the European Council;
- in the circumstances believes that, in advance of such changes to the fiscal rules, the sale of shareholdings in AIB and Bank of Ireland should not proceed; and
- calls on the Government to postpone the sale of AIB shares until the fiscal rules are changed to permit enhanced capital spending, rather than remit the moneys to the Exchequer simply to pay down debt."

– *Senators Ivana Bacik, Kevin Humphreys, Denis Landy, Ged Nash, Aodhán Ó Ríordáin.*

**[31<sup>st</sup> May, 2017]**

*Leasú:*

*Amendment:*



1. To delete all words after “That Seanad Éireann:” and substitute:

- “
- notes the intention of the Minister for Finance to sell 25 percent of AIB shares;
  - is confident that capital investment can provide both social benefits as well as economic growth, rather than presenting a false choice in relation to such investment;
  - together with the International Monetary Fund, the Irish Congress of Trade Unions and the Irish Business and Employers Confederation believes that, in order to tackle infrastructural bottlenecks, make up for historical underinvestment, deal with the rapid growth within the domestic economy, deal with a growing and ageing population, as well as tackle the particular challenges posed by Brexit, much greater capital investment is required than the €2.65 billion envisaged in the Capital Plan;
  - notes that the Irish national debt-to-Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ratio continues to fall at a rapid pace, due to economic growth and adjustments unrelated to actual economic factors;
  - welcomes the emerging consensus that the fiscal rules are flawed and that, as pointed out by some during the referendum on the issue, they now represent a very real impediment to the investment in our economy and society that is required;
  - notes that the bailout of AIB had consequences far beyond the upfront cost and that these consequences can be seen in the number of young people who have emigrated and the crises in our health and housing sectors and no scrutiny or cost benefit analysis of the decision by Government to sell AIB or part of AIB has taken place in the Oireachtas to date;
  - believes that no credible economic case has been made for the privatisation of AIB;
  - notes the evidence given at the Oireachtas Banking Inquiry of former AIB director and former Chief Executive of the National Treasury Management Agency Michael Somers that any part sale of AIB would have to be at a discount.

calls on the Government to:

- abandon the sale of AIB as no case has been presented that the sale is in the best interests of the Irish people;
- ensure that any future decision to sell any shares in AIB is subject to Oireachtas approval;
- work with progressive Governments in the EU to radically amend the fiscal rules so that a greater degree of economic sovereignty is returned to Member States and the rules reflect the value of investment in the economy;
- secure, in the context of Brexit, greater flexibility for Ireland to spend on infrastructure through national and EU/EIB funding;

- prioritise, within the fiscal space, capital investment and investment in public services rather than implement a tax cutting agenda that benefits the wealthier;

and

calls on the Finance Committee to consider the long-term options for the future of AIB and the State's shareholdings in other banks."

– *Senator Rose Conway-Walsh.*  
[31st May, 2017]

21. "That Seanad Éireann:

- acknowledges the honour brought upon the Irish people and the United Nations by the heroism of the men of the 'A' Company, 35th Battalion (UN service) of the Irish Army ONUC contingent at the Siege of Jadotville in September 1961, during the United Nations intervention in the Katanga conflict in Congo-Léopoldville, in Central Africa;
- profoundly regrets the betrayal of these men for many years by some in positions of power and the attempt to portray the soldier's actions as cowardice to deflect from that betrayal;
- acknowledges the immense hurt and pain caused to the soldiers and their families that they have carried with them over the decades since; and
- calls for the gallantry and heroism of these men to be appropriately acknowledged, along with the hurt and pain that they and their families have endured, through the honouring by the State of the surviving men and the families of the deceased men at a medal ceremony."

– *Senators Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Gerard P. Craughwell, Trevor Ó Clochartaigh, Billy Lawless, Ivana Bacik, Máire Devine, Rose Conway-Walsh, Catherine Ardagh, Fintan Warfield, Paul Gavan, Niall Ó Donnghaile, David Norris, Frances Black, John Dolan, Grace O'Sullivan, Lynn Ruane, Paul Daly, Terry Leyden, Keith Swanick, Diarmuid Wilson, Aodhán Ó Ríordáin, Kevin Humphreys, Denis Landy, Ged Nash, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor.*

[6<sup>th</sup> June, 2017]

22. "That Seanad Éireann calls on the Minister for Justice and Equality to bring to an immediate end the investment in the tobacco industry by two entities under the remit of the Department of Justice and Equality, namely the Charities Regulator and the Courts Service."

– *Senators Diarmuid Wilson, Catherine Ardagh, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Mark Daly, Paul Daly, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher, Gerry Horkan, Terry Leyden, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, Ned O'Sullivan, Keith Swanick.*

[19<sup>th</sup> June, 2017]

## 23. “That Seanad Éireann:

- remembers the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Srebrenica massacre where more than 8,000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys were killed by Bosnian Serb forces in 1995;
- uses this opportunity to learn about the challenges that people in Srebrenica face in moving on from the genocide in a spirit of reconciliation to make a better future for all communities.”

– *Senators Frank Feighan, Neale Richmond.*  
[20<sup>th</sup> June, 2017]

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## 24. “That Seanad Éireann:

noting that:

- the Department of Health contends that home care can be a cost-effective alternative to long-term residential care for some older people;
- despite significant increases between 2008 and 2015 in those aged 65 years and over and those aged 85 years and over, there was a decrease in the number of people receiving home help and home care packages;
- it has been argued that the implementation of the Fair Deal Scheme, in the absence of any similar structured scheme for home-based care, may draw people into residential care prematurely;
- the majority (63 per cent) of people with dementia live at home and the annual cost of dementia is €1.69 billion per annum, 48 per cent of which is attributable to informal family care;
- insufficient provision of home help and home care packages channel people to long-term care, causing the institutionalisation of people with dementia; and
- people with dementia have a preference to remain living at home for as long as possible and that with the right support, this is possible for the majority; and

acknowledging that:

- €22 million was allocated through the National Dementia Strategy Implementation Plan for the delivery of intensive home care packages for people with dementia and that these packages are operating in eight pilot sites;
- Budget 2017 provided an additional €10 million in new development funding for home care and for continuation of the additional €30 million for home care announced in July, 2016;
- the Minister of State at the Department of Health with special responsibility for Mental Health and Older People has announced plans to begin a consultation process on the development of a statutory scheme for home care;

calls for:

- an approach to home care that addresses the inequity of service provision that currently exists across the country;
- positive aspects of the Nursing Home Support Scheme to be adopted for home care such as the standardised process for assessment, certainty of entitlement and centralised, multi-annual, ring-fenced funding;
- flexible home care for people with dementia, which meets individual needs and moves away from a time-to-task approach;
- increased investment in 2018 to meet the particular needs of people living with dementia in the community; and
- adequate resources to ensure full implementation of the National Dementia Strategy.

– *Senators Catherine Ardagh, Diarmuid Wilson, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Mark Daly, Paul Daly, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher, Gerry Horkan, Terry Leyden, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, Ned O'Sullivan, Keith Swanick.*

[23rd June, 2016]

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

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**BILLÍ AR SIÚL AGUS GNÓ ATÁ ORDAITHE**  
*Bills in Progress and Business Ordered*

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*Dé Céadaoin, 28 Meitheamh, 2017*  
*Wednesday, 28th June, 2017*

An Bille um Chomharchumann Tithíochta Náisiúnta, 2017– An Dara Céim.  
National Housing Co-operative Bill 2017– Second Stage.

– *Senators David Norris, Gerard P. Craughwell, Victor Boyhan.*

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*Dé hAoine, 21 Iúil, 2017*  
*Friday, 21st July, 2017*

An Bille um Theanga Chomharthaíochta na hÉireann do na Bodhair a Aithint, 2016 – An Tuarascáil.

Recognition of Irish Sign Language for the Deaf Community Bill 2016 – Report.

– *Senators Mark Daly, Catherine Ardagh, Keith Swanick..*

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*Dé Céadaoin, 4 Deireadh Fómhair, 2017*  
*Wednesday, 4th October, 2017*

An Bille um Ghairmithe Sláinte Criticiúla, 2017 – Ordaíodh é a léamh an dara huair an 4 Deireadh Fómhair 2017.

Critical Health Professionals Bill 2017 – Ordered to be read a second time on 4th October, 2017.  
– *Senators Keith Swanick, Mark Daly and Robbie Gallagher.*

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*Dé hAoine, 29 Nollaig, 2017*  
*Friday, 29th December, 2017*

An Bille Inimirce (Athchóiriú) (Stádas Cónaithe a Thabhairt chun Rialtacht), 2016 – Ordaíodh é a léamh an dara huair an 29 Nollaig 2017.

Immigration (Reform) (Regularisation of Residency Status) Bill 2016 – Ordered to be read a second time on 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.

– *Senators David Norris, Victor Boyhan, Gerard P. Craughwell.*

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*Dé Domhnaigh, 31 Nollaig, 2017*  
*Sunday, 31st December, 2017*

An Bille Toghcháin (Leasú) (Vótáil ag Aois 16), 2016 – Ordaíodh é a léamh an dara huair an 31 Nollaig 2017.

Electoral (Amendment) (Voting at 16) Bill 2016 – Ordered to be read a second time on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017.

– *Senators Fintan Warfield, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Lynn Ruane.*

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### BILLÍ SEANAID SA DÁIL

*Seanad Bills with the Dáil*

An Bille Forbartha Mianraí, 2015.  
Minerals Development Bill 2015.

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An Bille um Maoin Chultúrtha a Choimirciú i gCás Coinbhleacht Armtha (Coinbhinsiún na Háige), 2016.  
Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (Hague Convention) Bill 2016.

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An Bille um Dhliteanas Sibhialta (Leasú), 2017.  
Civil Liability (Amendment) Bill 2017.

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An Bille Oidhreachta, 2016.  
Heritage Bill 2016.

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### MEMORANDA

*Dé Máirt, 27 Meitheamh, 2017*  
*Tuesday, 27th June, 2017*

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Thithíocht, Pleanáil, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil i Seomra Coiste 1, TL2000, ar 11.30 a.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in

Committee Room 1, LH2000, at 11.30 a.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Thalmhaíocht, Bia agus Muir i Seomra Coiste 1, TL2000, ar 3 p.m.  
Meeting of the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Committee Room 1, LH2000, at 3 p.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Oideachas agus Scileanna i Seomra Coiste 2, TL2000, ar 4 p.m.  
Meeting of the Joint Committee on Education and Skills in Committee Room 2, LH2000, at 4 p.m.

**An Bille um Dhífheistiú Breosla Iontaise, 2016:**

**Fossil Fuel Divestment Bill 2016:**

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Airgeadas, Caiteachas Poiblí agus Athchóiriú, agus an Taoiseach i Seomra Coiste 3, TL2000, ar 4 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach in Committee Room 3, LH2000, at 4 p.m.

Cruinniú de Chomhchoiste na Gaeilge, na Gaeltachta agus na nOileán i Seomra Coiste 4, TL2000, ar 5 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on the Irish Language, Gaeltacht and the Islands in Committee Room 4, LH2000, at 5 p.m.

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*Dé Céadaoin, 28 Meitheamh, 2017*

*Wednesday, 28th June, 2017*

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Leanaí agus Gnóthaí Óige i Seomra Coiste 1, TL2000, ar 9 a.m.  
Meeting of the Joint Committee on Children and Youth Affairs in Committee Room 1, LH2000, at 9 a.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Iompar, Turasóireacht agus Spórt i Seomra Coiste 4, TL2000, ar 9 a.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Transport, Tourism and Sport in Committee Room 4, LH2000, at 9 a.m.

Cruinniú de Roghchoiste Speisialta an tSeanaid um an Ríocht Aontaithe do Tharraingt Siar as an Aontas Eorpach i Seomra A, TL2000, ar 10 a.m. (*príobháideach*).

Meeting of the Seanad Special Select Committee on the Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union in Room A, LH2000, at 10 a.m. (*private*).

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Shláinte i Seomra Coiste 3, TL2000, ar 1.30 p.m.  
Meeting of the Joint Committee on Health in Committee Room 3, LH2000, at 1.30 p.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Thithíocht, Pleanáil, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil i Seomra Coiste 1, TL2000, ar 1.30 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in Committee Room 1, LH2000, at 1.30 p.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Achainíocha ón bPobal i Seomra Coiste 2, TL2000, ar 1.30 p.m.  
Meeting of the Joint Committee on Public Petitions in Committee Room 2, LH2000, at 1.30 p.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Dhlí agus Ceart agus Comhionannas i Seomra Coiste 4, TL2000, ar 4.45 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Justice and Equality in Committee Room 4, LH2000, at 4.45 p.m.

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*Déardaoin, 29 Meitheamh, 2017*  
*Thursday, 29th June, 2017*

Cruinniú de Choiste Comhairliúcháin Poiblí an tSeanaid i Seomra an tSeanaid, ar 10 a.m.  
 Meeting of the Seanad Public Consultation Committee in Seanad Chamber, at 10 a.m.

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Choimirce Shóisialach i Seomra Coiste 4, TL2000, ar 10 a.m.  
 Meeting of the Joint Committee on Social Protection in Committee Room 4, LH2000, at 10 a.m.

Cruinniú de Roghchoiste Speisialta an tSeanaid um an Ríocht Aontaithe do Tharraingt Siar as an Aontas Eorpach i Seomra Coiste 4, TL2000, ar 2 p.m. (*príobháideach*).  
 Meeting of the Seanad Special Select Committee on the Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union in Committee Room 4, LH2000, at 2 p.m. (*private*).

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Fhorfheidhmiú Chomhaontú Aoine an Chéasta i Seomra Coiste 2, TL2000, ar 2.15 p.m. (*príobháideach*).  
 Meeting of the Joint Committee on the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement in Committee Room 2, LH2000, at 2.15 p.m. (*private*).

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SCRÍBHINNÍ A LEAGADH FAOI BHRÁID NA dTITHE  
 DOCUMENTS LAID BEFORE THE HOUSES<sup>1</sup>

|                                                                                                             |                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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 um Pleanáil agus Forbairt (Forbairt Straitéiseach Tithíochta), 2017 (I.R. Uimh. 271 de 2017). | Planning and Development (Strategic Housing Development) Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 271 of 2017). |

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<sup>1</sup> 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.