DÁIL ÉIREANN

ATHCHÓIRIÚ AR SHAMHAIL NA TÁILLE CEADÚNAIS TEILIFÍSE.

Rith Dáil Éireann an Rún seo istigh ag an gCruinniú de Dháil Éireann a bhí ann an 14ú lá seo d'Fheabhra, 2024.

REFORM OF THE TELEVISION LICENCE FEE MODEL.

The within Resolution was passed by Dáil Éireann at its Meeting on this 14th day of February, 2024.

Cathaoirleach Dháil Éireann

Le cur go dtí:
For transmission to: *An Taoiseach*

Go ndéanann Dáil Éireann:

a aithint:

— an ról ríthábhachtach atá ag earnáil na meán, agus go háirithe ag ár gcraoltóirí seirbhíse poiblí, Raidió Teilifís Éireann (RTÉ) agus TG4, chun tacú lenár bhforbairt chultúrtha, le folláine na sochaí, agus le feidhmiú ár ndaonlathais;

— an tábhacht a bhaineann le maoiniú inbhuanaithe a chinntiú chun tacú lenár gcraoltóirí seirbhíse poiblí (RTÉ agus TG4), chomh maith le hábhar seirbhíse poiblí a chuireann craoltóirí pobail, tráchtála agus áitiúla, nuachtáin agus ardáin meán ar líne ar fáil;

— an ranníocaíocht shuntasach a dhéanann an Státchiste cheana féin chun ábhar meán na seirbhíse poiblí a mhaoiniú;

na nithe seo a leanas a aithint:

— go bhfuil an Rialtas tiomanta do shamhail nua mhaoinithe inbhuanaithe agus chothrom a thabhairt isteach le linn a théarma oifige, agus d'aird chuí a thabhairt ar na roghanna maoinithe go léir, lena n-áirítear maoiniú díreach ón Státchiste;

— go ndearfar cibé samhail a chomhaontófar agus a chuirfear i bhfeidhm a shaincheapadh chun neamhspleáchas ríthábhachtach mheáin na seirbhíse poiblí a chosaint, de réir mar a fhoráiltear faoi láthair san Acht Craolacháin;

— go bhfuil oibleagáid dhlíthiúil orthu siúd ar leo gléas teilifíse ceadúnas teilifíse a bheith acu, agus go mbeadh aon phardún éagórach go bunúsach orthu siúd atá ag comhlíonadh na hoibleagáide seo;

— go bhfuil buntáistí suntasacha ag baint leis an táille ceadúnais do shochaí na hÉireann faoi láthair, ní hamháin trí mhaoiniú RTÉ, ach trína mhaoiniú ar an Scéim "Fuaim agus Fís" atá ar fáil do gach craoltóir agus ar tacaíocht shuntasach í don earnáil léiriúcháin neamhspleách;

— mar fhreagra ar na conspóidí a tháinig chun cinn in RTÉ ó mhí an Mheithimh 2023, go bhfuil dhá Choiste

That Dáil Éireann:

recognises:

— the vital role which the media sector, and in particular, our public service broadcasters, Radio Telefís Éireann (RTÉ) and TG4, play in supporting our cultural development, societal wellbeing, and the functioning of our democracy;

— the importance of ensuring sustainable funding to support our public service broadcasters (RTÉ and TG4), as well as public service content provided by community, commercial and local broadcasters, newspapers and online media platforms;

— the significant contribution which the Exchequer already makes to funding public service media content;

acknowledges:

— that the Government is committed to the introduction of a new sustainable and fair funding model during its term of office, and to giving due consideration to all funding options, including direct Exchequer funding;

— that whatever model is agreed upon and implemented will be designed to safeguard the vital independence of public service media as currently provided for in the Broadcasting Act;

— that there is a legal obligation on those who own a television set to have a television licence, and that any amnesty would be inherently unfair on those who are compliant with this obligation;

— that the licence fee currently brings significant benefits to Irish society, not only through the funding of RTÉ, but through its funding of the Sound and Vision Scheme which is available to all broadcasters and is a significant support for the independent production sector;

— that in response to the controversies which have arisen at RTÉ since June 2023, the Government has established two

Chomhairleacha Saineolaithe bunaithe ag an Rialtas chun athbhreithnithe neamhspleácha a stiúradh ar Rialachas agus Cultúr in RTÉ, agus ar Tháillí Conraitheora, Acmhainní Daonna agus nithe eile in RTÉ; agus

— go mbeadh sé míchuí agus róluath aon samhail nua mhaoinithe a thabhairt isteach sula gcuirfí na hathbhreithnithe neamhspleácha ar RTÉ i gcrích, agus in éagmais moltaí a chuirfidh bonn eolais faoin athchóiriú leanúnach ar rialachas corparáideach, ar rialú inmheánach agus ar chultúr eagraíochta in RTÉ, agus a chuirfidh le hathbhunú riachtanach na muiníne as RTÉ.

Expert Advisory Committees to lead independent reviews of Governance and Culture at RTÉ, and into Contractor Fees, Human Resources and other matters in RTÉ; and

— that it would be inappropriate and premature to introduce any new funding model prior to the completion of the independent reviews into RTÉ, and in the absence of recommendations which will inform the continued reform of corporate governance, internal control and organisational culture at RTÉ, and which will contribute to the necessary restoration of trust in RTÉ.