



# **SEANAD ÉIREANN**

*Dé Céadaoin, 30 Bealtaine, 2018*  
*Wednesday, 30th May, 2018*

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



*Dé Céadaoin, 30 Bealtaine, 2018*  
*Wednesday, 30th May, 2018*

10.30 a.m.

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RIAR NA hOIBRE  
*Order Paper*

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GNÓ POIBLÍ  
*Public Business*

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1. (l) An Bille um Chosaint Raideolaíoch (Leasú), 2018 [*Dáil*] – An Coiste.  
(a) Radiological Protection (Amendment) Bill 2018 [*Dáil*] – Committee.
2. Ráitis maidir le córas Baincéireachta Pobail de stíl na Nua-Shéalainne a Thriail ar Bhonn Treorach trí An Post.  
Statements on piloting a New Zealand-style Community Banking system through An Post.
3. Ráitis maidir leis an Tuarascáil ó Choiste Comhairliúcháin Phoiblí an tSeanaid dar teideal “Tuarascáil maidir le Seirbhísí Meabhair-Shláinte Leanaí”.  
Statements on the Report of the Seanad Public Consultation Committee entitled “Report on Children’s Mental Health Services”.
4. (l) An Bille um Cheartas Coiriúil (Cionta Éillithe), 2017 [*Dáil*] – An Tuarascáil.  
(a) Criminal Justice (Corruption Offences) Bill 2017 [*Dáil*] – Report Stage.
5. An Bille Uchtála (Faisnéis agus Lorgaireacht), 2016 – An Coiste.  
Adoption (Information and Tracing) Bill 2016 – Committee.
6. An Bille um Chomhairle na mBreithiúna, 2017 – An Coiste.  
Judicial Council Bill 2017 – Committee.
7. (l) An Bille Iascaigh Mhara (Leasú), 2017 – An Coiste (*leasú 1, atógáil*).  
(a) Sea-Fisheries (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Committee (*amendment 1, resumed*).
8. An Bille um Pleanáil agus Forbairt (Leasú), 2016 [*Dáil*] – An Tuarascáil.  
Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016 [*Dáil*] – Report Stage.

9. 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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10. Ráiteas ón Aire Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide agus Comhshaoil maidir leis an Acht um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide agus um Fhorbairt Ísealcharbóin, 2015 (*atógáil*).  
Statement by the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment on the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 (*resumed*).
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11. 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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12. An Bille fán nGníomhaireacht Náisiúnta um Bainistíocht Sócmhainní (Leasú), 2017 – An Dara Céim.  
National Asset Management Agency (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Second Stage.  
– *Senators Rose Conway-Walsh, Paul Gavan, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn.*
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13. An Bille Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta (Aonocsaíd Charbóin), 2017 – An Dara Céim.  
Health and Safety (Carbon Monoxide) Bill 2017 – Second Stage.  
– *Senators Keith Swanick, Diarmuid Wilson, Robbie Gallagher, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor.*
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14. An Bille Toghcháin (Leasú) (Cearta Vótála do Chónaitheoirí), 2017 – An Dara Céim.  
Electoral (Amendment) (Voting Rights for Residents) Bill 2017 – Second Stage.  
– *Senators Fintan Warfield, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Máire Devine.*
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15. Bille na gColáistí Teicniúla Réigiúnacha (Leasú), 2017 – An Dara Céim.  
Regional Technical Colleges (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Second Stage.  
– *Senators Paddy Burke, Michelle Mulherin, John O'Mahony.*
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16. An Bille Staidrimh (Daonáireamh 1926 a Chur ar Fáil), 2017 – An Dara Céim.  
Statistics (1926 Census Release) Bill 2017 – Second Stage.  
– *Senators Paul Gavan, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield.*
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17. An Bille um Sheirbhís Chúirteanna (Leasú), 2017 – An Dara Céim.  
Courts Service (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Second Stage.  
– *Senators Keith Swanick, Diarmuid Wilson, Gerry Horkan.*
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18. An Bille Ealaíon (Dínit ag an Obair) (Leasú) (Uimh. 2), 2018 – An Dara Céim.

Arts (Dignity at Work) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2018 – Second Stage.

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

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**19.** An Bille um Ligin Ghearrthéarma, 2018 – An Dara Céim.

Short-term Lettings Bill 2018 – Second Stage.

– *Senators Kevin Humphreys, Ivana Bacik, Gerald Nash.*

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**20.** An Bille Caidrimh Thionscail (Comhghníomhaíocht), 2018 – An Dara Céim.

Industrial Relations (Collective Action) Bill 2018 – Second Stage.

– *Senators Paul Gavan, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield.*

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**21.** An Bille um Gharchabhair agus Meabhairshláinte i Scoileanna (Oiliúint Tosaigh ar Mhúinteoirí), 2018 – An Dara Céim.

First Aid and Mental Health in Schools (Initial Teacher Training) Bill 2018 – Second Stage.

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

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**22.** An Bille um Gharchabhair agus Meabhairshláinte i Scoileanna (Múinteoirí Reatha), 2018 – An Dara Céim.

First Aid and Mental Health in Schools (Existing Teachers) Bill 2018 – Second Stage.

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

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**23.** An Bille um Shaoroideachas (Toirmeasc ar Tháillí agus ar Mhuirir), 2018 – An Dara Céim.

Free Education (Prohibition of Fees and Charges) Bill 2018 – Second Stage.

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

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**24.** An Bille Craolacháin (Leasú), 2018 – An Dara Céim.

Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill 2018 – Second Stage.

– *Senators Fintan Warfield, Paul Gavan, Niall Ó Donnghaile.*

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**25.** An Bille Meabhair-Shláinte (Cumas Toiliú le Cóireáil), 2018 – An Dara Céim.

Mental Health (Capacity to Consent to Treatment) Bill 2018 – Second Stage.

– *Senators Máire Devine, Lynn Ruane, Frances Black, Grace O'Sullivan, Joan Freeman, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Fintan Warfield, Paul Gavan, Rose Conway-Walsh, Niall Ó Donnghaile.*

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**26.** An Bille um Dhrugaí Rialaithe agus um Dhochar a Laghdú, 2017 – An 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 P. 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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27. An Bille um Chomharchumann Tithíochta Náisiúnta, 2017 – An Dara Céim (*atógáil*).  
National Housing Co-operative Bill 2017 – Second Stage (*resumed*).

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

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28. An Bille um Ghníomhaíocht Eacnamaíoch a Rialú (Críocha faoi Fhorghabháil), 2018 – An Dara Céim (*atógáil*).  
Control of Economic Activity (Occupied Territories) Bill 2018 – Second Stage (*resumed*).

– *Senators Frances Black, Alice-Mary Higgins, Lynn Ruane, Colette Kelleher, John Dolan, Grace O’Sullivan, David Norris.*

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29. 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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30. An Bille um Ghairmithe Sláinte Criticiúla, 2017 – Ordú don Choiste.  
Critical Health Professionals Bill 2017 – Order for Committee.

– *Senators Keith Swanick, Mark Daly, Robbie Gallagher.*

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31. An Bille Inimirce (Athchóiriú) (Stádas Cónaithe a Thabhairt chun Rialtachta), 2016 – Ordú don Choiste.

Immigration (Reform) (Regularisation of Residency Status) Bill 2016 – Order for Committee.

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

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32. 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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- 33.** 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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- 34.** 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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- 35.** 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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- 36.** An Bille um Chiontuithe mar gheall ar 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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- 37.** 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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- 38.** 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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- 39.** 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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- 40.** 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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- 41.** An Bille um Údarás na Gaeltachta (Leasú), 2017 – An Coiste.  
Údarás na Gaeltachta (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Committee.  
– *Senators Niall Ó Donnghaile, Paul Gavan.*
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- 42.** An Bille Cosanta (Suaitheantas Liopa Iarshaighdiúra), 2017 – An Coiste.

Defence (Veterans Lapel Badge) Bill 2017 – Committee.

– *Senators Gerard P. Craughwell, Victor Boyhan, Pádraig Ó Céidigh.*

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**43.** An Bille um Threalamh Tarrthála Beatha, 2017 – An Coiste.

Life Saving Equipment Bill 2017 – Committee.

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

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**44.** An Bille um Pá Íosta Náisiúnta (Séisíní Fostaithe a Chosaint), 2017 – An Coiste.

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

– *Senators Paul Gavan, Fintan Warfield.*

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**45.** An Bille um Chaomhnú Fostaíochta (Bearta chun Cur i gCoinne Bréag-Fhéinfhostaíochta), 2018 – An Coiste.

Protection of Employment (Measures to Counter False Self-Employment) Bill 2018 – Committee.

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

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**46.** An Bille um Thoirmeasc ar Theiripí Tiontúcháin, 2018 – An Coiste.

Prohibition of Conversion Therapies Bill 2018 – Committee.

– *Senators Fintan Warfield, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Rose Conway-Walsh, Paul Gavan, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Ivana Bacik, Kevin Humphreys, David Norris, Aodhán Ó Ríordáin, Victor Boyhan, Gerard P. Craughwell, Joan Freeman, Frances Black, Alice-Mary Higgins, Colette Kelleher, Grace O'Sullivan, Lynn Ruane, Jerry Buttimer, Catherine Ardagh, Máire Devine.*

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**47.** An Bille um an Dlí Sibhialta (Costais i Nithe a bhaineann le Probháid), 2017 – An Coiste.

Civil Law (Costs in Probate Matters) Bill 2017 – Committee.

– *Senators Victor Boyhan, Billy Lawless, Michael McDowell, Brian Ó Domhnaill.*

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**48.** An Bille um Chuntasacht Rialtais Áitiúil, 2018 – An Coiste.

Local Government Accountability Bill 2018 – Committee.

– *Senators Brian Ó Domhnaill, Diarmuid Wilson, Victor Boyhan, Gerard P. Craughwell.*

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**49.** (l) An Bille Togcháin (Leasú) (Vótáil ag Aois 16), 2016 – An Coiste (*atógáil, alt 3*).

(a) Electoral (Amendment) (Voting at 16) Bill 2016 – Committee (*resumed, section 3*).

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

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**50.** An Bille um an Dlí Sibhialta (Daoine atá ar Iarraidh), 2016 – An Tuarascáil.

Civil Law (Missing Persons) Bill 2016 – Report Stage.

– *Senators Colm Burke, Marie-Louise O'Donnell, Lynn Ruane.*

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**51.** An Bille fá Choimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta an Duine agus Comhionannas (Faisnéis faoin



Difríocht Pá idir na hInscní), 2017 – An Tuarascáil.  
Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (Gender Pay Gap Information) Bill 2017 –  
Report Stage.

– *Senators Ivana Bacik, Kevin Humphreys, Ged Nash, Aodhán Ó Riordáin.*

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52. An Bille Meabhair-Shláinte (Leasú), 2016 – An Tuarascáil.  
Mental Health (Amendment) Bill 2016 – Report Stage.

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

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53. An Bille um Lá na Faisnéise Neamhspleáchais, 2017 – An Tuarascáil.  
Declaration of Independence Day Bill 2017 – Report Stage.

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

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54. An Bille Oideachais (Leas) (Leasú), 2017 – An Tuarascáil.  
Education (Welfare) (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Report Stage.

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

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*Tairiscint:*

*Motion:*

55. “Go ndéanann Seanad Éireann, ag tabhairt dá aire go ndearna an Rialtas, an 8 Bealtaine 2018, an tUasal Patrick Sullivan a ainmniú lena cheapadh ag an Uachtarán mar chomhalta de Choimisiún Ombudsman an Gharda Síochána, a mholadh, de bhun alt 65(1)(b) d'Acht an Gharda Síochána, 2005, go ndéanfaidh an tUachtarán an tUasal Patrick Sullivan a cheapadh mar chomhalta den Choimisiún.

That Seanad Éireann, noting that the Government on 8 May, 2018 nominated Mr. Patrick Sullivan for appointment by the President, as a member of the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission, recommends, pursuant to section 65(1)(b) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005, that Mr. Patrick Sullivan be appointed by the President to be member of the Commission.”

– *Senator Jerry Buttimer.*  
[29<sup>th</sup> May, 2018]

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*Tairiscint:*

*Motion:*

56. “Go mbeartaíonn Seanad Éireann go leanfaidh ailt 2 go 4, 6 go 12, 14 agus 17 den Acht um Chiontaí in aghaidh an Stáit (Leasú), 1998 (Uimh. 39 de 1998) i ngníomh ar feadh na tréimhse dar tosach an 30 Meitheamh 2018 agus dar críoch an 29 Meitheamh 2019.

That Seanad Éireann resolves that sections 2 to 4, 6 to 12, 14 and 17 of the Offences against the State (Amendment) Act 1998 (No. 39 of 1998) shall continue in operation for the period beginning on 30 June 2018 and ending on 29 June 2019.”

– *Senator Jerry Buttimer.*  
[29<sup>th</sup> May, 2018]

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*Tairiscint:*

*Motion:*

57. “Go mbeartaíonn Seanad Éireann go leanfaidh alt 8 den Acht um Cheartas Coiriúil (Leasú), 2009 (Uimh. 32 de 2009) i ngníomh ar feadh na tréimhse dar tosach an 30 Meitheamh 2018 agus dar críoch an 29 Meitheamh 2019.

That Seanad Éireann resolves that section 8 of the Criminal Justice (Amendment) Act 2009 (No. 32 of 2009) shall continue in operation for the period beginning on 30 June 2018 and ending on 29 June 2019.”

– *Senator Jerry Buttimer.*  
**[29<sup>th</sup> May, 2018]**

*Tairiscint:*

*Motion:*

58. “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ó Choiste Comhairliúcháin Phoiblí an tSeanaid dar teideal ‘Tuarascáil maidir le Seirbhísí Meabhair-Shláinte Leanaí’, a leagadh faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 17 Deireadh Fómhair 2017.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Seanad Public Consultation Committee entitled ‘Report on Children’s Mental Health Services’, which was laid before Seanad Éireann on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.”

– *Senator Paul Coghlan,*  
*Chairman of the Seanad Public Consultation Committee.*  
**[21<sup>st</sup> March, 2018]**

*Tairiscint:*

*Motion:*

59. “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Leanaí agus Gnóthaí Óige dar teideal ‘Tuarascáil ar an gCibearshláindáil do Leanaí agus d’Aosaigh Óga’, ar leagadh cóipeanna di faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 28 Márta 2018.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on Children and Youth Affairs entitled ‘Report on Cyber Security for Children and Young Adults’, copies of which were laid before Seanad Éireann on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.”

– *Senator Jerry Buttimer.*  
**[18<sup>th</sup> April, 2018]**

*Tairiscint:*

*Motion:*

60. “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Chúram Meabhairshláinte sa Todhchaí dar teideal ‘Tuarascáil Eatramhach ón gComhchoiste um Chúram Meabhairshláinte sa Todhchaí’, ar leagadh cóipeanna di faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 12 Nollaig 2017.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on the Future of Mental Health Care entitled ‘Interim Report of the Joint Committee on the Future of Mental Health Care’, copies of which were laid before Seanad Éireann on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.”

– *Senator Joan Freeman,*  
*Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Future of Mental Health Care.*

[24<sup>th</sup> April, 2018]*Tairiscint:**Motion:*

61. “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Thithíocht, Pleanáil agus Rialtas Áitiúil dar teideal ‘Slán Sábháilte? Tuarascáil ar Chaighdeáin Foirgníochta, Rialuithe Foirgníochta agus Cosaint Tomhaltóirí (Nollaig 2017)’, ar leagadh cóipeanna di faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 24 Eanáir 2018.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on Housing, Planning and Local Government entitled ‘Safe as Houses? A Report on Building Standards, Building Controls & Consumer Protection (December 2017)’, copies of which were laid before Seanad Éireann on 24 January 2018.”

– Senator Jerry Buttimer.  
[30<sup>th</sup> April, 2018]

*Tairiscint:**Motion:*

62. “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Chúram Meabhairshláinte sa Todhchaí dar teideal ‘An Dara Tuarascáil Eatramhach: Gníomhartha a mholtar de dhroim an dul chun cinn atá déanta go dtí seo’, ar leagadh cóipeanna di faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 25 Aibreán 2018.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on the Future of Mental Health Care entitled ‘Second Interim Report: Recommended actions arising from progress made to date’, copies of which were laid before Seanad Éireann on 25th April, 2018.”

– Senator Joan Freeman,  
*Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Future of Mental Health Care.*  
[30<sup>th</sup> April, 2018]

*Tairiscint:**Motion:*

63. “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um Leanaí agus Gnóthaí Óige dar teideal ‘Tuarascáil maidir le Seirbhísí Cúraim Altrama a Sholáthar in Éirinn’, ar leagadh cóipeanna di faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 9 Samhain 2017.

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on Children and Youth Affairs entitled ‘Report on the Provision of Foster Care Services in Ireland’, copies of which were laid before Seanad Éireann on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.”

– Senator Jerry Buttimer.  
[13<sup>th</sup> May, 2018]

*Tairiscint:**Motion:*

64. “Go dtugann Seanad Éireann dá aire an Tuarascáil ón gComhchoiste um

That Seanad Éireann notes the Report of the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Food

Thalmhaíocht, Bia agus Muir dar teideal ‘Todhchaí na hEarnála Curaíochta in Éirinn’, ar leagadh cóipeanna di faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann an 22 Samhain 2017.

and the Marine entitled ‘Future of the Tillage Sector in Ireland’, copies of which were laid before Seanad Éireann on 22nd November, 2017.”

– *Senator Jerry Buttimer.*  
[23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2018]

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

**1.** “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 €2.6 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, 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."

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

[31st May, 2017]

## 2. "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 UNUC 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, 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, Ged Nash, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor.*

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

## 3. "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]

#### 4. “That Seanad Éireann:

notes:

- the devastating flooding that affected homes, businesses and farmsteads across County Donegal in August 2017;
- that the damage inflicted by the floods on local roads is estimated at €15.3 million;
- the challenges of climate change and increasingly volatile weather patterns; and
- the planned €430 million, six year programme of capital investment in flood defence measures as part of the Government’s overall Capital Investment Plan 2016–2021;

acknowledges the hard work of local authority staff, volunteers, Defence Forces personnel and emergency services in assisting those affected by the floods;

criticises:

- the delays in the roll out of humanitarian assistance to affected households;
- the one week delay in announcing funding for a Red Cross administered humanitarian fund to help small local businesses, sports clubs and voluntary community groups with application forms not available until ten days after the flooding;
- the failure to confirm a fund to assist the repair of damage to farms until two weeks after the flooding, with application forms not made available until three weeks after the event;
- the exclusion of farmers who have lost grain crops, potato crops and unharvested silage, and damage to agricultural roads from funding;
- the failure to commit to separate funding for sports organisations who experienced significant damage in excess of the €20,000 cap covered by the Red Cross fund;
- the failure to commit to funding for repair and restoration of public amenities such as Swan Park in Buncrana;
- the on-going underspend in flood defence schemes as part of capital expenditure plans;
- the Government decision not to include any provision in Ireland’s Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014–2020 to compensate farmers for losses caused by adverse weather; and
- the continued delays and denials of insurance for homeowners and businesses across the country due to flooding concerns;

and calls on the Government to:

- ensure households and businesses are given adequate flood insurance, in particular for those in areas where the Office of Public Works has invested in standard 1 in 100 year flood defence structures, and facilitate the passage of Fianna Fáil legislation on this specific matter;
  - address capital underspend in the roll out of investment in flood defences and increase spending in the road infrastructure;
  - amend the RDP to encompass specific provisions on supporting farmers affected by adverse weather conditions;
  - expand the terms of the funding support scheme for the farming community in County Donegal to include farmers who have lost grain crops, potato crops and unharvested silage, and damage to agricultural roads;
  - provide ring-fenced funding to restore sporting facilities and public amenities destroyed in the County Donegal flooding and not covered by the Red Cross fund;
  - ensure that steps are taken so that delays experienced in the establishment of funding support schemes in County Donegal are not repeated in future flooding episodes; and
  - fully and expeditiously implement Government commitments to alleviate financial burdens on households, sporting facilities, farmsteads, businesses and infrastructure in County Donegal through the humanitarian assistance fund and specific agricultural supports.”
- *Senators 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, Diarmuid Wilson, Brian Ó Domhnaill.*

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

## 5. “That Seanad Éireann:

notes that:

- the constitutional status of Catalonia is the subject of sharply diverging views;
- a disputed referendum on independence was held in Catalonia on 1 October 2017;

notes with concern:

- the deteriorating political situation in Catalonia;
- the unacceptable, disproportionate and counterproductive police violence against unarmed civilians on 1 October 2017;

and calls for:

- political progress to be pursued through dialogue and negotiations between the Spanish Government and Parliament and the Catalan Government and Parliament;



and

- international mediation to facilitate these negotiations.”
- *Senators Rose Conway-Walsh, Máire Devine, Paul Gavan, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield, Frances Black, Colette Kelleher, Grace O’Sullivan, Lynn Ruane, David Norris.*

[9<sup>th</sup> October, 2017]

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6. “That Seanad Éireann resolves that Statutory Instrument No. 494 of 2017 – Local Government (Expenses of Local Authority Members) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 – be annulled.”

- *Senators 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, Diarmuid Wilson, Brian Ó Domhnaill.*

[24<sup>th</sup> November, 2017]

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7. “That Seanad Éireann:

- takes into account the decision by the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) on 13th of October 2017 to designate Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as Specially Designated Global Terrorists (SDGTs) pursuant to the global terrorism Executive Order (E.O.) 13224 and consistent with the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act;
- recognises that the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) is responsible for suppression of Iranian people including crushing the 2009 uprising and a renewed vicious crackdown on human rights defenders, women’s rights activists, anti-death penalty campaigners and dual citizens;
- notes that the IRGC has played a leading role in the assassination of Iranian dissidents both in Iran and abroad, including members of the opposition movement, the PMOI (MEK) and the broader democratic coalition, the National Council of Resistance of Iran;
- recognises that the IRGC is subject to EU sanctions in its entirety and a large number of individuals and entities are designated because of their support for, or links to, the IRGC, under the EU’s proliferation and human rights sanctions regimes relating to Iran;
- notes that the IRGC partakes in slaughtering the Syrian people to keep Bashar al-Assad in power, abetting and concealing the crimes of the Syrian regime, including its use of chemical weapons against its own people;
- notes the IRGC’s support for terrorist groups in Iraq that destabilises the country and foment sectarian conflicts in the country;
- notes Iran’s financial and military support for and the cooperation of the IRGC with Hezbollah in Lebanon, which includes the supply of tens of thousands of rockets and missiles in clear violation of UN Weapons embargo and Security Council Resolutions;

- notes Iran's financial and military support for the Houti militias in Yemen, including supply of rockets and weapons in clear violation of UN Weapons embargo and Security Council Resolutions;
  - notes the reports of recently declassified CIA documents that expose the Iranian offers of secret funding, arms and training to the terrorist group al-Qaeda, an extensive support dating back even prior to the 9/11 terror attacks;
  - recognises that the IRGC recruits child soldiers and refugees from Afghanistan and trains them to become terrorist fighters and to be dispatched to the region;
  - notes that senior IRGC commanders are on Interpol's Red Notice list for acts of international terrorism including the 1994 bombing of a Jewish community centre in Buenos Aires;
  - notes that the IRGC is the main instrument of the Iranian regime that only answers to the Supreme Leader and plays a central role in the human rights violations in the country, exporting of terrorism abroad, the regime's ballistic missile programme and its cyberattacks against targets in the West;
  - recognises the information revealed by the NCRI regarding crimes committed by the IRGC against the Iranian people and its role in fomenting terrorism in the region and the call by NCRI President-elect Mrs Maryam Rajavi for recognising IRGC as a terrorist entity and for immediate expulsion of the IRGC and its proxies from Iraq, Syria, Yemen and Lebanon;
  - recognises the joint statement from British Prime Minister Theresa May, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron on 13th of October 2017, which states, 'At the same time as we work to preserve the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, we share concerns about Iran's ballistic missile programme and regional activities that also affect our European security interests. We stand ready to take further appropriate measures to address these issues in close cooperation with the US and all relevant partners';
  - calls on the Government to acknowledge and condemn the IRGC's destabilising activities in the region and participation in domestic repression;
  - urges the Government to act in the EU for a EU designation of the entire IRGC as a Foreign Terrorist Group and additional punitive measures against Senior IRGC commanders responsible for ongoing human rights violations in Iran and support for terrorism abroad;
  - urges the Government to take all necessary political and diplomatic measures in conjunction with our international and European allies for immediate expulsion of the IRGC and its proxies from Iraq, Syria, Yemen and Lebanon;
  - instructs the Cathaoirleach to forward this resolution to the President of Ireland, the Taoiseach, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, EU Foreign Policy Chief, European Parliament and the EU Commission."
- *Senators Brian Ó Domhnaill, Catherine Noone, David Norris, Neale Richmond, Diarmuid Wilson.*

[29<sup>th</sup> November, 2017]

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8. “That Seanad Éireann:

- recognises the distress and anxiety caused to patients by the recent decision to restrict access the pain relief patch Versatis;
  - notes that many patients cannot readily obtain suitable alternative medication for their pain management requirements;
  - calls on the Government to conduct a review into the decision to limit the availability of Versatis; and
  - calls on the Government to ensure that a suitable medication or treatment is made available to patients where Versatis has been discontinued.”.
- *Senators Rose Conway-Walsh, Máire Devine, Paul Gavan, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield.*

**[13<sup>th</sup> February, 2018]**

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9. “That Seanad Éireann:

notes:

- that Ireland's network of regional and local roads is almost 91,000 kilometres in length, accounts for 94 per cent of Ireland's road network and carries about 54 per cent of all road traffic;
- that the local and regional road network serves as the main connection between homes and businesses in much of Ireland, including Dublin and other urban areas, and plays a vital role in balanced regional economic development;
- that according to the latest National Oversight and Audit Commission, almost 70 per cent of regional roads have structural or surface defects and that ten per cent or more of local primary roads were structurally distressed in 12 local authorities;
- that well maintained and good quality local and regional roads facilitate strong links between and among communities;
- that the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport has, on average over the past five years, provided local councils with less than half the amount of funding that is deemed necessary to maintain roads in a steady state of condition;
- that repeated incidences of flooding and other extreme weather events have caused considerable damage to many local and regional roads;
- that many local authorities have too few outdoor council staff and have not been granted sufficient resources to hire additional staff;
- the importance of the speedy delivery of the planned upgrading of our national road network, for both the economy and a more balanced spatial distribution; and

- the considerable safety concerns arising from roads with structural or surface defects and that the presence of such defects increases the frequency of road collisions;

recognises that:

- the Programme for a Partnership Government commits to increasing the capital budget for regional and local roads by approximately 50 per cent, which has yet to be delivered; and
- the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport has estimated, in its Strategic Framework for Investment in Land Transport, that an annual investment of €80 million is required to maintain the current regional and local road network, €163 million more than has been allocated this year;

and calls on the Government to:

- significantly increase the regional and local roads budget in the context of the Capital Investment Plan 2016-2021;
  - publish a full response to the findings of the National Oversight and Audit Commission, with a detailed plan to address the issues and defects identified in this report, within three months;
  - review the management of funds at local authority levels to ensure that funds are being used in the most efficient and effective manner possible and provide additional administrative supports where they are needed; and
  - provide biannual reports to the Houses of the Oireachtas on the implementation progress of this plan, with the first update provided no later than six months following the passing of this motion.”
- *Senators 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, Diarmuid Wilson, Brian Ó Domhnaill.*

[15<sup>th</sup> February, 2018]

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10. “That Seanad Éireann:

- recognises the crucial role of primary and community care in the delivery of our public health system in Ireland;
- notes the need for major reform of our public health system including a requirement to rebalance the health budget towards primary care through the proper resourcing of primary and community care, thereby alleviating pressure on the acute hospital network;
- notes the ongoing staffing crisis within general practice and the level of emigration taking
- place from Ireland by young GPs;
- notes the need for further investment in primary care and general practice as part of

an overall health strategy that would help to reduce the stress of hospital admission for significant numbers of patients;

- calls on the Government to urgently examine the impacts of the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest (FEMPI) on general practice and assess the need for an accelerated reversal to restore the viability of general practice and as an important step towards addressing the acute shortage of GPs;
  - calls on the Minister for Health to expedite the negotiations surrounding a new GP contract;
  - calls on the Government to re-balance the proportion of Ireland's health budget going to primary care to the international benchmark.”
- *Senators Catherine Ardagh, Lorraine Clifford-Lee, Paul Daly, Mark Daly, Aidan Davitt, Robbie Gallagher, Gerry Horkan, Terry Leyden, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, Ned O'Sullivan, Keith Swanick, Diarmuid Wilson, Brian Ó Domhnaill.*

**[15<sup>th</sup> March, 2018]**

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11. “That Seanad Éireann:

- referring to its previous motion of October 2016 recognising the conflict in Syria as one of the world's gravest humanitarian crises since the Second World War, involving 8 million displaced people inside Syria, 4.5 million people under siege or inaccessible, 4.5 million refugees beyond Syrian borders, 1.5 million people injured and more than 250,000 people killed;
- noting that since then, there have been large numbers of further civilian casualties with particularly horrific attacks on civilians in Eastern Ghouta in recent weeks;
- condemns the indiscriminate bombing of civilians and civilian infrastructure by the Syrian regime and its backers, that have left hundreds dead in the last two weeks alone;
- condemns further the deliberate targeting of medical and rescue infrastructure and personnel, and the use of starvation sieges against the population of Eastern Ghouta since 2013;
- calls for all bombing of civilians and civilian infrastructure in Syria to cease immediately and for the immediate implementation and indefinite extension of the UN Ceasefire (Security Council 2401) and a negotiated, comprehensive and sustainable end to the conflict, based on the 2012 Geneva Communique and UN Security Council resolution 2254;
- calls for repeated, continuous and unhindered access to Eastern Ghouta and other besieged areas for UN-led humanitarian relief operations;
- calls on the Government, with the support of civil society, to implement its agreed commitments to support refugees from Syria, including under the Irish Refugee Protection Programme, the Family Reunification Humanitarian Admission Programme and our national resettlement programme;

- calls on the Government to continue to use all appropriate diplomatic means and forums to raise this issue, to continue to work with likeminded states in the EU and the UN and to continue to work towards an end to bombardment of civilians, a genuine cessation of violence, and unimpeded humanitarian aid access throughout Syria and in particular in Eastern Ghouta.”

– *Senators Ivana Bacik, Jerry Buttimer, Catherine Ardagh, Alice-Mary Higgins.*

**[28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018]**

## 12. “That Seanad Éireann:

acknowledges:

- suicide is a tragic event with strong and devastating emotional repercussions for the families, friends and communities left behind,
- suicide is a leading cause of death worldwide,
- approximately 500 people die by suicide every year in Ireland,
- for every suicide at least 6 people are directly affected,
- rebuilding lives is such an enormous task and suicide survivors need more acknowledgement and assistance to heal from grief that seems insurmountable;

recognises:

- the positive advancements in destigmatising mental illness in recent years,
- further need of cultural change is required to ensure society is more open to and accepting of those with mental illness,
- further structural change is vital to ensure that when those at risk seek help it is available and accessible,
- the need to acknowledge and support those in deep distress who are left behind;

agrees:

- to name a ‘National Suicide Survivors Day’ dedicated to those grieving the terrible loss of loved ones through suicide,
- a ‘National Suicide Survivors Day’ will acknowledge and demonstrate compassion allowing people to talk about their loss and burden,
- a ‘National Suicide Survivors Day’ will reach out and encourage expression of grief and assist healing,
- a ‘National Suicide Survivors Day’ will give a voice to conversation about mental illnesses and suicide,
- a ‘National Suicide Survivors Day’ will lessen isolation and silence.”

– *Senators Máire Devine, Grace O’Sullivan, Colette Kelleher, Rose Conway-Walsh, Fintan Warfield, Paul Gavan, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Frances Black.*

**[2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2018]**

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13. “That Seanad Éireann:

notes that:

- there were 643,131 people, 13.5 per cent of the population, who indicated that they had a disability in Census 2016, which represented an increase of 47,796 people between 2011 and 2016;
- up to one in ten persons below 45 years of age has a disability, rising to 20 per cent by age 60, and rates increase sharply above age 70;
- educational attainment amongst disabled persons is much lower than that of the general population at all levels;
- the unemployment rate amongst persons with a disability was 26.3 per cent, more than double the 12.9 per cent rate for the population as a whole;
- the potential loss of the medical card is a significant barrier preventing people with disabilities and chronic illness entering employment;
- the Central Statistics Office's Survey on Income and Living Conditions published in February, 2017, showed that while overall general poverty rates in Ireland are showing some improvements, they are getting worse for people who live with a disability, and it found that 53 per cent of people who are not in work due to a disability or illness are experiencing enforced deprivation;
- living with a disability in Ireland today can bring extra costs of between €207 and €276 per week;
- almost 50 per cent of people living with a physical disability experience difficulty going outside the home alone due to inadequate transport provision;
- despite provision under the Disability Act 2005 for an assessment of need, thousands of children are being denied their developmental potential for years while stuck on waiting lists for therapy supports;
- today, one in 20 people in Ireland is a family carer, collectively providing some €10 billion in unpaid care each year;
- respite care involves giving families and carers much needed assistance in caring for their loved one for a short period – that current provision is far short of what is needed, and without adequate respite, family carers are themselves left more vulnerable to ill-health;
- the in loco parentis clause in homecare nursing contracts for sick children is causing unnecessary stress, worry and constraint on the parents of sick children;
- the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) is helping to ensure that best standards apply in all special care homes, although they are still under-resourced; and

- Ireland has at last ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), having signed it over a decade ago in 2007;

and calls on the Government to:

- ensure that there is a corresponding entitlement to a service along with an assessment of need enshrined in legislation;
- prioritise the scheduling and passage into law of the Disability (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2016;
- establish, without any unnecessary delay, the Decision Support Service promised in the Assisted-Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015;
- recognise the importance of the two implementation mechanisms provided in the UNCRPD through the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the CRPD;
- provide significant additional investment to combat the long waiting lists for therapy supports such as occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy and psychology;
- recognise the additional expense of having a disability and increase income supports accordingly;
- increase personal assistance hours by 500,000 to address the unmet need and enable people to be active participants within their family household, their communities, employment and society;
- increase funding for housing adaptation grants by 50 per cent from current level;
- increase respite care services by 20 per cent;
- fund appropriate employment services to enable and empower people with a disability to gain or retain employment;
- ensure that everybody with serious medical needs has a secure medical card;
- abolish immediately the in loco parentis clause in homecare nursing contracts for sick children;
- significantly increase investment in transport accessibility and work towards making all public transport wheelchair-accessible;
- introduce a scheme to replace the mobility allowance and motorised transport grant;
- allocate the necessary funding to progress de-congregation;
- increase resourcing for HIQA to facilitate the carrying out of the most effective inspection regime possible, thereby ensuring best standards will apply in all settings; and
- designate a lead co-ordinating Department to ensure joined-up thinking and joined-up



action across all Government departments in the interest of people with disabilities.”  
 – *Senators Rose Conway-Walsh, Paul Gavan, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Niall Ó Donnghaile, Fintan Warfield, Victor Boyhan, John Dolan.*

[10<sup>th</sup> May, 2018]

14. “That Seanad Éireann:

recognises that:

- the Local Property Tax (LPT) was introduced in 2013 and current valuations are from that year;
- the primary purpose of LPT is to provide funding for local services;
- Fine Gael wrongly diverted 30 per cent of the revenue in 2014 to Irish Water;
- initially the revaluation date was set for November 2016, this was changed to November 2019, prior to the last General Election;
- Fianna Fáil consistently called for the postponement of the November 2016 revaluation so that significant reform could take place and people would not face large and unaffordable increases in their LPT bill;
- Fianna Fáil has consistently stated that LPT bills should not be increased as a result of the 2019 revaluation and that ability to pay and affordable issues need to be tackled;
- with the very significant increase in property prices since 2013, if left unreformed, people will face major increases in their LPT bill in 2020;
- LPT brought in €477 million in 2017 and this provides vital funding for local services;
- the revenue from LPT should remain broadly stable as a result of 2019 revaluations as home owners will not be able to afford to pay if a significant increase arises;

and calls on the Government to:

- undertake significant reform of the LPT system before revaluations take place in November 2019;
  - ensure that households do not receive substantial increases in their LPT bill in 2020;
  - ensure that households do not receive substantial increases in LPT bills in 2020 that would arise in the absence of significant reforms to the LPT system;
  - examine the possibility of extending some relief from the LPT for those in multi-unit developments paying significant management charges; and
  - introduce measures that would deal with ability to pay and affordability issues.”
- *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.*

**[25<sup>th</sup> May, 2018]**

*Leasú:*

*Amendment:*

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

“recognises that:

- the objective of the Local Property Tax (LPT) is to broaden the tax base and replace some of the revenue from transaction based taxes with an annual recurring property tax to provide a stable and secure source of funding for local authorities;
- this stable source of funding has yielded over €470 million in 2017 to support the activities of local authorities throughout the State;
- the LPT is fair and equitable as the owners of the most valuable properties pay the most;
- the LPT legislation provides appropriately in relation to ability to pay and conforms to international norms;
- the LPT is now well established as a significant element of our taxation system and acknowledges that extensive research and experience internationally shows that taxes on immovable property are among the taxes that are consistently recognised as being the least detrimental to growth and employment;
- the Finance (Local Property Tax) (Amendment) Act 2015 provided inter alia for the postponement of the revaluation date for the LPT from 1 November 2016 to 1 November 2019, ensuring that home owners were protected from significant increases in their LPT liabilities in 2017, 2018 and 2019 as property values increased;
- the Minister for Finance has initiated a significant and important review of the operation of the LPT focusing in particular on the impact on LPT liabilities of property price developments since the initial valuation date of 1 May 2013;
- a public consultation has been conducted as part of the review;
- the current review of the LPT includes an examination of the outstanding recommendations of the 2015 Thornhill review of the LPT and will inform the Minister for Finance in relation to any actions he may recommend to Government concerning the overall yield from the LPT, its contribution to total tax revenue and the optimum way of achieving that objective;

and calls on the Government to complete the current review of the LPT and bring forward proposals in due course designed inter alia to ensure that taxpayers LPT liabilities in respect of 2020 remain affordable and sustainable.”

*- Senator Jerry Buttimer.*

**[29<sup>th</sup> May, 2018]**

66. 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 Máirt, 5 Meitheamh, 2018*  
*Tuesday, 5th June, 2018*

An Bille um Chartlann Náisiúnta (Leasú), 2017 [*Dáil*] – An Coiste.  
National Archives (Amendment) Bill 2017 [*Dáil*] – Committee.

An Bille um Pá Íosta Náisiúnta (Deireadh a Chur le Rátaí Pá Fo-Íosta), 2017 – An Coiste.  
National Minimum Wage (Removal of Sub-minimum Rates of Pay) Bill 2017 – Committee.  
– *Senators Paul Gavan, Lynn Ruane, Fintan Warfield.*

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BILLÍ SEANAID SA DÁIL  
*Seanad Bills with the Dáil*

An Bille Oidhreachta, 2016.  
Heritage Bill 2016.

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An Bille um Neamhord Speictream an Uathachais, 2017.  
Autism Spectrum Disorder Bill 2017.

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An Bille um Thiarnaí Talún agus Tionóntaí (Bunchíosanna) (Leasú), 2017.  
Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) (Amendment) Bill 2017.

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An Bille Sláinte Poiblí (Alcól), 2015.  
Public Health (Alcohol) Bill 2015.

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An Bille um Chosaint Idirnáisiúnta (Athaontú Teaghlaigh) (Leasú), 2017.  
International Protection (Family Reunification) (Amendment) Bill 2017.

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

Reachtúil:

Statutory:

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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.

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
Níl aon scríbhinn á leagan faoin gCatagóir seo	None

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