SEANAD ÉIREANN

BUAN-ORDUITHE

I dTAOBH

GNÓ PHOIBLÍ

STANDING ORDERS

RELATIVE TO

PUBLIC BUSINESS

2020

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Glacadh leis na Buan-Orduithe i dtaobh Gnó Phoiblí le rún a rith Seanad Éireann an 27 Aibreán 1938, agus ina dhiaidh sin leasaíodh iad ar na dátaí seo a leanas, eadhon, 8 Bealtaine, 1946, 14 Márta, 1951, 2 Lúnasa, 1961, 19 Márta, 1975, 13 Samhain, 1977, 25 Eanáir, 1978, 10 Iúil, 1979, 14 Iúil, 1982, 1 Bealtaine, 1985, 11 Nollaig, 1985, 2 Samhain, 1988, 15 Nollaig, 1988, 21 Samhain, 1990, 14 Aibreán, 1992, 7 Iúil, 1994, 13 Samhain, 1996, 19 Samhain, 1997, 5 agus 20 Feabhra, 1998, 12 Márta, 1998, 2 Aibreán, 1998, 7 Bealtaine, 1998, 2 Iúil 1999, 2 Feabhra, 2000, 22 Bealtaine, 2001, 26 Eanáir, 2002, 21 Bealtaine, 2003, 29 Eanáir, 2004, 5 Feabhra, 2004, 2 Meitheamh, 2004, 16 Feabhra, 2005, 14 Feabhra, 2007, 1 Bealtaine, 2007, 14 Samhain, 2007, 30 Meitheamh, 2010, 19 Deireadh Fómhair, 2010 agus 2 Nollaig, 2010, 6 Iúil, 2011, 23 Feabhra, 2012, 20 Nollaig, 2012, 21 Eanáir, 2014, 5 Feabhra, 2014, 16 Iúil, 2014, 3 Nollaig, 2014, 17 Nollaig, 2014, 10 Feabhra, 2015, 11 Márta, 2015, 21 Eanáir, 2016, 19 Iúil, 2016, 21 Iúil, 2016, 13 Aibreán, 2017, 10 Bealtaine, 2017, 20 Meitheamh, 2017, 20 Feabhra, 2019.

The Standing Orders relative to Public Business were adopted by resolution of Seanad Éireann on the 27th April, 1938 and subsequently amended on the following dates, viz., 8th May, 1946, 14th March, 1951, 2nd August, 1961, 19th March, 1975, 13th November, 1977, 25th January, 1978, 10th July, 1979, 14th July, 1982, 1st May, 1985, 11th December, 1985, 2nd November, 1988, 15th December, 1988, 21st November, 1990, 14th April, 1992, 7th July, 1994, 13th November, 1996, 19th November, 1997, 5th and 20th February 1998, 12th March, 1998, 2nd April, 1998, 7th May, 1998, 2nd July, 1999, 2nd February, 2000, 22nd May, 2001, 26th January, 2002, 21st May, 2003, 29th January, 2004, 5th February, 2004, 2nd June, 2004, 16th February, 2005, 14th February, 2007, 1st May, 2007, 14th November, 2007, 30th June, 2010, 19th October, 2010 and 2nd December, 2010, 6th July, 2011, 23rd February, 2012, 20th December, 2012, 21st January, 2014, 5th February, 2014, 16th July, 2014, 3rd December, 2014, 17th December, 2014, 10th February, 2015, 11th March, 2015, 21st January, 2016, 19th July, 2016, 21st July, 2016, 13th April, 2017, 10th May, 2017, 20th June, 2017, 20th February, 2019.

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BUAN-ORDUITHE

STANDING ORDERS

SEANAD ÉIREANN

BUAN-ORDUITHE

I dTAOBH

GNÓ PHOIBLÍ

ROLLA NA GCOMHALTAÍ AGUS AN NÓS IMEACHTA AR THEACHT LE CHÉILE DO SHEANAD NUA

Rolla na gComhaltaí.

1. (1) Beidh Rolla de Chomhaltaí Sheanad Éireann ann, agus síneoidh gach comhalta an Rolla sin, i láthair an Chléirigh, roimh a shuíochán nó a suíochán a thógáil.

(2) Chomh luath is a bheidh torthaí na vótaíochtaí do na comhaltaí a toghadh in Olltoghchán don Seanad faighte ag an gCléireach agus ainmneacha na gcomhaltaí a ainmníodh curtha in iúl dó nó di, tabharfaidh sé nó sí fógra do na comhaltaí uile nach foláir dóibh a bheith i láthair in áit a cheapfaidh sé nó sí agus lá (nó laethanta) a ainmneoidh sé nó sí chun forálacha mhír (1) den Bhuan-Ordú seo a chomhlíonadh.

Tosú ar Imeachtaí Seanaid nua.

2. Ar Sheanad a theacht le chéile ar chéadtionól tar éis Olltoghcháin don Seanad agus ag an am a bheidh ceaptha nó chomh luath ina dhiaidh sin a bheidh córam i láthair [*B.O. 19*]: —

(*a*) is é nó is í an comhalta a rachaidh i gceannas ná an comhalta sa Teach ag a bhfuil an tréimhse seirbhíse leanúnaí is faide mar chomhalta den Seanad agus atá toilteanach fónamh mar Fhear Ceannais Gníomhach go dtí cibé uair a thoghfar Cathaoirleach go cuí agus ní bheidh an comhalta sin ainmnithe i dtairiscint arna déanamh faoi Bhuan-Ordú 4 don suí sin. Feidhmeoidh an comhalta sin an t-údarás a thugtar don Chathaoirleach leis na Buan-Orduithe seo ar choinníoll, i gcás ina gcomhlíonfaidh beirt Sheanadóir nó níos mó forálacha na míre seo, go ndéanfaidh an Cléireach roghnú an Fhir Ceannais ghníomhaigh a chinneadh le crannchur uair an chloig ar a laghad roimh an suí;

SEANAD ÉIREANN

STANDING ORDERS

RELATIVE TO

PUBLIC BUSINESS

Roll of Members and Procedure on Meeting of New Seanad

Roll of Members.

1. (1) There shall be a Roll of Members of Seanad Éireann which shall be signed, in the presence of the Clerk, by every member before taking his or her seat.

(2) As soon as the results of the polls for elected members at a General Election to the Seanad shall be in the possession of the Clerk and the names of nominated members shall have been communicated to him or her, he or she shall notify all members that their attendance is required at a place appointed and on a day (or days) named by him or her for the purpose of complying with the provisions of paragraph (1) of this Standing Order.

Opening of Proceedings of new Seanad.

2. At the first meeting of a Seanad subsequent to a General Election for the Seanad and at the hour appointed or as soon thereafter as a quorum is present [*S.O. 19*]: —

(*a*) the Chair shall be taken by the member present in the House who has the longest continuous period of service as a member of the Seanad, who is willing to serve as Acting Chairman until such time as a Cathaoirleach has been duly elected and who shall not be the subject of a motion made under Standing Order 4 for that sitting. Such member shall exercise the authority conferred upon the Cathaoirleach by these Standing Orders provided where two or more Senators satisfy the provisions of this paragraph, the selection of the acting Chairman shall be determined by lot by the Clerk at least one hour prior to the sitting;

(*b*) cuirfear tús leis na himeachtaí tríd an gCléireach do léamh na Paidre [*B.O. 18*]. Ansin léifidh an Cléireach an Forógra ag comóradh an tSeanaid agus, ina dhiaidh sin, ainmneacha na gcomhaltaí a ainmníodh agus na gcomhaltaí a toghadh;

(*c*) chun críocha mhír (*a*), ciallaíonn an abairt "cinneadh le crannchur" gurb é a bheidh san Fhear Ceannais Gníomhach, tar éis ainmneacha na n-iarrthóirí lena mbaineann a scríobh ar dhuillíní páipéir comhchosúla agus tar éis na duillíní a fhilleadh ionas nach n-aithneofar thar a chéile iad agus a mheascadh agus a tharraingt ar corr, ná an t-iarrthóir a mbeidh a ainm nó a hainm ar an duillín is túisce a tharraingeofar.

Torthaí na vótaíochtaí agus ainmneacha na gcomhaltaí ainmnithe a leagan faoi bhráid an tSeanaid.

3. Leagfaidh an Cléireach faoi bhráid an tSeanaid cóip de gach ceann de na deimhnithe ar thorthaí na vótaíochtaí do na comhaltaí a toghadh agus cóip den scéala ón Taoiseach ag lua ainmneacha na gcomhaltaí a ainmníodh.

AN CATHAOIRLEACH AGUS AN LEAS-CHATHAOIRLEACH

An Cathaoirleach a thoghadh.

4. (1) Nuair a bheidh ainmneacha na Seanadóirí a ainmníodh agus na Seanadóirí a toghadh léite ag an gCléireach, cromfaidh an Seanad ar Chathaoirleach a thoghadh, dá ngairfear an Cathaoirleach agus is faoin ainm sin a labhrófar chuige nó chuici. Féadfaidh Seanadóir ar bith a thairiscint: — "Go dtoghfar an Seanadóir . . . . . agus go rachaidh sé nó sí i gceannas an tSeanaid anois mar Chathaoirleach". Má tá aon cheist le cur faoi Bhuan-Ordú 58 chun an díospóireacht a thabhairt chun críche éireofar as an gCathaoir agus beidh feidhm ag Buan-Orduithe 58, 59, 60, 61 agus 63 ach an leagan cuí gramadaí den fhocal "Cléireach" a chur in ionad an leagain chomhfhreagraigh den fhocal "Cathaoirleach" sna Buan-Orduithe sin.

(2) Mura dtairgfear ach aon Seanadóir amháin, cuirfidh an Cléireach an cheist: — "Go dtoghfar an Seanadóir . . . . . agus go rachaidh sé nó sí i gceannas an tSeanaid anois mar Chathaoirleach", agus cinnfear í mar a chinntear ceisteanna eile: Ach más ionann an líon vótaí ar an dá thaobh, cinnfear gur freagra diúltach a tugadh ar an gceist.

(3) Má thairgtear níos mó ná aon Seanadóir amháin mar Chathaoirleach, déanfaidh an Cléireach, de réir ord tairgthe na Seanadóirí, an cheist a chur: — "Go dtoghfar an Seanadóir . . . . . agus go rachaidh sé nó sí i gceannas an tSeanaid anois mar Chathaoirleach", agus cinnfear í mar a chinntear ceisteanna eile: Ach más ionann an líon vótaí ar an dá thaobh, cinnfear gur freagra diúltach a tugadh ar an gceist.

An Cathaoirleach a dhul i gCeannas.

5. Rachaidh an Cathaoirleach i gceannas díreach tar éis a thofa nó a tofa, ach má bhíonn an Cathaoirleach nua-thofa as láthair féadfaidh an Seanad, trí thairiscint a dhéanfar gan fógra, Seanadóir ar bith a thoghadh chun gníomhú mar Chathaoirleach de thuras na huaire. Go dtí go dtoghfar an Seanadóir sin leanfaidh an Cléireach de bheith ag gníomhú mar Fhear Ceannais.

(*b*) the proceedings shall be opened by the Clerk reciting the Prayer [*S.O. 18*]. The Clerk shall then read the Proclamation summoning the Seanad, and next, the names of the members nominated and of the members elected;

(*c*) for the purposes of paragraph (*a*), the expression "determine by lot" means that the names of the candidates concerned having been written on similar slips of paper and the slips having been folded so as to prevent identification and mixed and drawn at random, the Acting Chairman shall be the candidate whose name is on the slip drawn first.

Results of polls and names of nominated members to be laid before Seanad.

3. A copy of each of the certificates of the results of the polls for elected members and a copy of the communication from the Taoiseach stating the names of the nominated members shall be laid before the Seanad by the Clerk.

CATHAOIRLEACH AND LEAS-CHATHAOIRLEACH

Election of Cathaoirleach.

4. (1) When the Clerk has read the names of the Senators nominated and of the Senators elected, the Seanad shall proceed to the election of a Chairman, who shall be designated and addressed as the Cathaoirleach. Any Senator may move: — "That Senator . . . . . be elected and do now take the Chair of the Seanad as Cathaoirleach". If any question is to be put under Standing Order 58 to bring the debate to a conclusion the Chair shall be vacated and Standing Orders 58, 59, 60, 61 and 63 shall apply with the substitution of "Clerk" for "Cathaoirleach" therein.

(2) If only one Senator be proposed, the Clerk shall put the question: — ''That Senator . . . . . be elected and do now take the Chair of the Seanad as Cathaoirleach" which shall be decided like other questions: Provided that in the event of there being an equality of votes, the question shall be decided in the negative.

(3) If more than one Senator be proposed as Cathaoirleach the Clerk shall, in the order in which the Senators shall have been proposed, put the question: — ''That Senator . . . . . be elected and do now take the Chair of the Seanad as Cathaoirleach'' which shall be decided like other questions: Provided that in the event of there being an equality of votes, the question shall be decided in the negative.

Cathaoirleach to take Chair.

5. The Cathaoirleach shall immediately upon his or her election take the Chair, but in the case of the absence of the Cathaoirleach-elect the Seanad may, on motion made without notice, elect any Senator to act as Cathaoirleach for the time being. Until such Senator is elected the Clerk shall continue to act as Chairman.

An Leas-Chathaoirleach a thoghadh.

6. Díreach tar éis an Cathaoirleach a thoghadh socróidh an Seanad dáta chun Leas-Chathaoirleach a thoghadh dá ngairfear an Leas-Chathaoirleach agus is faoin ainm sin a labhrófar chuige nó chuici; féadfar tairiscintí a dhéanamh ag ainmniú iarrthóirí tar éis fógra a thabhairt [*B.O. 26*].

Téarma oifige an Chathaoirligh.

7. Is é téarma an Chathaoirligh téarma an tSeanaid a bheidh ann tráth a thofa nó a tofa, ach chun críche na mBuan-Orduithe seo leanfaidh an Cathaoirleach dá oifig nó dá hoifig go dtí go dtoghfar a chomharba nó a comharba. Féadfaidh an Seanad, áfach, tráth ar bith, le rún ar tugadh fógra tairisceana seacht lá glan ina thaobh, an Cathaoirleach a chur as oifig.

Téarma oifige an Leas-Chathaoirligh.

8. Is é téarma an Leas-Chathaoirligh téarma an tSeanaid a bheidh ann tráth a thofa nó a tofa. Féadfaidh an Seanad, áfach, tráth ar bith, le rún ar tugadh fógra tairisceana seacht lá glan ina thaobh, an Leas-Chathaoirleach a chur as oifig.

Seanadóirí nach cead dóibh gníomhú mar Chathaoirleach ná mar Leas-Chathaoirleach.

9. Ní cead d'aon chomhalta den Rialtas ná d'aon Aire Stáit gníomhú mar Chathaoirleach ná mar Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Oifig an Chathaoirligh a bheith folamh.

10. Má tharlaíonn go mbeidh oifig an Chathaoirligh folamh, cuirfidh an Cléireach é sin in iúl don Seanad i dtosach a chéad tionóil eile. Rachaidh an Leas-Chathaoirleach i gCeannas, agus gníomhóidh sé nó sí mar Chathaoirleach go dtí go dtoghfar Cathaoirleach ach ní bheidh sé nó sí i gceannas le linn an toghcháin sin. Déanfar ordú ag ceapadh dáta chun Cathaoirleach a thoghadh, agus déanfar an toghadh sin sa tslí a fhoráiltear anseo roimhe seo [*B.O. 4*].

An Cathaoirleach a bheith as láthair.

11. Le linn don Chathaoirleach a bheith as láthair de dheasca breoiteachta nó ar aon chúis eile, comhlíonfaidh an Leas-Chathaoirleach na dualgais a chuirtear ar an gCathaoirleach, agus feidhmeoidh sé nó sí an t-údarás a thugtar dó nó di leis na Buan-Orduithe seo.

An Cathaoirleach agus an Leas-Chathaoirleach a bheith as láthair.

12. Má bhíonn an Cathaoirleach agus an Leas-Chathaoirleach as láthair ó thionól den Seanad, cuirfidh an Cléireach é sin in iúl don Seanad chomh luath is a bheidh córam i láthair agus, faoi réir fhorálacha Bhuan-Ordú 4, cromfaidh an Seanad láithreach ar dhuine dá chomhaltaí a thoghadh chun na dualgais a chomhlíonadh a chuirtear ar an gCathaoirleach, agus an t-údarás a fheidhmiú a thugtar dó nó di, leis na Buan-Orduithe seo, fad a bheidh siad araon as láthair. Mura mbeidh córam i láthair beidh an Seanad ar athló go dtí an chéad lá eile chun suí.

An Cathaoirleach do leanúint de bheith as láthair.

13. Más cosúil go leanfaidh an Cathaoirleach de bheith as láthair, féadfaidh an Seanad Seanadóir eile a thoghadh le gníomhú mar Leas-Chathaoirleach fad a leanfaidh an Cathaoirleach de bheith as láthair amhlaidh.

Election of Leas-Chathaoirleach.

6. Immediately after the election of the Cathaoirleach, the Seanad shall fix a date for the election of a Deputy Chairman who shall be designated and addressed as the Leas-Chathaoirleach; motions nominating candidates may be made after notice [*S.O. 26*].

Term of office of Cathaoirleach.

7. The term of the Cathaoirleach shall be the term of the Seanad existing at the time of his or her election, but for the purpose of these Standing Orders the Cathaoirleach shall continue in office until his or her successor is elected. The Seanad may, however, at any time, by resolution of which seven clear days' notice of motion has been given, remove the Cathaoirleach from office.

Term of office of Leas-Chathaoirleach.

8. The term of the Leas-Chathaoirleach shall be the term of the Seanad existing at the time of his or her election. The Seanad may, however, at any time, by resolution of which seven clear days' notice of motion has been given, remove the Leas-Chathaoirleach from office.

Senators who may not act as Cathaoirleach or Leas-Chathaoirleach.

9. A member of the Government or a Minister of State may not act as Cathaoirleach or Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Vacancy in office of Cathaoirleach.

10. When a vacancy has occurred in the office of Cathaoirleach, the Clerk shall report the same to the Seanad at the opening of its next meeting. The Chair shall be taken by the Leas-Chathaoirleach, who shall act as Cathaoirleach until a Cathaoirleach is elected but shall not preside at such election. An order shall be made fixing a date for the election of a Cathaoirleach, which shall take place in the manner hereinbefore provided [*S.O. 4*].

Absence of Cathaoirleach.

11. During the absence of the Cathaoirleach through illness or other cause, the Leas-Chathaoirleach shall perform the duties devolving upon and exercise the authority conferred upon the Cathaoirleach by these Standing Orders.

Absence of the Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach.

12. If both the Cathaoirleach and the Leas-Chathaoirleach be absent from a meeting of the Seanad, so soon as a quorum is present the Clerk shall so notify the Seanad and, subject to the provisions of Standing Order 4, the Seanad shall at once proceed to elect one of its members to perform the duties devolving upon and exercise the authority conferred upon the Cathaoirleach by these Standing Orders for the period of absence of both. If there be not a quorum present, the Seanad shall stand adjourned until the next sitting day.

Continued absence of the Cathaoirleach.

13. If there is a likelihood of a continued absence of the Cathaoirleach, the Seanad may elect another Senator to act as Leas-Chathaoirleach during such continued absence.

Buan-Orduithe

Rolla Comhaltaí Ceannais.

14. Chomh luath agus is féidir i ndiaidh an chéad tionóil den Seanad tar éis Olltoghcháin don Seanad, ainmneoidh an Cathaoirleach rolla triúr Seanadóir ar a laghad, a bhféadfaidh aon duine díobh gníomhú mar Chathaoirleach sealadach sa Seanad nó ar Choiste den Seanad uile, nuair a iarrfaidh an Cathaoirleach air nó uirthi sin a dhéanamh.

Dualgais agus údarás an Leas-Chathaoirligh (nó an Chathaoirligh shealadaigh).

15. Fad a bheidh an Leas-Chathaoirleach (nó Cathaoirleach sealadach) i gCeannas comhlíonfaidh sé nó sí na dualgais a chuirtear ar an gCathaoirleach agus feidhmeoidh sé nó sí an t-údarás a thugtar don Chathaoirleach leis na Buan-Orduithe seo, ach amháin mar a fhoráiltear a mhalairt iontu [*B.O. 51, 52 agus B.O. 55*].

Treoraí an Tí.

16. Déanfaidh Treoraí an Tí (an Leas-Treoraí nó Seanadóir eile a bheidh údaraithe ag an Rialtas chun críche an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo), ag gníomhú dó nó di thar ceann an Rialtais sa Seanad, an gnó do gach lá suí agus an t-ord ina dtógfar an gnó sin a thairiscint ar 3.30 p.m. ar an Máirt, ar 11.30 a.m. ar an gCéadaoin agus ar an Déardaoin agus, aon lá eile, i dtosach gnó phoiblí. Beidh Treoraí an Tí ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta *ex officio* den Choiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí.

Teanga

Imeachtaí, Riar na hOibre, Cín Lae Imeachtaí an tSeanaid agus Doiciméid — Teanga.

17. (1) Déanfar imeachtaí uile an tSeanaid trí Ghaeilge nó trí Bhéarla.

(2) Déanfar Riar na hOibre, Cín Lae Imeachtaí an tSeanaid agus gach doiciméad iomchuí eile a eisiúint i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla.

Machnamh agus Paidir

Machnamh agus Paidir i dtosach suí.

18. I dtosach gach suí den Seanad éireoidh na Seanadóirí uile a bheidh i láthair ina seasamh ar feadh 30 soicind chun machnamh ciúin a dhéanamh agus ansin léifidh an Cléireach an Phaidir seo a leanas i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla: —

> "Iarraimid ort, a Thiarna, d'anáil naofa a chur fúinn chun sinn a stiúradh inár ngníomhartha agus neart do ghrásta a bhronnadh orainn chun iad a thabhairt chun críche, ionas gur uaitse a thosófar ár n-uile bhriathar agus ár n-uile ghníomh feasta, agus gur tríot a chríochnófar iad; trí Chríost ár dTiarna, Amen.".

Panel of Chairmen.

14. As soon as may be following the first meeting of the Seanad after a General Election for the Seanad, the Cathaoirleach shall nominate a panel of not less than three Senators, any one of whom may act as temporary Chairman in the Seanad or in Committee of the whole Seanad when requested so to act by the Cathaoirleach.

Duties and authority of Leas-Chathaoirleach (or temporary Chairman).

15. While the Leas-Chathaoirleach (or a temporary Chairman) is in the Chair he or she shall perform the duties devolved upon, and exercise the authority conferred upon the Cathaoirleach by these Standing Orders save as may be otherwise provided therein [*S.O.s 51, 52 and 55*].

Leader of the House.

16. The Leader of the House (Deputy Leader or another Senator authorised by the Government for the purpose of this Standing Order) acting on behalf of the Government in the Seanad, shall propose at 3.30 p.m. on Tuesdays, at 11.30 a.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays and, on any other day, at the commencement of public business, the business for each sitting day and the order in which it shall be taken. The Leader of the House shall be an *ex officio* member of the Committee on Procedure and Privileges.

LANGUAGE

Proceedings, Order Paper, Journal of Proceedings and Documents — Language.

17. (1) All proceedings of the Seanad shall be conducted through the medium of the Irish or the English language.

(2) The Order Paper, the Journal of Proceedings of the Seanad and all other appropriate documents shall be issued in the Irish and English languages.

REFLECTION AND PRAYER

Reflection and Prayer at commencement of sitting.

18. At the commencement of each sitting of the Seanad all Senators present shall stand for 30 seconds of silent reflection and then the following Prayer shall be read by the Clerk in the Irish and English languages: —

> "Direct, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our actions by Thy holy inspirations and carry them on by Thy gracious assistance; that every word and work of ours may always begin from Thee, and by Thee be happily ended; through Christ Our Lord, Amen."

Buan-Orduithe

Córam

An córam is gá.

19. Seisear Seanadóirí an córam is gá chun tionól den Seanad a bheith ann.

An nós imeachta mura mbeidh córam ann an uair a bheidh ceaptha don tionól.

20. Rachaidh an Cathaoirleach i gCeannas an uair a bheidh ceaptha don tionól den Seanad nó chomh luath ina dhiaidh sin agus a bheidh córam i láthair, ach más rud é, i gceann ceathrú uaire an chloig tar éis na huaire a bheidh ceaptha, nach mbeidh córam i láthair, rachaidh an Cathaoirleach i gCeannas ansin agus cuirfidh an Seanad ar athló go dtí an chéad lá eile chun suí; agus déanfar an uair a cuireadh ar athló amhlaidh é, mar aon le hainmneacha na Seanadóirí a bhí i láthair an uair sin, a chur síos ar Chín Lae Imeachtaí an tSeanaid.

An Seanad a chur ar athló mura mbeidh córam ann le linn suí.

21. Más rud é le linn suí den Seanad go gcuirfidh aon Seanadóir in iúl don Chathaoir nach bhfuil córam i láthair, nó más léir sin ó thuairisc vótála, buailfear an clog vótála go ceann seal nach lú ná trí nóiméad, agus más rud é i gceann seal nach lú ná trí nóiméad go mbeifear fós gan chóram, cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach an suí ar fionraí go dtí uair is déanaí ná sin agus a luafaidh sé nó sí, nó cuirfidh sé nó sí an Seanad ar athló go dtí an chéad lá eile chun suí gan ceist a chur; agus ní mheasfar aon chinneadh a bheith déanta le haon vótáil den sórt sin; agus i gcás an Seanad a chur ar athló, déanfar an uair a cuireadh ar athló amhlaidh é, mar aon le hainmneacha na Seanadóirí a bhí i láthair, a chur síos ar Chín Lae Imeachtaí an tSeanaid [*Féach freisin B.O. 66*].

Suíonna an Tseanaid

Am agus laethanta suí. An Seanad a chomóradh. Suí a chur ar fionraí.

22. (1) Mura mbeartóidh an Seanad a mhalairt:

(*a*) tiocfaidh sé le chéile ar an Máirt, ar an gCéadaoin agus ar an Déardaoin; agus

(*b*) beidh feidhm ag na forálacha seo a leanas maidir le gach seachtain ina suífidh sé:

(i) ar an gcéad lá suí tiocfaidh sé le chéile ar 2.30 p.m. ar choinníoll, i gcás an Seanad a bheith ar athló *sine die*, go bhféadfaidh an Cathaoirleach an tionól a chomóradh ar am seachas 2.30 p.m.; agus

(ii) ar aon lá suí ina dhiaidh sin tiocfaidh sé le chéile ar 10.30 a.m.:

Ar choinníoll, i gcás an Seanad a bheith ar athló go dtí lá luaite agus go n-iarrfaidh ionadaithe na ngrúpaí [*B.O. 145*] go gcuirfí tionól an lae luaite sin siar go dtí lá agus tráth níos déanaí a bheidh sonraithe san iarratas, déanfaidh an Cathaoirleach (*a*) fógra a thabhairt do gach Seanadóir go bhfuiltear tar éis an tionól sin a chur siar amhlaidh agus (*b*) tionól den Seanad a chomóradh don lá níos déanaí sin a bheidh sonraithe san iarratas sin.

(2) Féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach tionól den Seanad a chomóradh do dháta is luaithe ná mar a socraíodh nuair a cuireadh ar athló é ar chúiseanna speisialta a luafaidh sé nó sí san fhógra á chomóradh amhlaidh.

QUORUM

Quorum required.

19. The quorum necessary to constitute a meeting of the Seanad shall be six Senators.

Procedure if no quorum at hour fixed for meeting.

20. The Cathaoirleach shall take the Chair at the hour appointed for the meeting of the Seanad or as soon thereafter as there shall be a quorum present, but if, at the expiration of a quarter of an hour after the hour appointed, there is not a quorum, the Cathaoirleach shall then take the Chair and adjourn the Seanad to the next sitting day; and the hour of such adjournment, as also the names of Senators then present, shall be entered in the Journal of the Proceedings of the Seanad.

Adjournment in absence of quorum during sitting.

21. If in the course of a sitting of the Seanad, any Senator calls the attention of the Chair to the fact that a quorum is not present, or if on the report of a division such fact shall appear, the division bell shall be rung for a period of not less than three minutes, and if after an interval of not less than three minutes, a quorum is still not present, the Cathaoirleach shall suspend the sitting to a later hour to be named by him or her, or shall adjourn the Seanad without question put until the next sitting day; and no decision shall be considered to have been arrived at by any such division; and in the event of an adjournment, the hour of such adjournment, as also the names of the Senators present, shall be entered in the Journal of the Proceedings of the Seanad [*See also S.O. 66*].

SITTINGS OF THE SEANAD

Time and days of sitting. Summoning of Seanad. Suspension of sitting.

22. (1) Unless the Seanad shall otherwise resolve:

(*a*) it shall meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; and

(*b*) the following provisions shall apply in respect of each week in which it sits:

(i) on the first day of sitting it shall meet at 2.30 p.m. provided that where the Seanad stands adjourned *sine die* the Cathaoirleach may summon the meeting for a time other than 2.30 p.m.; and

(ii) on any subsequent day of sitting it shall meet at 10.30 a.m.:

Provided that where the Seanad stands adjourned to a stated day and the representatives of the groups [*S.O. 145*] request that the meeting on such stated day be postponed to a later day and a time specified in the request, the Cathaoirleach shall (*a*) notify all Senators that such meeting has been so postponed and (*b*) summon a meeting of the Seanad for the later day specified in such request.

(2) The Cathaoirleach may summon a meeting of the Seanad for an earlier date than that fixed on the adjournment for special reasons to be stated by him or her in such summons.

(3) (*a*) I gcás an Seanad a dhul ar athló *sine die*, déanfaidh an Cathaoirleach tionól den Seanad a chomóradh (*a*) aon uair is dóigh leis nó léi is gá sin, nó (*b*) ar iarratas i scríbhinn, chun críche sonraithe a bheidh luaite san iarratas sin, agus é sínithe ag tríocha Seanadóir ar a laghad do lá nach luaithe ná an deichiú lá agus nach déanaí ná an ceathrú lá déag i ndiaidh an lae a gheobhaidh sé nó sí an t-iarratas sin (mura mbeidh sé tar éis nó ar tí tionól a chomóradh le bheith ann laistigh den tréimhse suas go dtí an deichiú lá sin a dúradh).

(*b*) Féadfaidh Seanadóirí a iarraidh ar an gCathaoirleach Seanad Éireann a chomóradh sna himthosca a leagtar amach in alt 4 d'Achtanna na gComhphobal Eorpach, 1972 go 2009.

(4) Féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach, agus é nó í ag feidhmiú na gcumhachtaí a thugtar dó nó di le míreanna (2) agus (3), tionól a chomóradh do lá seachas an lá a shonraítear i mír (1).

(5) Féadfar a thairiscint, tráth ar bith, le cead an Chathaoirligh agus gan fógra, go gcuirfear suí ar fionraí ar feadh tréimhse. Socróidh an tairiscint sin tréimhse na fionraíochta.

RIAR NA HOIBRE

Riar na hOibre a ullmhú.

23. Beidh gach suí den Seanad faoi rialú Riar Oibre chlóbhuailte a ullmhófar faoi stiúradh an Chathaoirligh. Rachfar chun cinn leis an ngnó san ord ina mbeidh sé clóbhuailte mura n-ordóidh an Seanad a mhalairt.

Ábhair Riar na hOibre.

24. Cuirfear ar Riar na hOibre téacs gach tairisceana a bheidh le déanamh, agus téacs gach leasaithe a bheidh le tairiscint, ach amháin na cinn a cheadaítear leis na Buan-Orduithe seo a dhéanamh nó a thairiscint gan fógra.

Gnó a bheidh gan chríochnú.

25. Gach gnó a bheidh gan chríochnú agus an Seanad ag dul ar athló, beidh sé curtha siar go dtí an chéad lá suí eile, mura n-ordóidh an Seanad a mhalairt, agus cuirfear ar Riar na hOibre don lá sin é.

Fógraí tairisceana agus leasuithe: fógra níos giorra.

26. Ach amháin tairiscintí a cheadaítear a dhéanamh agus leasuithe a cheadaítear a thairiscint leis na Buan-Orduithe seo gan fógra, ní foláir tairiscintí agus leasuithe a bheith i scríbhinn, faoi láimh Seanadóra mar thairgeoir agus Seanadóra eile mar chuiditheoir. Ní cead tairiscintí a dhéanamh ná leasuithe a thairiscint aon lá áirithe mura mbeidh siad ag an gCléireach tráth nach déanaí ná 11 a.m. an ceathrú lá roimh an lá áirithe sin i gcás tairiscintí agus tráth nach déanaí ná 11 a.m. an dara lá roimh an lá áirithe sin i gcás leasuithe: Ach le cead an Chathaoirligh féadfar tairiscintí a dhéanamh agus leasuithe a thairiscint ar fhógra níos giorra a thabhairt [*Féach freisin B.O. 36 agus 67*].

Tairiscintí do thitim ar lár.

27. Tairiscint nach ndéanfar laistigh de dhá mhí dhéag ón dáta a cuireadh í ar Riar na hOibre i gcéaduair measfar í a bheith tite ar lár, ach sin gan dochar do cheart Seanadóirí an tairiscint sin a chur síos arís.

(3) (*a*) In the event of the Seanad adjourning *sine die*, the Cathaoirleach shall summon a meeting of the Seanad (*a*) whenever, in his or her opinion, it is necessary, or (*b*) at the request in writing, for a specific purpose stated in such request, signed by not less than thirty Senators for a day not earlier than the tenth day nor later than the fourteenth day subsequent to the day on which he or she has received such request (unless he has already summoned or is about to summon a meeting to take place within the period up to the said tenth day).

(*b*) Senators may require the Cathaoirleach to summon Seanad Éireann in the circumstances outlined in section 4 of the European Communities Acts 1972 to 2009.

(4) In exercising the powers conferred on him or her by paragraphs (2) and (3) the Cathaoirleach may summon a meeting for a day other than a day specified in paragraph (1).

(5) A motion that a sitting be suspended for a period may at any time be made, by permission of the Cathaoirleach and without notice. Such motion shall fix the period of suspension.

Order Paper

Preparation of Order Paper.

23. Every sitting of the Seanad shall be governed by a printed Order Paper, which shall be prepared under the direction of the Cathaoirleach. The business shall be dealt with in order as printed unless the Seanad shall otherwise order.

Contents of Order Paper.

24. The Order Paper shall contain the text of all motions and amendments to be proposed save such as are allowed by these Standing Orders to be proposed without notice.

Business undisposed of.

25. All business, undisposed of at the adjournment of the Seanad shall stand postponed until the next sitting day, unless the Seanad shall otherwise order, and shall be placed on the Order Paper for that day.

Notice of motions and amendments: shorter notice.

26. Motions and amendments, save such as are allowed by these Standing Orders to be proposed without notice, shall be in writing, signed by a Senator as proposer and another Senator as seconder. Motions and amendments may not be moved on a day unless they shall have reached the Clerk not later than 11 a.m. on the fourth preceding day in the case of motions and not later than 11 a.m. on the second preceding day in the case of amendments: Provided that by permission of the Cathaoirleach motions and amendments may be moved on shorter notice [*See also S.O.s 36 and 67*].

Lapsing of motions.

27. A motion which is not moved within twelve months from the date on which it was first placed on the Order Paper shall be deemed to have lapsed, but without prejudice to the right of Senators to put down such motion again.

Tairiscintí a scrúdú.

28. Scrúdóidh an Cathaoirleach gach fógra tairisceana chun deimhin a dhéanamh de go bhfuil sé chomh gearr agus is féidir agus nach bhfuil aon líomhnachas pearsanta ann. Féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach, nó an Cléireach faoi údarás uaidh nó uaithi, aon tairiscint den sórt sin a leasú tar éis dó dul i gcomhairle leis an Seanadóir a chuir isteach í.

TOSACH, CUR AR ATHLÓ AGUS NÍ IS CÁS LE COMHALTAÍ

Ní a phlé i dtosach suíonna.

29. (1) (*a*) Faoi réir fhomhír (*b*), ar an bPaidir a bheith léite i dtosach gach suí den Seanad de réir Bhuan-Ordú 18, féadfaidh Seanadóir ar bith, ar an Máirt, ar an gCéadaoin agus ar an Déardaoin, ní ar thug sé nó sí fógra i scríbhinn ina thaobh don Chathaoirleach tráth nár dhéanaí ná 12 meán lae an lá roimhe sin, gan an Satharn ná an Domhnach ná lá saoire poiblí a áireamh, a tharraingt anuas lena phlé: Ach, faoi rogha an Chathaoirligh féin amháin, féadfar in imthosca neamhghnácha ní a tharraingt anuas ar fhógra is giorra ná sin a thabhairt.

(*b*) Díreach tar éis an Phaidir a bheith léite de réir Bhuan-Ordú 18, cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach in iúl don Teach gur tugadh fógra de réir fhomhír (*a*) agus air sin déanfaidh sé nó sí rialú faoi oiriúnacht an ní sin chun a phléite. Féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach ceithre ní a roghnú a rialaíodh oiriúnach agus pléifear iad láithreach. I gcás nár tugadh aon fhógra nó nár rialaíodh aon ní oiriúnach cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach é sin in iúl don Teach.

(*c*) Nuair a bheidh plé ar nithe faoin mBuan-Ordú seo críochnaithe nó nuair a bheidh an Cathaoirleach tar éis a chur in iúl don Teach nár tugadh aon fhógra nó nár rialaíodh aon ní oiriúnach, beidh an Seanad, mura n-ordóidh sé a mhalairt, ar fionraí ar an Máirt, ar an gCéadaoin nó ar an Déardaoin go dtí an uair a bheidh ceaptha le haghaidh togra faoi Bhuan-Ordú 16.

(2) Ní mór baint a bheith ag na nithe a roghnófar le gnóthaí poiblí a bhaineann le Roinn Stáit nó baint a bheith acu le cúrsaí riaracháin a bhfuil comhalta den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit freagrach astu go hoifigiúil (lena n-áirítear comhlachtaí atá faoi chúram Roinne Stáit i leith beartais Rialtais).

(3) Féadfaidh an Seanadóir a bheidh ag tarraingt anuas ní a bheidh roghnaithe chun a phléite, óráid cúig nóiméad a thabhairt agus beidh comhalta den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit i dteideal cúig nóiméad ar a mhéad le haghaidh óráid mar fhreagra.

Cur ar athló mar gheall ar ní sonrach tábhachtach a bhaineann le leas an phobail agus a d'éirigh go tobann.

30. (1) Féadfar tairiscint a dhéanamh chun an Seanad a chur ar athló mar gheall ar ní sonrach tábhachtach a bhaineann le leas an phobail agus a d'éirigh go tobann má dhéanann Seanadóir, tráth nach déanaí ná 2.30 p.m. lá a thiocfaidh an Seanad le chéile roimh mheán lae agus nach déanaí ná 4.30 p.m.lá a thiocfaidh an Seanad le chéile meán lae nó ina dhiaidh sin, fógra príobháideach i scríbhinn i dtaobh an ní sin a thabhairt don Chathaoirleach agus má éiríonn an Seanadóir sin ina áit nó ina háit ar an gCathaoirleach do ghlaoch air nó uirthi tráth nach déanaí ná uair an chloig i ndiaidh an ama a tugadh an fógra agus go ndéarfaidh sé nó sí go bhfuil cead á iarraidh aige nó aici chun a thairiscint go gcuirfear an Seanad ar athló d'fhonn ní sonrach tábhachtach a bhaineann le leas an phobail agus a d'éirigh go tobann a phlé, agus leis sin déarfaidh sé nó sí cad é an ní é.

Examination of motions.

28. The Cathaoirleach shall examine every notice of motion to ensure that it shall be as brief as possible and that it shall contain no personal imputation. The Cathaoirleach, or the Clerk under his or her authority, may amend any such motion after consultation with the Senator responsible therefore.

Commencement, Adjournment and Matter of Concern to Members

Matter for discussion at the commencement of sittings.

29. (1) (*a*) Subject to subparagraph (*b*), when the Prayer has been read at the commencement of each sitting of the Seanad in accordance with Standing Order 18, any Senator may, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, bring forward for discussion a matter of which he or she has given notice in writing to the Cathaoirleach not later than 12 noon on the preceding day, not reckoning a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday: Provided that in the absolute discretion of the Cathaoirleach a matter may exceptionally be brought forward at shorter notice.

(*b*) Immediately after the Prayer has been read in accordance with Standing Order 18, the Cathaoirleach shall inform the House of notice given in accordance with subparagraph (*a*) and shall thereupon rule as to the suitability of such matter for discussion. The Cathaoirleach may select four matters ruled suitable and they shall be discussed forthwith. Where no notice has been given or no matter has been ruled suitable the Cathaoirleach shall inform the House of that fact.

(*c*) When discussion of matters under this Standing Order has concluded or when the Cathaoirleach has informed the House that no notice has been given or no matter has been ruled suitable, the Seanad, unless it shall otherwise order, shall stand suspended on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday until the hour appointed for a proposal under Standing Order 16.

(2) The matters selected must relate to public affairs connected with a Department of State or to matters of administration for which a member of the Government or Minister of State is officially responsible (including bodies under the aegis of a Department of State in respect of Government policy).

(3) The Senator bringing forward a matter which has been selected for discussion may make a five minute speech and a member of the Government or Minister of State shall be entitled to not more than five minutes for a speech in reply.

Adjournment on specific and important matter of public interest which has arisen suddenly.

30. (1) A motion for the adjournment of the Seanad on a specific and important matter of public interest which has arisen suddenly may be made if a Senator, not later than 2.30 p.m. on a day on which the Seanad meets before noon and not later than 4.30 p.m. on a day on which the Seanad meets at or after noon, gives written private notice of the matter to the Cathaoirleach and upon being called upon by the Cathaoirleach not later than one hour subsequent to the time of the notice rises in his or her place and states that he or she requests leave to move the adjournment of the Seanad for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter of public interest which has arisen suddenly whereupon he or she shall state the matter.

(2) Air sin, más dóigh leis an gCathaoirleach gur tairiscint atá ann den sórt a luaitear sa Bhuan-Ordú seo, iarrfaidh sé nó sí ar na Seanadóirí atá i bhfabhar an iarratais éirí ina n-áiteanna, agus má éiríonn cúigear Seanadóir ar a laghad dá réir sin, gan an Seanadóir a rinne an t-iarratas a áireamh, tabharfaidh an Cathaoirleach cead an tairiscint a dhéanamh, agus déanfar an tairiscint cibé uair, lá déanta an iarratais, a shocróidh sé nó sí. Ní rachaidh an díospóireacht ar an tairiscint sin thar uair an chloig go leith.

(3) Aon ní a chuirfear faoi bhráid an tSeanaid de bhun an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo agus nach mbeidh an líon is gá i bhfabhar a phléite, ní féidir é a tharraingt anuas arís faoin mBuan-Ordú seo taobh istigh de na sé mhí dá éis sin.

Ráiteas dhá nóiméad ar ní is cás le comhaltaí.

31. (1) Féadfaidh comhalta ar bith fógra i scríbhinn a thabhairt tráth nach déanaí ná 10 a.m. Déardaoin i dtaobh ní is mian leis nó léi a tharraingt anuas chun a phléite trí ráiteas dhá nóiméad ar 12.50 p.m. an lá sin ach ní vótálfaidh an Seanad ar aon ní a éireoidh as an bplé sin.

(2) Féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach suas le trí ní a bheidh tógtha faoi mhír (1) den Bhuan-Ordú seo a roghnú chun a bpléite.

(3) Is gá Treoraí an Tí, an Leas-Treoraí (nó Seanadóir eile atá údaraithe ag Treoraí an Tí chun críche an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo) a bheith i láthair.

RÁITIS

Ráitis sa Teach.

32. (1) Má dhéanann comhalta den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit ráiteas sa Teach ar ní ar bith, féadfar ráitis bhreise a cheadú de rogha an Chathaoirligh.

(2) Ag deireadh ráiteas a bheidh ceadaithe, féadfar, de rogha an Chathaoirligh agus le comhaontú roimh ré ón gcomhalta den Rialtas nó ón Aire Stáit lena mbaineann, ceisteanna a bhaineann go dlúth leis na ráitis a thógáil ar feadh tréimhse nach faide ná 30 nóiméad.

Mínithe Pearsanta.

33. (1) Beidh de rogha ag an gCathaoirleach cead a thabhairt d'aon chomhalta míniú pearsanta a thabhairt sa Seanad, tar éis don chomhalta lena mbaineann fógra i scríbhinn a thabhairt don Chathaoirleach faoina mhian nó faoina mian chun míniú den sórt sin a thabhairt agus faoi ábhar an mhínithe bheartaithe sin.

(2) Beidh míniú a thabharfar faoin mBuan-Ordú seo gearr, neamhargóinteach agus pearsanta go hiomlán agus ní bheidh sé de chineál a bheadh ina chúis le díospóireacht nó a n-éireodh tuilleadh mínithe as.

(3) Ní cheadófar d'aon chomhalta ceisteanna a chur ar chríochnú mínithe phearsanta ná ní éireoidh aon díospóireacht as.

(2) The Cathaoirleach shall thereupon, if he or she considers the motion to be one contemplated by this Standing Order, desire the Senators who support the request to rise in their places, and if not less than five Senators rise accordingly, exclusive of the Senator who has made the request, the Cathaoirleach shall give leave to make the motion, which shall be moved at such hour on the day on which the request is made as shall be fixed by him or her. The debate on such motion shall not exceed one hour and a half.

(3) A matter submitted in pursuance of this Standing Order which fails to obtain the requisite support cannot be again brought forward under this Standing Order within the next succeeding six months.

Two minute statement on matter of concern to members.

31. (1) Any member may give notice in writing, not later than 10 a.m. on Thursday of a matter he or she wishes to bring forward for discussion by way of a two minute statement at 12.50 p.m. on that day but the Seanad shall not divide on any matter arising out of such discussion.

(2) The Cathaoirleach may select for discussion up to three matters raised under paragraph (1) of this Standing Order.

(3) The presence of the Leader of the House, Deputy Leader (or another Senator authorised by the Leader of the House for the purpose of this Standing Order) will be required.

Statements

Statements in the House.

32. (1) Where a member of the Government or a Minister of State makes a statement in the House on any matter, further statements may be allowed at the discretion of the Cathaoirleach.

(2) At the conclusion of statements allowed, at the discretion of the Cathaoirleach and with the prior agreement of the member of the Government or the Minister of State concerned, questions which are strictly relevant to the statements may be taken for a period not exceeding 30 minutes.

Personal Explanations.

33. (1) The Cathaoirleach shall have discretion to permit any member to make a personal explanation in the Seanad, following notice given in writing by the member concerned to the Cathaoirleach of his or her desire to make such an explanation and of the content of such proposed explanation.

(2) An explanation made under this Standing Order shall be brief, non-argumentative and strictly personal and shall not be such as would cause debate or give rise to further explanations.

(3) No member shall be permitted to ask questions at the conclusion of a personal explanation nor shall any debate arise thereon.

An nós imeachta i dtaobh labhartha.

34. Aon Seanadóir ar mian leis nó léi labhairt, éireoidh sé nó sí ina áit nó ina háit. Má éiríonn níos mó ná aon Seanadóir amháin san am céanna glaofaidh an Cathaoirleach ar dhuine acu. Is chun na Cathaoireach a labhróidh Seanadóirí.

Tosach labhartha ag an gCathaoirleach.

35. Aon uair a éireoidh an Cathaoirleach le linn díospóireachta, ní foláir d'aon Seanadóir a bheidh ag labhairt, nó ar tí labhairt, an uair sin, suí síos arís.

Cuidiú le tairiscintí nó le leasuithe.

36. Ní dhéanfar díospóireacht ar thairiscint ná ar leasú seachas tairiscint nó leasú ón Rialtas go dtí go gcuideofar léi no leis, ach féadfaidh cuiditheoir a óráid nó a hóráid a choimeád siar go dtí tráth níos déanaí sa díospóireacht.

Tairiscintí nach ndéantar nó leasuithe nach dtairgtear do thitim ar lár.

37. Más rud é nach ndéanfaidh Seanadóir an tairiscint, nó nach dtairgfidh sé nó sí an leasú, a mbeidh a ainm nó a hainm léi nó leis, titfidh an tairiscint nó an leasú sin ar lár mura ndéantar í, nó mura dtairgtear é, ag Seanadóir éigin eile a mbeidh údarás aige nó aici uaidh nó uaithi.

Labhairt níos mó ná uair amháin.

38. Ní bheidh Seanadóir i dteideal labhairt níos mó ná uair amháin ar thairiscint ach amháin chun críoch a chur le díospóireacht ar thairiscint a rinne sé nó sí.

Idirghabháil i ndíospóireachtaí.

39. (1) Mura n-ordóidh an Seanad a mhalairt, féadfaidh comhalta atá ag tabhairt óráide i gcúrsa díospóireachta géilleadh do chomhalta eile ar mian leis nó léi ceist a chur nó tuairim a thabhairt maidir le pointí a bheidh déanta le linn óráid an chéad chomhalta: Ar choinníoll nach faide ná 30 soicind an idirghabháil sin: agus ar choinníoll fairis sin, mar riail ghinearálta, nach gceadóidh an Cathaoirleach na hidirghabhálacha sin ach amháin le linn an chuid deiridh d'óráid.

(2) Féadfaidh aon chomhalta a bhfuil fógra roimh ré tugtha aige nó aici don Chathaoirleach idirghabháil a dhéanamh, le cead an Chathaoirligh, chun ráiteas 30 soicind a dhéanamh d'fhonn soiléiriú a thabhairt ar ráitis a rinneadh níos luaithe le linn a óráide nó a hóráide.

(3) In aon cheann de na cásanna sin a luadh cheana, beidh sé de rogha ag an gCathaoirleach an t-am a bheidh caillte de thoradh idirghabhálacha a chur leis an am a bheidh ar fáil don chomhalta a bheidh ag tabhairt óráide: Ar choinníoll nach dóigh leis nó léi go gcuirfidh an breisiú sin isteach go míchuí ar an ngnó agus faoi réir uasmhéid iomlán deich nóiméad a chur le díospóireacht lena mbainfidh tairiscint i ndáil le roinnt an ama.

Leasuithe ón Rialtas ar Bhillí.

40. Déanfar leasuithe ón Rialtas ar Bhillí a thairiscint ón gCathaoir nó tairgfidh Seanadóir atá ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta den Rialtas iad.

Rules of Debate

Procedure re. speaking.

34. A Senator desiring to speak shall rise in his or her place. If more than one Senator rise at the same time, the Cathaoirleach shall call upon one of them. Senators shall address the Chair.

Precedence of Cathaoirleach.

35. Whenever the Cathaoirleach rises during a debate, any Senator then speaking, or offering to speak, shall resume his or her seat.

Seconding of motions or amendments.

36. A motion or amendment other than a Government motion or amendment shall not be debated until it has been seconded, but a seconder may reserve his or her speech until a later stage of the debate.

Motions or amendments not moved lapse.

37. If a Senator does not move the motion or amendment which stands in his or her name, such motion or amendment shall lapse unless moved by some other Senator authorised by him or her.

Speaking more than once.

38. A Senator shall not be entitled to speak more than once upon a motion, except to close a debate on a motion of which he or she was the proposer.

Intervention in debate.

39. (1) Unless the Seanad shall otherwise order, a member in possession in the course of debate may give way to another member who wishes to query or comment on points made in the course of the first member's speech: Provided that such intervention shall not exceed 30 seconds: and provided further that the Cathaoirleach shall, as a general rule, only allow such interventions in the latter stages of a speech.

(2) Any member who has given prior notice to the Cathaoirleach may, by permission of the Cathaoirleach, intervene to make a 30 second statement to clarify remarks made earlier in the course of his or her speech.

(3) In either of the aforementioned cases, the Cathaoirleach shall have discretion to add the time lost as a result of the interventions to the time available to the member in possession: Provided that, in his or her opinion, such addition shall not unduly affect business and subject to the addition of an overall maximum of ten minutes in a debate to which an allocation of time motion applies.

Government amendments to Bills.

40. Government amendments to Bills shall be proposed from the Chair or moved by a Senator who is a member of the Government.

Billí: leasuithe a tharraingeodh muirir.

41. Ní cead aon leasú a thairiscint ar Bhille, a bhféadfadh d'éifeacht a bheith leis muirear a fhorchur nó a mhéadú ar an bpobal nó ar an ioncam, ach amháin mar leasú ón Rialtas.

Ábharthacht agus foirm leasuithe.

42. Ní foláir gach leasú a bheith ag baint le hábhar na tairisceana ar a dtairgfear é, agus é a bheith ceaptha chun focail a scriosadh nó a chur isteach nó a mhalartú. Ní cead aon leasú is ionann agus diúltú díreach a thairiscint.

Féadfar tairiscint nó leasú a tharraingt siar.

43. Féadfar tairiscint nó leasú a tharraingt siar le cead an tSeanaid.

Ní cheadófar díospóireacht tar éis an cheist a chur.

44. Nuair a bheidh an cheist ar thairiscint nó ar leasú curtha ón gCathaoir ní cheadófar a thuilleadh díospóireachta ar an tairiscint nó ar an leasú sin.

Srianta ama ar thairiscintí nach ón Rialtas iad.

45. Maidir le tairiscintí seachas tairiscintí Rialtais beidh feidhm ag na forálacha seo a leanas: —

(*a*) ní thabharfar thar dhá uair an chloig ar fad le haghaidh na díospóireachta ar thairiscint, mura n-ordaíonn an Seanad a mhalairt, agus ar bheith caite don tréimhse sin, mura mbeidh na himeachtaí ar an tairiscint críochnaithe roimhe sin, cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach láithreach an cheist nó na ceisteanna is gá chun iad a chríochnú;

(*b*) ní rachaidh óráid Seanadóra a mholfaidh tairiscint thar dhá nóiméad déag; ní rachaidh óráid an Aire nó an Aire Stáit a bheidh i gceist thar chúig nóiméad déag, agus beidh an Seanadóir a rinne an tairiscint nó cibé Seanadóir eile, nach mbeidh labhartha cheana aige nó aici a údaróidh sé nó sí chuige sin, i dteideal cúig nóiméad le haghaidh óráid mar fhreagra; ní rachaidh óráid aon Seanadóra eile sa díospóireacht thar ocht nóiméad.

Atrácht nó trácht roimh ré.

46. Ní dhéanfaidh Seanadóir ar bith atrácht ar cheist a socraíodh cheana taobh istigh de na sé mhí roimhe sin, ach amháin le cead an Chathaoirligh chun míniú pearsanta a thabhairt; ná ní thráchtfaidh sé nó sí roimh ré ar aon ní a mbeidh fógra tugtha ina thaobh: Ach nuair a bheidh an Cathaoirleach á chinneadh cé acu atá, nó nach bhfuil, trácht ar aon ní as ord ar an bhforas gur trácht roimh ré é, tabharfaidh sé nó sí aird ar an gcosúlacht atá ann go ndéanfar an ní ar a dtráchtar roimh ré a thabhairt faoi bhráid an tSeanaid taobh istigh d'aimsir réasúnta. Ní bheidh feidhm ag an mBuan-Ordú seo maidir le Buan-Choistí, Roghchoistí ná Coistí Speisialta.

Díospóireacht: Nithe atá *sub judice*.

47. Faoi réir i gcónaí chumhachtaí reachtaíochta Sheanad Éireann (agus faoi réir na dtreoirlínte arna dtarraingt suas ag an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí ó am go ham), agus mura mbeidh bac air thairis sin faoi na Buan-Orduithe, ní choiscfear ar chomhalta aon ní a ardú sa Seanad a bhfuil tábhacht phoiblí ghinearálta ag baint leis, fiú amháin i gcás ina mbeidh imeachtaí cúirte tionscanta: Ar choinníoll:—

(1) go mbeidh baint shoiléir ag an ní a ardófar le beartas poiblí;

Bills: amendments involving charges.

41. An amendment to a Bill, which could have the effect of imposing or increasing a charge upon the people or upon the revenue, may not be moved save by way of Government amendment.

Relevancy and form of amendments.

42. Every amendment must be relevant to the motion to which it is proposed, and must be directed to deleting, adding, or substituting words. An amendment which is equivalent to a direct negative may not be moved.

Motion or amendment may be withdrawn.

43. A motion or an amendment may be withdrawn by leave of the Seanad.

Debate not allowed after question put.

44. When the question on a motion or an amendment has been put from the Chair no further debate thereon shall be allowed.

Time limits on non-Government motions.

45. In relation to motions other than Government motions the following provisions shall apply: —

(*a*) the time allowed for the debate on a motion shall, unless the Seanad otherwise orders, not exceed a period of two hours in the aggregate and at the expiration of this period, if the proceedings on the motion have not previously concluded, the Cathaoirleach shall put forthwith the question or questions necessary to bring them to a conclusion;

(*b*) the speech of a Senator proposing a motion shall not exceed twelve minutes; the speech of the Minister or Minister of State concerned shall not exceed fifteen minutes and the Senator proposing, or such other Senator who has not already spoken as he or she may authorise in that behalf, shall be entitled to five minutes for a speech in reply; the speech of any other Senator in the course of the debate shall not exceed eight minutes.

Re-opening or anticipation of discussion.

46. A Senator shall not re-open a discussion on a question already decided within the preceding six months, except by the permission of the Cathaoirleach for a personal explanation; nor anticipate the discussion of any subject of which notice has been given: Provided that, in determining whether a discussion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, regard shall be had by the Cathaoirleach to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the Seanad within a reasonable time. This Standing Order shall not apply to Standing, Select or Special Committees.

Debate: matters *sub judice*.

47. Subject always to the legislative powers of Seanad Éireann (and the guidelines drawn up by the Committee on Procedure and Privileges from time to time), and unless otherwise precluded under Standing Orders, a member shall not be prevented from raising in the Seanad any matter of general public importance, even where court proceedings have been initiated: Provided that:—

(1) the matter raised shall be clearly related to public policy;

(2) nach bhféadfar ní a ardú i gcás ina mbaineann sé le cás ina mbeidh fógra seirbheáilte, agus a bheidh le héisteacht os comhair giúiré nó a bheidh á éisteacht an tráth sin os comhair giúiré;

(3) nach n-ardófar ní ar shlí chomh follasach sin is gur dealraitheach go bhfuil iarracht á déanamh ag an Seanad luí isteach ar fheidhmeanna na gCúirteanna nó ar fheidhmeanna Binse Bhreithiúnaigh;

(4) (i) nach bhféadfaidh comhaltaí nithe a ardú ar mhodh substainteach (i.e. trí thairiscint, trí thairiscint ar an atráth, etc.) ach amháin i gcás inar gá fógra cuí a thabhairt ina leith;

(ii) nach cead do chomhaltaí ní a ardú trí cheist ar an Ord Gnó mura rud é go mbeifear tar éis fógra 45 nóiméad ar a laghad a thabhairt roimh ré don Chathaoir;

agus

(5) nuair a bheidh cead tugtha ní a ardú, go mbeidh dualgas ar chomhaltaí i gcónaí gan tuairimí a thabhairt, más féidir in aon chor, arbh é an éifeacht a d'fhéadfadh a bheith leo dochar a dhéanamh do thoradh imeachtaí.

Rún a chealú nó a leasú.

48. Ní féidir tairiscint a dhéanamh chun Rún a chealú nó a leasú, seachas Rún a bhaineann leis an Seanad a chur ar athló nó leis na Buan-Orduithe, ach amháin tar éis fógra a thabhairt ina sonrófar an Rún atá le cealú nó le leasú agus ina luafar téarmaí na tairisceana atá le déanamh: ach ní cheadófar, go ceann sé mhí ón dáta ar ar glacadh le haon Rún den sórt sin, aon tairiscint a chur ar Riar na hOibre chun é a chealú nó a leasú mura bhfaighfear aontú i scríbhinn ó dháréag comhalta ar a laghad nó ón séú cuid de chomhaltas Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta i gcás Rúin de chuid an Choiste.

Neamhábharthacht, athrá, toirmeasc i ndíospóireacht.

49. Aon Seanadóir a leanfaidh de bheith ag déanamh cainte nach mbaineann le hábhar díospóireachta nó de bheith ag athrá na cainte céanna, nó is dóigh leis an gCathaoirleach atá ag labhairt chun gnó a thoirmeasc, féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach a ordú dó nó di éirí as a óráid nó a hóráid, tar éis iompar an tSeanadóra a chur in iúl don Seanad nó don Choiste.

Ord a choimeád sa Seanad agus i gCoistí.

50. Is é nó is í an Cathaoirleach an breitheamh ar ord sa Seanad agus i gCoiste den Seanad uile agus tá údarás aige nó aici mí-ord a chosc agus iallach a chur ar chách géilleadh go tapaidh dá rialú. I mBuan-Choistí, i Roghchoistí nó i gCoistí Speisialta, is é nó is í Cathaoirleach an Choiste a choimeádfaidh ord, ach ní féidir mí-ord ná toirmeasc gnó i gCoistí a cháineadh ach amháin sa Seanad tar éis dó tuairisc a fháil air de réir Bhuan-Ordú 89(2).

Iompar mí-ordúil: A bheith ar Sheanadóir imeacht. Ainmniú.

51. (1) Ordóidh an Cathaoirleach do Sheanadóir a bheidh á iompar nó á hiompar féin go han-mhí-ordúil imeacht as an Seanad láithreach agus fanacht as ar feadh an chuid eile de shuí an lae sin. Más rud é, áfach, gur dóigh leis an gCathaoirleach ar aon ócáid nach leor na cumhachtaí a thugtar leis an mBuan-Ordú seo chun déileáil leis an gcion, féadfaidh sé nó sí, de réir an chéad Bhuan-Ordaithe ina dhiaidh seo, an Seanadóir sin a ainmniú mar gheall ar mhí-iompar. Aon Seanadóir a n-ordófar dó nó di imeacht as an Seanad de bhun an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, nó a chuirfear ar fionraí de bhun an chéad Bhuan-Ordaithe ina dhiaidh seo, imeoidh sé nó sí láithreach ó mhaighin an tSeanaid.

(2) a matter may not be raised where it relates to a case where notice has been served, and which is to be heard before a jury or is then being heard before a jury;

(3) a matter shall not be raised in such an overt manner so that it appears to be an attempt by the Seanad to encroach on the functions of the Courts or a Judicial Tribunal;

(4) (i) members may only raise matters in a substantive manner (i.e. by way of motion, motion on the adjournment, etc.) where due notice is required;

(ii) members may not raise a matter by way of question on the Order of Business unless prior notice of not less than 45 minutes has been given to the Chair;

and

(5) when permission to raise a matter has been granted, there will continue to be an onus on members to avoid, if at all possible, comment which might in effect prejudice the outcome of proceedings.

Rescinding or amending a Resolution.

48. A motion to rescind or amend a Resolution other than a Resolution relating to an adjournment of the Seanad or to Standing Orders, can be made only on notice that shall specify the Resolution to be rescinded or amended, and furnish the terms of the motion to be made: but a motion to rescind or amend any such Resolution shall not be allowed to appear on the Order Paper, within six months from the date of its adoption, except with the written assent of not less than twelve members or one-sixth of the membership of a Standing, Select or Special Committee in the case of a Resolution of the Committee.

Irrelevance, repetition, obstruction in debate.

49. A Senator who persists in irrelevance or repetition in debate, or who, in the opinion of the Cathaoirleach, is speaking for the purpose of obstructing business, may be directed by the Cathaoirleach to discontinue his or her speech after the attention of the Seanad or of the Committee has been called to his or her conduct.

Maintenance of order in Seanad and Committees.

50. The Cathaoirleach is the judge of order in the Seanad and in Committee of the whole Seanad and has authority to suppress disorder and to enforce prompt obedience to his or her ruling. In Standing, Select or Special Committees order shall be maintained by the Chairman, but disorder or obstruction in Committees can be censured only in the Seanad on receiving a report in accordance with Standing Order 89(2).

Disorderly conduct: Senator to withdraw. Naming.

51. (1) The Cathaoirleach shall order a Senator whose conduct is grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the Seanad for the remainder of that day's sitting. If, however, on any occasion the Cathaoirleach deems that the powers conferred under this Standing Order are inadequate to deal with the offence, he or she may, in accordance with the next succeeding Standing Order, name such Senator for misconduct. A Senator who is ordered to withdraw in pursuance of this Standing Order, or who is suspended in pursuance of the next succeeding Standing Order, shall forthwith withdraw from the precincts of the Seanad.

(2) Ní fhéadfar Seanadóir a ainmniú ach amháin nuair a bheidh an Cathaoirleach i gCeannas.

Seanadóir a chur ar fionraí.

52. (1) Má ainmníonn an Cathaoirleach Seanadóir, ansin más sa Seanad a rinne an Seanadóir sin an cion, déanfaidh an Cathaoirleach láithreach an cheist a chur tar éis tairiscint a bheith déanta — agus ní cheadófar aon leasú, cur ar athló ná díospóireacht: "Go gcuirfear an Seanadóir . . . . . (*á ainmniú nó á hainmniú*) ar fionraí ó sheirbhís an tSeanaid". Más i gCoiste den Seanad uile a rinneadh an cion, cuirfear na himeachtaí ar fionraí láithreach agus tuairisceofar na himthosca don Seanad, agus air sin, tar éis tairiscint a bheith déanta, cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach an cheist chéanna gan leasú, cur ar athló ná díospóireacht ionann is dá mba sa Seanad a rinneadh an cion.

(2) Má chuirtear Seanadóir ar fionraí faoin mBuan-Ordú seo, beidh sé nó sí seachtain ar fionraí ar an gcéad ócáid, coicís ar an dara hócáid, agus mí ar an tríú hócáid nó aon ócáid ina dhiaidh sin: Ach má fhaigheann an Cathaoirleach ó Sheanadóir a cuireadh ar fionraí amhlaidh scríbhinn aiféala lena mbeifear sásta, agus a bheidh le cur i gCín Lae Imeachtaí an tSeanaid, leagfaidh an Cathaoirleach faoi bhráid an tSeanaid í agus tar éis tairiscint a bheith déanta, gan fógra, leasú, cur ar athló ná díospóireacht, cuirfidh sé nó sí láithreach an cheist chun an t-ordú fionraíochta a chur ar ceal, agus leis sin, más freagra aontach a thabharfar ar an gceist, beidh an t-ordú ar ceal agus ligfear an Seanadóir ar ais: Agus fós ní dhéanfaidh fionraí ó sheirbhís an tSeanaid an Seanadóir a bheidh curtha ar fionraí amhlaidh a shaoradh ó fhónamh ar Bhuan-Choiste, ar Roghchoiste nó ar Choiste Speisialta den Seanad chun ar ceapadh é nó í sular cuireadh ar fionraí é nó í.

An suí a chur ar athló nó ar fionraí i gcás mí-oird mhóir.

53. I gcás mí-oird mhóir, féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach an Seanad a chur ar athló go dtí an chéad lá eile chun suí gan an cheist a chur, nó an suí a chur ar fionraí go ceann tréimhse a luafaidh sé nó sí.

An nós imeachta i gcás tairisceana á éileamh Breitheamh a chur as oifig de dheasca mí-iompair nó míthreorach a luafar.

54. (1) Aon tairiscint (a dtabharfar "tairiscint de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1°" mar thuairisc uirthi anseo ina dhiaidh seo) a chuirfear ar Riar na hOibre aon lá á éileamh Breitheamh a chur as oifig de dheasca mí-iompair nó míthreorach a luafar, de réir bhrí Airteagal 35.4.1° den Bhunreacht (nó, de réir mar a bheidh, de bhun alt 39 den Acht Cúirteanna Breithiúnais, 1924 nó alt 20 den Acht Cúirteanna Breithiúnais (An Chúirt Dúiche), 1946), luafar inti na nithe ar dá réir a mhaíonn tairgeoir na tairisceana sin gur ceart an Breitheamh arb é nó í is ábhar don tairiscint a chur as oifig de dheasca mí-iompair a luafar nó go bhfuil sé nó sí faoi mhíthreoir.

(2) I gcás ina ndéanfar tairiscint de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1° den sórt sin a chur ar Riar na hOibre aon lá, féadfaidh an Seanad an tairiscint sin a dhiúltú, nó ar thairiscint a dhéanfar chun an díospóireacht a chur ar athló féadfaidh an Seanad, le tairiscint, Roghchoiste a cheapadh chun fianaise a ghlacadh i leith na tairisceana de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1° a dúradh, ar choinníoll nach ndéanfaidh an Roghchoiste aon chinntí fíorais ná nach ndéanfaidh sé aon mholtaí i leith an chéanna ná nach léireoidh sé aon tuairimí i leith an chéanna.

(3) I gcás nach ndéanfaidh an Seanad Roghchoiste a cheapadh sa tslí dá bhforáiltear i mír (2) den Bhuan-Ordú seo laistigh de chúig lá suí ón tráth a chuirfear aon tairiscint de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1° ar Riar na hOibre, titfidh an tairiscint de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1° sin ar lár.

(2) A Senator may be named only when the Cathaoirleach is in the Chair.

Suspension of a Senator.

52. (1) Whenever a Senator shall have been named by the Cathaoirleach, then, if the offence has been committed by such Senator in the Seanad the Cathaoirleach shall forthwith put the question on a motion being made — no amendment, adjournment or debate being allowed: "That Senator . . . . . (*naming him or her*) be suspended from the service of the Seanad". If the offence has been committed in Committee of the whole Seanad, the proceedings shall forthwith be suspended and the circumstances reported to the Seanad and, the Cathaoirleach shall thereupon on motion being made, put the same question without amendment, adjournment or debate as if the offence had been committed in the Seanad.

(2) If a Senator be suspended under this Standing Order, his or her suspension on the first occasion shall continue for one week, on the second occasion for a fortnight, and on the third or any subsequent occasion for one month: Provided that on receiving from a Senator so suspended a written and approved expression of regret, to be entered in the Journal of the Proceedings of the Seanad, the Cathaoirleach shall lay the same before the Seanad and, on motion made without notice, amendment, adjournment or debate, forthwith put the question for the discharge of the order of suspension, whereupon, if the question passes in the affirmative, the order shall be discharged and the Senator readmitted: Provided further that suspension from the service of the Seanad shall not exempt a Senator so suspended from serving on a Standing, Select or Special Committee of the Seanad to which he or she may have been appointed previous to his or her suspension.

Adjournment or suspension of sitting in case of great disorder.

53. In the case of great disorder, the Cathaoirleach may adjourn the Seanad to the next sitting day without question put, or suspend the sitting for a time to be named by him or her.

Procedure in the case of a motion calling for the removal of a Judge for stated misbehaviour or incapacity.

54. (1) Any motion (hereinafter described as "an Article 35.4.1° motion") put on the Order Paper for any day calling for the removal of a Judge for stated misbehaviour or incapacity within the meaning of Article 35.4.1° of the Constitution (or, as the case may be, pursuant to section 39 of the Courts of Justice Act 1924 or section 20 of the Courts of Justice (District Court) Act 1946), shall state the matters upon which it is contended by the proposer of the said motion that the Judge who is the subject matter of the motion should be removed for stated misbehaviour or that he or she is incapacitated.

(2) Where such an Article 35.4.1° motion is put on the Order Paper for any day, the Seanad may either reject the said motion or, on motion made to adjourn the debate, may by motion appoint a Select Committee to take evidence in respect of the aforesaid Article 35.4.1° motion, provided that the Select Committee shall make no findings of fact nor make any recommendations in respect of same or express any opinions in respect of same.

(3) Where the Seanad does not appoint a Select Committee in the manner provided for in paragraph (2) of this Standing Order within five sitting days of any Article 35.4.1° motion being placed on the Order Paper, the said Article 35.4.1° motion shall lapse.

(4) Maidir leis an tairiscint lena gceapfar an Roghchoiste, déanfar téarmaí tagartha an Choiste a lua inti, míneofar inti na cumhachtaí a chineachtar chuige agus socrófar léi an líon comhaltaí a fhónfaidh air.

(5) Déanfaidh an Roghchoiste, gach tráth, aird chuí a thabhairt ar na prionsabail bhunreachta a bhaineann le cothroime bhunúsach nósanna imeachta agus ar riachtanais an cheartais aiceanta agus bunreachta.

(6) Déanfaidh an Roghchoiste gach beart lena chinntiú go ndéantar taifead cuí dá chuid imeachtaí.

(7) Déanfar imeachtaí an Roghchoiste a éisteacht go príobháideach ach amháin a mhéid a ordóidh an Coiste a mhalairt tar éis iarraidh a fháil chuige sin ón mBreitheamh arb é nó í is ábhar do thairiscint de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1°.

(8) Tar éis a chuid imeachtaí a chríochnú, déanfaidh an Roghchoiste tuarascáil ar na himeachtaí sin, mar aon le scríbhinní cuí agus ábhar clos-amhairc gaolmhar, a thabhairt don Seanad. Ar choinníoll go ndéanfaidh an Coiste a thuarascáil a chur chuig Cléireach an tSeanaid ar dtús agus déanfaidh Cléireach an tSeanaid socrú sa chéad ásc chun an tuarascáil a scaipeadh ar chomhaltaí an tSeanaid agus a chur chuig an mBreitheamh arb é nó í is ábhar do thairiscint de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1°. Ar choinníoll thairis sin go bhféadfaidh an Seanad, dá éis sin, a ordú go ndéanfar an tuarascáil a fhoilsiú agus a leagan faoi bhráid an tSeanaid.

(9) Tar éis don Seanad an tuarascáil sin a fháil, féadfaidh sé, le hordú, socrú a dhéanamh le haghaidh na díospóireachta ar an tairiscint de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1° sin agus beidh na nithe seo a leanas san áireamh ann:

- fógra cuí faoi thógáil na díospóireachta atá le hatógáil ar cibé cuid den tairiscint de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1° á éileamh an Breitheamh lena mbaineann a chur as oifig;

- gach comhalta do thabhairt urraim chuí do na prionsabail bhunreachta a bhaineann le nósanna imeachta cothroma;

- ceart a bheith ag an mBreitheamh agus ag a ionadaithe dlíthiúla nó a hionadaithe dlíthiúla chun éisteacht a fháil roimh aon vóta ar an tairiscint de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1° sin; agus

- cibé rialacha speisialta nós imeachta a mheasfar is cuí.

(10) Ní ardófar ábhar tairisceana de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1° sa Seanad ach amháin mar a fhoráiltear a mhalairt leis an mBuan-Ordú seo.

(11) Ach amháin mar a fhoráiltear a mhalairt sa Bhuan-Ordú seo, ní bheidh feidhm ag Buan-Orduithe 70, 72, 74, 76, 77, 78, 81, 82, 88, 95, 139 ná 189(1) maidir le Roghchoiste arna cheapadh faoin mBuan-Ordú seo. Ar choinníoll, áfach, go mbeidh feidhm ag Buan-Ordú 139 más rud é go ndéanfaidh an Coiste, tar éis iarraidh a fháil chuige sin ón mBreitheamh arb é nó í is ábhar do thairiscint de chuid Airteagal 35.4.1°, a chinneadh a chuid imeachtaí a sheoladh go poiblí de réir mhír (7) den Bhuan-Ordú seo.

(12) Maidir le Roghchoiste arna cheapadh faoin mBuan-Ordú seo, déanfar, le comhthoiliú Dháil Éireann, é a chomhcheangal, le hordú ón Seanad, lena shamhail de Roghchoiste de chuid an Tí sin arna cheapadh chun a fheidhmeanna a chomhlíonadh i leith tairisceana comhfhreagraí de chuid Airteagal

(4) The motion appointing the Select Committee shall state the terms of reference of the Committee, define the powers devolved upon it and fix the number of members to serve on it.

(5) The Select Committee shall at all times have due regard to the constitutional principles of basic fairness of procedures and the requirements of natural and constitutional justice.

(6) The Select Committee shall take all steps to ensure that an appropriate record is taken of its proceedings.

(7) The proceedings of the Select Committee shall be heard in private save insofar as otherwise directed by the Committee following a request in that behalf by the Judge who is the subject of an Article 35.4.1° motion.

(8) Following the completion of its proceedings, the Select Committee shall furnish a report of those proceedings to the Seanad, together with appropriate transcripts and associated audio-visual material. Provided that the Committee shall first send its report to the Clerk of the Seanad, who shall arrange in the first instance for the report to be circulated to the members of the Seanad and to the Judge who is the subject matter of an Article 35.4.1° motion. Provided further that the Seanad may subsequently order that the report be published and laid before the Seanad.

(9) Following receipt of the said report, the Seanad may by order make provision for the debate on the said Article 35.4.1° motion which shall include:

- due notice of the taking of the debate to be resumed on such part of the Article 35.4.1° motion calling for the removal of the Judge in question;
- due observance by each member of the constitutional principles of fair procedures;
- the right of the Judge and his or her legal representatives to be heard prior to any vote on the said Article 35.4.1° motion; and
- such special rules of procedure as may be deemed appropriate.

(10) The subject matter of an Article 35.4.1° motion shall not be raised in the Seanad save as otherwise provided by this Standing Order.

(11) Save as otherwise provided for in this Standing Order, Standing Orders 70, 72, 74, 76, 77, 78, 81, 82, 88, 95, 139 and 189(1) shall not apply to a Select Committee appointed under this Standing Order. Provided, however, that if the Committee decides following a request in that behalf by the Judge, who is the subject matter of an Article 35.4.1° motion, to have its proceedings in public in accordance with paragraph (7) of this Standing Order, Standing Order 139 shall apply.

(12) A Select Committee appointed under this Standing Order shall, with the concurrence of Dáil Éireann, be joined by order of the Seanad with a similar Select Committee of that House appointed to perform its functions in respect of a corresponding Article 35.4.1° motion moved in that House in

35.4.1° a thairgfear sa Teach sin i leith an Bhreithimh chéanna. Ar choinníoll gur comhalta de Dháil Éireann Cathaoirleach na Roghchoistí arna gcomhcheangal amhlaidh.

Clabhsúr Díospóireachta

An clabhsúr.

55. (1) Tar éis ceist (nach ceist ar coisceadh díospóireacht uirthi cheana faoi na Buan-Orduithe) a thairiscint ón gCathaoir sa Seanad nó i gCoiste den Seanad uile nó i mBuan-Choiste, i Roghchoiste nó i gCoiste Speisialta, féadfaidh Seanadóir cead a éileamh chun a thairiscint: — "Go gcuirfear an cheist anois", agus mura rud é go bhfeicfear don Chathaoirleach (nó don Chathaoirleach, i gcás Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta) gur sárú ar chearta mionlaigh a leithéid sin de thairiscint, nó nach leor an plé a rinneadh ar an gceist, nó gur mí-úsáid, i slí eile, ar na Buan-Orduithe seo an tairiscint, cuirfear láithreach an cheist: — "Go gcuirfear an cheist anois", agus cinnfear í gan leasú ná díospóireacht.

(2) Nuair a bheidh glactha le tairiscint: "Go gcuirfear an cheist anois" agus nuair a bheidh an cheist lenar bhain sí cinnte, féadfar aon tairiscint eile a dhéanamh (má bhíonn an Cathaoirleach (nó an Cathaoirleach, i gcás Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta) gan a chead a dhiúltú, mar a dúradh) is gá chun aon cheist a chinneadh a tairgeadh cheana ón gCathaoir, agus cuirfear an tairiscint sin láithreach, agus cinnfear í gan leasú ná díospóireacht.

(3) Ní fhéadfaidh aon Seanadóir cead a éileamh chun a thairiscint: "Go gcuirfear an cheist anois", mura mbeidh an Cathaoirleach (nó an Cathaoirleach, i gcás Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta) i gCeannas.

Aire Stáit, Ard-Aighne, Comhaltaí de Pharlaimint na Heorpa, Ionadaithe agus Daoine sa Saol Poiblí agus Sibhialta

Aire Stáit, Ard-Aighne: ceart éisteacht a fháil.

56. Féadfaidh Aire Stáit nó Ard-Aighne bheith i láthair agus éisteacht a fháil sa Seanad.

Comhaltaí de Pharlaimint na hEorpa, Ionadaithe agus Daoine sa Saol Poiblí agus Sibhialta: ceart éisteacht a fháil.

57. (1) Le ceadú ón gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí agus le cead ón gCathaoirleach, féadfaidh comhalta de Pharlaimint na hEorpa do thoghlach atá sonraithe de thuras na huaire sna hAchtanna um Thoghcháin do Pharlaimint na hEorpa a bheith i láthair agus éisteacht a fháil sa Seanad.

(2) Ar mholadh ón gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí agus le cead an Tí, féadfaidh ionadaithe agus daoine sa saol poiblí agus sibhialta a bheith i láthair agus éisteacht a fháil sa Seanad.

Vótálacha

An Cheist a chur. Féadfar vótáil a éileamh.

58. (1) Nuair a bheidh aon cheist le cur chun an tSeanaid, nó chun Coiste den Seanad uile, éireoidh an Cathaoirleach agus déarfaidh: "Is í an cheist í go . . . . . .", agus ansin

respect of the same Judge. Provided that the Chairman of the Select Committees so joined shall be a member of Dáil Éireann.

CLOSURE OF DEBATE

Closure.

55. (1) After a question (except a question already debarred from debate under the Standing Orders) has been proposed from the Chair either in the Seanad, in a Committee of the whole Seanad, or in a Standing, Select or Special Committee, a Senator may claim to move: — "That the question be now put" and unless it shall appear to the Cathaoirleach (or the Chairman, in the case of a Standing, Select or Special Committee) that such a motion is an infringement of the rights of a minority, or that the question has not been adequately discussed, or that the motion is otherwise an abuse of these Standing Orders, the question: — "That the question be now put" shall be put forthwith, and decided without amendment or debate.

(2) When a motion: "That the question be now put" has been carried and the question consequent thereon has been decided, any further motion may be made (the assent of the Cathaoirleach (or the Chairman, in the case of a Standing, Select or Special Committee), as aforesaid, not having been withheld), which may be requisite to bring to a decision any question already proposed from the Chair, and such motion shall be put forthwith, and decided without amendment or debate.

(3) No Senator may claim to move, "That the question be now put" unless the Cathaoirleach (or the Chairman, in the case of a Standing, Select or Special Committee) is in the Chair.

MINISTER OF STATE, ATTORNEY GENERAL, MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, REPRESENTATIVES AND PERSONS IN PUBLIC AND CIVIC LIFE

Minister of State, Attorney General: right of audience.

56. A Minister of State or an Attorney General may attend and be heard in the Seanad.

Members of the European Parliament, Representatives and Persons in Public and Civic Life: right of audience.

57. (1) With the approval of the Committee on Procedure and Privileges and by leave of the Cathaoirleach, a member of the European Parliament for a constituency specified for the time being in the European Parliament Elections Acts, may attend and be heard in the Seanad.

(2) On the recommendation of the Committee on Procedure and Privileges and with the leave of the House, representatives and persons in public and civic life may attend and be heard in the Seanad.

DIVISIONS

Putting of Question. Division may be demanded.

58. (1) When any question is to be put to the Seanad, or to a Committee of the whole Seanad, the Cathaoirleach shall rise and announce that "The question is that . . . . . ", thereupon

léifidh sé nó sí nó luafaidh sé nó sí an cheist agus iarrfaidh ar na Seanadóirí atá ar an tuairim sin "*Tá*" a rá agus ar na Seanadóirí atá ar a mhalairt de thuairim "*Níl*" a rá. De réir na bhfreagraí a thabharfar ar a cheist nó ar a ceist, measfaidh sé nó sí toradh na ceiste a chur, agus fógróidh sé nó sí cad é an toradh é, dar leis nó léi.

(2) Tar éis don Chathaoirleach a fhógairt cad é an toradh a bhí, dar leis nó léi, ar cheist a chur, féadfaidh Seanadóir ar bith,

(*a*) vótáil a éileamh ar an gceist sin, agus air sin déanfar vótáil, faoi réir Bhuan-Orduithe 61 agus 62, nó, i gcás nach n-éileofar vótáil amhlaidh,

(*b*) a chur faoi deara go ndéanfar, de réir Bhuan-Ordú 59, a easaontú nó a heasaontú leis an toradh a fógraíodh amhlaidh a thaifeadadh.

Easaontú a thaifeadadh seachas trí vótáil.

59. Aon uair a bheidh an Cathaoirleach tar éis a fhógairt cad é an toradh a bhí, dar leis nó léi, ar aon cheist a chur agus nach mbeidh vótáil air sin éilithe, féadfaidh aon Seanadóir a chur faoi deara go ndéanfar a easaontú nó a heasaontú leis an bhfógra sin a thaifeadadh: —

(*a*) trí chlár a choimeádfaidh an Cathaoirleach chun na críche sin a shíniú, sula gcuirfear an cheist, ach sin ar an lá suí sin;

nó

(*b*) trína lámh a ardú nuair a iarrfaidh an Cathaoirleach air nó uirthi déanamh amhlaidh;

agus cuirfear ar Chín Lae Imeachtaí an tSeanaid ainmneacha na Seanadóirí a bheidh ag easaontú amhlaidh: Ar choinníoll, i gcás inar mó ná deichniúr líon na Seanadóirí a bheidh ag easaontú, go ndéanfar vótáil faoi réir Bhuan-Orduithe 61 agus 62 mura rud é, i dtuairim an Chathaoirligh, nach ceart vótáil a dhéanamh.

Bualadh an chloig vótála agus an t-am chun glas a chur ar na doirse.

60. (1) Nuair a éileofar vótáil, cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach faoi deara an clog vótála a bhualadh aon uair amháin ar feadh seal nach lú ná ceithre nóiméad, agus cuirfear an glas ar na doirse chomh luath agus a ordóidh sé nó sí tar éis seal breise, nach lú ná ceithre nóiméad, a bheith caite.

(2) Más rud é —

(*a*) go n-éileofar vótáil eile láithreach tar éis an toradh ar vótáil roimhe sin a fhógairt; nó

(*b*) go n-ordóidh an Cathaoirleach don Seanad vótáil a dhéanamh arís de réir Bhuan-Ordú 62;

is é dhá nóiméad ar a laghad agus nóiméad amháin ar a laghad faoi seach fad na tréimhse a mbeidh an clog vótála á bhualadh lena linn agus fad an tseala idir an clog a bhualadh agus an glas a chur ar na doirse.

reading or stating the question, requiring that as many as are of that opinion shall say "*Tá*", and as many as are of the contrary opinion shall say "*Níl*". He or she shall judge from the answers to his or her question, and declare the result, in his or her opinion, of the putting of the question.

(2) After the Cathaoirleach shall have declared the result, in his or her opinion, of the putting of a question, any Senator may,

(*a*) claim a division upon that question, whereupon a division shall, subject to Standing Orders 61 and 62, be taken, or, where a division is not so claimed,

(*b*) have recorded, in accordance with Standing Order 59, his or her dissent from the result so declared.

Recording of dissent other than by a division.

59. Whenever the Cathaoirleach shall have declared the result, in his or her opinion, of the putting of any question, and a division has not been claimed thereon, any Senator may have his or her dissent from such declaration recorded by: —

(*a*) signing, prior to the putting of the question but on that sitting day, a register maintained by the Cathaoirleach for this purpose;

or

(*b*) raising his or her hand when called upon to do so by the Cathaoirleach;

and the names of the Senators so dissenting shall be recorded in the Journal of the Proceedings of the Seanad: Provided that where the number of Senators dissenting exceeds ten, a division shall be taken subject to Standing Orders 61 and 62 unless, in the opinion of the Cathaoirleach, the division is unwarranted.

Division bell rung and time for locking of doors.

60. (1) When a division is claimed, the Cathaoirleach shall cause the division bell to be rung once for a period of not less than four minutes, and the doors shall be locked so soon after the lapse of a further period of not less than four minutes as he or she shall direct.

(2) Where —

(*a*) another division is claimed immediately after the result of an earlier division has been declared; or

(*b*) the Cathaoirleach orders the Seanad to divide again in accordance with Standing Order 62;

the period for which the division bell is rung and the interval between the ringing of the bell and the locking of the doors shall be not less than two minutes and not less than one minute respectively.

Vótálacha a dhéanamh.

61. Nuair a bheidh an glas curtha ar na doirse agus gach aon duine imithe as na pasáistí vótála, ordóidh an Cathaoirleach don Seanad nó do Choiste den Seanad uile vótáil a dhéanamh agus ainmneoidh beirt áiritheoir do gach taobh: Ach féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach an cheist a chur arís, agus a fhógairt athuair cad é an toradh a bhí, dar leis nó léi, ar an gceist a chur, agus ní dhéanfar vótáil mura gcuirfear an t-athfhógra sin in amhras: Ar choinníoll freisin, go bhféadfaidh an Cathaoirleach, más dóigh leis nó léi nach gá vótáil, a iarraidh ar na Seanadóirí atá ag éileamh na vótála éirí ina n-áiteanna. Mura n-éireoidh cúigear Seanadóir ar a laghad amhlaidh fógróidh sé nó sí láithreach an toradh a bhí ar an gceist a chur, agus cuirfear ar Chín Lae Imeachtaí an tSeanaid ainmneacha na Seanadóirí a d'éirigh amhlaidh.

Vótálacha a dhéanamh trí mheán leictreonach.

62. (1) Mura n-ordóidh an Seanad a mhalairt, féadfar vótálacha sa Seanad a dhéanamh trí mheán leictreonach ach amháin i gcás vótála ar thoghadh an Chathaoirligh.

(2) I gcás go gcuirfidh an Cathaoirleach in iúl don Seanad aon tráth nach féidir vótálacha a dhéanamh trí mheán leictreonach nó nach bhféadfar brath ar an toradh nó i gcás, ar aon chúis eile, gur dóigh leis nó léi nár chóir vótálacha a dhéanamh amhlaidh, féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach a ordú don Seanad vótáil a dhéanamh nó vótáil a dhéanamh arís, de réir mar a bheidh, ar an gceist, cibé acu trí mheán leictreonach nó ar shlí eile, de réir mar is cuí leis nó léi sna himthosca, nó féadfaidh sé nó sí tógáil na vótála a chur siar go dtí cibé tráth ina dhiaidh sin a ordóidh sé nó sí.

(3) Ar thoradh vótála arna déanamh trí mheán leictreonach a bheith fógartha ag an gCathaoirleach, féadfaidh aon chomhalta a éileamh:—

(*a*) go ndéanfar an vótáil arís trí mheán leictreonach; nó

(*b*) go ndéanfar an vótáil arís ar shlí seachas trí mheán leictreonach;

agus, mura áiritheoir arna ainmniú nó arna hainmniú chun críocha na vótála sin an comhalta a éilíonn amhlaidh, glaofaidh an Cathaoirleach ar na comhaltaí atá ag tacú leis an éileamh éirí ina n-áiteanna agus

(i) mura n-éireoidh cúigear comhalta ar a laghad amhlaidh, fógróidh an Cathaoirleach láithreach cinneadh an tSeanaid nó cinneadh an Choiste den Seanad uile, agus cuirfear ar Chín Lae Imeachtaí an tSeanaid ainmneacha na gcomhaltaí easaontacha a d'éirigh amhlaidh,

(ii) má éiríonn cúigear comhalta ar a laghad amhlaidh nó más áiritheoir arna ainmniú nó arna hainmniú chun críocha na vótála sin an comhalta a éilíonn amhlaidh, ordóidh an Cathaoirleach don Seanad vótáil a dhéanamh arís ar an gceist sa tslí inar éilíodh amhlaidh.

Toradh na vótála a fhógairt.

63. Ar chríochnú an chomhairimh, síneoidh na háiritheoirí páipéar vótála agus sínfear é chuig an gCathaoirleach agus craolfaidh seisean nó sise na huimhreacha agus fógróidh toradh na vótála. Athosclófar na doirse ansin.

Taking of divisions.

61. When the doors have been locked and the division lobbies cleared the Cathaoirleach shall order the Seanad or Committee of the whole Seanad to divide and shall nominate two tellers for each side: Provided that the Cathaoirleach may again put the question and declare afresh the result, in his or her opinion, of the putting of the question, and a division shall take place only if such fresh declaration is challenged: Provided also that the Cathaoirleach may, if in his or her opinion a division is unnecessary, call upon the Senators who claim the division to rise in their places. If fewer than five Senators so rise he or she shall forthwith declare the result of the putting of the question and the names of the Senators who so rise shall be recorded in the Journal of the Proceedings of the Seanad.

Conduct of divisions by electronic means.

62. (1) Unless the Seanad shall otherwise order, divisions in the Seanad may be conducted by electronic means save in the case of a division on the election of Cathaoirleach.

(2) Where the Cathaoirleach informs the Seanad at any time that it is not possible to conduct divisions by electronic means or that the result may be unreliable or where, for any other reason, he or she considers that divisions should not be so conducted, the Cathaoirleach may order the Seanad to divide or to divide again, as the case may be, on the question, whether by electronic means or otherwise, as he or she considers appropriate in the circumstances, or may postpone the taking of the division to such later time as he or she shall direct.

(3) On the announcement by the Cathaoirleach of the result of a division which has been taken by electronic means, any member may demand: —

(*a*) that the division be taken again by electronic means; or

(*b*) that the division be taken again otherwise than by electronic means;

and the Cathaoirleach shall, unless the member who so demands is a teller nominated for the purposes of that division, call upon the members who support the demand to rise in their places and

(i) if fewer than five members so rise, the Cathaoirleach shall forthwith declare the determination of the Seanad or Committee of the whole Seanad, and the names of the members who so rise shall be recorded as dissenting in the Journal of the Proceedings of the Seanad,

(ii) if five or more members so rise or if the member who so demands is a teller nominated for the purposes of that division, the Cathaoirleach shall order the Seanad to divide again on the question in the manner so demanded.

Declaration of result of division.

63. On the completion of the count, the tellers shall sign a division paper which shall be handed to the Cathaoirleach who shall announce the numbers and declare the result of the division. The doors shall then be re-opened.

COISTÍ

Dul i gCoiste.

64. Rachaidh an Seanad i gCoiste aon uair a shroichfear gnó ar Riar na hOibre a bheidh le breithniú i gCoiste.

An córam do Choiste den Seanad uile.

65. Is é is córam i gCoiste den Seanad uile an líon céanna Seanadóirí is gá chun córam den Seanad a dhéanamh de réir Bhuan-Ordú 19.

Easpa córaim i gCoiste den Seanad uile.

66. Más rud é le linn suí Coiste den Seanad uile go gcuirfidh Seanadóir in iúl don Chathaoir nach bhfuil córam i láthair, nó más léir sin ó thuairisc vótála, buailfear an clog vótála ar feadh seal nach lú ná trí nóiméad, agus más rud é i gceann seal nach lú ná trí nóiméad go mbeifear fós gan chóram athchromfaidh an Seanad ar a ghnó agus tuairisceofar nach raibh córam i láthair. I gceann seal nach lú ná trí nóiméad comhairfidh an Cathaoirleach an Seanad (tar éis bhualadh an chloig vótála) agus má bhítear fós gan chóram cuirfidh sé nó sí an suí ar fionraí go dtí uair is déanaí ná sin agus a luafaidh sé nó sí, nó cuirfidh sé nó sí an Seanad ar athló go dtí an chéad lá eile chun suí gan ceist a chur; agus ní mheasfar aon chinneadh a bheith déanta le haon vótáil den sórt sin; agus déanfar an uair a cuireadh an Seanad ar athló amhlaidh, mar aon le hainmneacha na Seanadóirí a bhí i láthair, a chur síos ar Chín Lae Imeachtaí an tSeanaid; ach má bhíonn córam i láthair rachaidh an Seanad i gCoiste arís [*Féach freisin B.O. 21*].

An nós imeachta i gCoistí.

67. (1) Taobh amuigh de chás dá bhforáiltear a mhalairt sna Buan-Orduithe seo, bainfidh na rialacha i dtaobh nós imeachta sa Seanad leis an nós imeachta i gCoiste den Seanad uile agus i mBuan-Choistí, i Roghchoistí nó i gCoistí Speisialta, ach amháin—

(i) nach gá cuidiú le tairiscint ná le leasú,

(ii) go bhféadfaidh Seanadóir labhairt níos mó ná uair amháin ar an gceist chéanna.

(2) Beidh feidhm ag na rialacha maidir le nós imeachta i Roghchoistí agus i mBuan-Choistí, de réir mar is cuí, le nós imeachta i gComhchoistí.

(3) Beidh feidhm ag na rialacha maidir le nós imeachta i Roghchoistí, de réir mar is cuí, maidir le nós imeachta i bhFochoistí de na Coistí sin.

An chéad Chruinniú de Bhuan-Choiste, de Roghchoiste nó de Choiste Speisialta; cruinnithe a chur siar nó a thabhairt ar aghaidh.

68. (1) Is é nó is í Cléireach an Choiste a chomórfaidh an chéad chruinniú de Bhuan-Choiste, de Roghchoiste nó de Choiste Speisialta mura mbeidh an Seanad tar éis a mhalairt a ordú.

(2) Féadfaidh Cathaoirleach Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta, le comhaontú dhá thrian ar a laghad de chomhaltaí an Choiste—

Going into Committee.

64. The Seanad shall go into Committee whenever it reaches business on the Order Paper which is to be considered in Committee.

Quorum of Committee of whole Seanad.

65. The quorum in Committee of the whole Seanad shall consist of the same number of Senators as shall be requisite to form a quorum of the Seanad in accordance with Standing Order 19.

Absence of quorum in Committee of whole Seanad.

66. If during a sitting of a Committee of the whole Seanad, a Senator calls the attention of the Chair to the fact that a quorum is not present, or if on the report of a division such fact shall appear, the division bell shall be rung for a period of not less than three minutes, and if after an interval of not less than three minutes, a quorum is still not present, the Seanad shall resume and a report shall be made that a quorum was not present. The Cathaoirleach shall, at the expiration of not less than three minutes (the division bell having been rung) count the Seanad, and if a quorum is still not present he or she shall suspend the sitting to a later hour to be named by him or her, or shall adjourn the Seanad without question put until the next sitting day; and no decision shall be considered to have been arrived at by any such division; and the hour of such adjournment, as also the names of the Senators present, shall be entered in the Journal of the Proceedings of the Seanad; but if a quorum is present the Seanad shall again go into Committee [*See also S.O. 21*].

Procedure in Committees.

67. (1) Save as is in these Standing Orders otherwise provided, the rules as to procedure in the Seanad shall apply to procedure in Committee of the whole Seanad, and in Standing, Select or Special Committees, except that —

(i) a motion or amendment need not be seconded,

(ii) a Senator may speak more than once on the same question.

(2) The rules as to procedure in Select and Standing Committees shall apply, as appropriate, to procedure in Joint Committees.

(3) The rules as to procedure in Select Committees shall apply, as appropriate, to procedure in sub-Committees of such Committees.

First meeting of Standing, Select or Special Committee; postponement or bringing forward of meetings.

68. (1) The first meeting of a Standing, Select or Special Committee shall be summoned by the Clerk of the Committee unless the Seanad has otherwise ordered.

(2) The Chairman of a Standing, Select or Special Committee may, with the agreement of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Committee—

(*a*) cruinniú den Choiste a chomóradh le haghaidh dáta is luaithe ná an dáta a socraíodh ar an athló,

(*b*) cruinniú den Choiste a chur siar go dtí dáta nach déanaí ná trí seachtaine tar éis an dáta a socraíodh ar an athló.

Tairiscint go dtabharfar tuairisc ar a ndearnadh.

69. Féadfar tairiscint go dtabharfar tuairisc ar a ndearnadh a dhéanamh i gCoiste den Seanad uile: Ach diúltóidh an Cathaoirleach aon tairiscint den sórt sin a ghlacadh más dóigh leis nó léi í a bheith á déanamh chun moill nó toirmeasc a chur ar an ngnó [*B.O. 83*].

Roghchoistí: ceapadh, scóip agus comhthéacs gníomhaíochtaí.

70. (1) Féadfaidh an Seanad, ar thairiscint a dhéanamh, Roghchoiste a cheapadh chun aon Bhille nó ní a bhreithniú agus a thuairim a thuairisciú mar eolas agus cabhair don Seanad agus, i gcás Bille, a thuairisciú cé acu a leasaigh sé an Bille nó nár leasaigh. Sa tairiscint sin luafar go sonrach téarmaí tagartha an Choiste, míneofar na cumhachtaí a thugtar dó, socrófar an líon Seanadóirí atá le fónamh air, luafar an líon is córam dó, agus féadfar dáta a cheapadh don Choiste chun tuairisciú don Seanad.

(2) Beidh sé ina threoir do gach Roghchoiste: —

(*a*) nach bhféadfaidh sé ach na nithe sin a bhreithniú, gabháil do na gníomhaíochtaí sin, na cumhachtaí sin a fheidhmiú agus na feidhmeanna sin a urscaoileadh a údarófar go sonrach faoina orduithe tagartha agus faoi na Buan-Orduithe;

(*b*) go mbainfidh na nithe, na gníomhaíochtaí, na cumhachtaí agus na feidhmeanna sin le hullmhú tuarascála don Seanad agus nach n-éireoidh siad ach i gcomhthéacs ullmhú tuarascála den sórt sin;

(*c*) nach mbreithneoidh sé aon ní a bheidh á bhreithniú ag an gCoiste um Chuntais Phoiblí, nó a mbeidh fógra tugtha ag an gCoiste um Chuntais Phoiblí i dtaobh é a bheith beartaithe é a bhreithniú, de bhun Bhuan-Ordú 218 de Bhuan-Orduithe Dháil Éireann i dtaobh Gnó Phoiblí agus/nó Acht an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste (Leasú), 1993;

(*d*) nach mbreithneoidh sé aon ní a bheidh á bhreithniú ag an gComhchoiste um Achainíocha ón bPobal, nó a mbeidh fógra tugtha ag an gComhchoiste sin i dtaobh é a bheith beartaithe é a bhreithniú, i bhfeidhmiú a fheidhmeanna faoi Bhuan-Ordú 108(1); agus

(*e*) go staonfaidh sé ó aon ní a fhiosrú i seisiún poiblí nó ó fhaisnéis rúnda maidir le haon ní a fhoilsiú más rud é go n-iarrfaidh na daoine seo a leanas amhlaidh air, ar chúiseanna a shonrófar agus a thabharfar i scríbhinn—

(i) comhalta den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit, nó

(ii) sealbhóir príomhoifige comhlachta atá faoi choimirce Roinne nó atá á mhaoiniú go páirteach nó go hiomlán ag an Stát nó atá bunaithe nó ceaptha ag comhalta den Rialtas nó ag an Oireachtas:

(*a*) summon a meeting of the Committee for a date earlier than that fixed on the adjournment,

(*b*) postpone a meeting of the Committee to a date not later than three weeks from that fixed on the adjournment.

Motion to report progress.

69. A motion proposing to report progress may be made in Committee of the whole Seanad: Provided that the Cathaoirleach shall refuse to accept any such motion if he or she deems it to be dilatory or obstructive [*S.O. 83*].

Select Committees: appointment, scope and context of activities.

70. (1) The Seanad may, on motion made, appoint a Select Committee to consider any Bill or matter and to report its opinion for the information and assistance of the Seanad and, in the case of a Bill, whether or not it has amended the Bill. Such motion shall specifically state the terms of reference of the Committee, define the powers devolved upon it, fix the number of Senators to serve on it, state the quorum thereof, and may appoint a date upon which the Committee shall report back to the Seanad.

(2) It shall be an instruction to each Select Committee that: —

(*a*) it may only consider such matters, engage in such activities, exercise such powers and discharge such functions as are specifically authorised under its orders of reference and under Standing Orders;

(*b*) such matters, activities, powers and functions shall be relevant to, and shall arise only in the context of, the preparation of a report to the Seanad;

(*c*) it shall not consider any matter which is being considered, or of which notice has been given of a proposal to consider, by the Committee of Public Accounts pursuant to Standing Order 218 of the Standing Orders of Dáil Éireann relative to Public Business and/or the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993;

(*d*) it shall not consider any matter which is being considered, or of which notice has been given of a proposal to consider, by the Joint Committee on Public Petitions in the exercise of its functions under Standing Order 108(1); and

(*e*) it shall refrain from inquiring into in public session or publishing confidential information regarding any matter if so requested, for stated reasons given in writing, by–

(i) a member of the Government or a Minister of State, or

(ii) the principal office-holder of a body under the aegis of a Department or which is partly or wholly funded by the State or established or appointed by a member of the Government or by the Oireachtas:

Ar choinníoll go bhféadfaidh an Cathaoirleach achomharc a dhéanamh chuig an gCathaoirleach in aghaidh aon iarrata den sórt sin a dhéanfar, agus is cinneadh críochnaitheach a bheidh i gcinneadh an Chathaoirligh.

Feidhmeanna Roghchoistí Roinne

71. (1) Féadfaidh an Seanad Roghchoiste a cheapadh chun breithniú a dhéanamh agus tuairisciú don Seanad—

(*a*) ar cibé gnéithe de chaiteachas, riaradh agus beartas Roinne nó Ranna Rialtais agus comhlachtaí poiblí gaolmhara a roghnóidh an Coiste, agus

(*b*) ar nithe a bhaineann leis an Aontas Eorpach agus a thagann faoi chúram na Roinne nó na Ranna iomchuí.

(2) Féadfar Roghchoiste arna cheapadh de bhun an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo a chomhcheangal le Roghchoiste arna cheapadh ag Dáil Éireann chun críocha na bhfeidhmeanna a leagtar amach sa Bhuan-Ordú seo, agus chun tuairisciú do dhá Theach an Oireachtais ar an gcéanna.

(3) Gan dochar do ghinearáltacht mhír (1), féadfaidh Roghchoiste arna cheapadh de bhun an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo na nithe seo a leanas a bhreithniú maidir leis an Roinn nó na Ranna iomchuí agus maidir le comhlachtaí poiblí gaolmhara:

(*a*) nithe a bhaineann le beartas agus rialachas a bhfuil an tAire freagrach iontu go hoifigiúil,

(*b*) gnóthaí poiblí atá faoi riaradh na Roinne,

(*c*) saincheisteanna beartais a eascraíonn as Athbhreithnithe ar Luach ar Airgead agus Beartas arna seoladh nó arna gcoimisiúnú ag an Roinn,

(*d*) beartas agus rialachas Rialtais i leith comhlachtaí atá faoi choimirce na Roinne,

(*e*) saincheisteanna beartais agus rialachais a bhaineann le comhlachtaí atá á maoiniú go páirteach nó go hiomlán ag an Stát nó atá bunaithe nó ceaptha ag comhalta den Rialtas nó den Oireachtas,

(*f*) scéim ghinearálta nó dréacht-cheannteidil aon Bhille,

(*g*) aon tuarascáil iar-achtacháin ar aon Bhille arna achtú ag Tithe an Oireachtais, ar tuarascáil í a leagann comhalta den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit faoi bhráid ceachtar Teach nó an dá Theach,

(*h*) ionstraimí reachtúla, lena n-áirítear na hionstraimí reachtúla sin a leagtar, nó a leagtar ina ndréacht, faoi bhráid ceachtar Teach nó an dá Theach agus na hionstraimí reachtúla sin arna ndéanamh faoi Achtanna na gComhphobal Eorpach, 1972 go 2009,

(*i*) ráitis straitéise a leagtar faoi bhráid ceachtar Teach den Oireachtas nó faoi bhráid dhá Theach an Oireachtais de bhun an Achta um Bainistíocht na Seirbhíse Poiblí, 1997,

(*j*) tuarascálacha bliantúla nó tuarascálacha bliantúla agus cuntais, is gá de réir dlí agus a leagtar faoi bhráid ceachtar Teach den Oireachtas nó faoi bhráid dhá Theach an Oireachtais, ar

Provided that the Chairman may appeal any such request made to the Cathaoirleach, whose decision shall be final.

Functions of Departmental Select Committees.

71. (1) The Seanad may appoint a Select Committee to consider and report to the Seanad on–

(*a*) such aspects of the expenditure, administration and policy of a Government Department or Departments and associated public bodies as the Committee may select, and

(*b*) European Union matters within the remit of the relevant Department or Departments.

(2) A Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order may be joined with a Select Committee appointed by Dáil Éireann for the purposes of the functions set out in this Standing Order, and to report thereon to both Houses of the Oireachtas.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), a Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order may consider the following matters in respect of the relevant Department or Departments and associated public bodies:

(*a*) matters of policy and governance for which the Minister is officially responsible,

(*b*) public affairs administered by the Department,

(*c*) policy issues arising from Value for Money and Policy Reviews conducted or commissioned by the Department,

(*d*) Government policy and governance in respect of bodies under the aegis of the Department,

(*e*) policy and governance issues concerning bodies which are partly or wholly funded by the State or which are established or appointed by a member of the Government or the Oireachtas,

(*f*) the general scheme or draft heads of any Bill,

(*g*) any post-enactment report laid before either House or both Houses by a member of the Government or Minister of State on any Bill enacted by the Houses of the Oireachtas,

(*h*) statutory instruments, including those laid or laid in draft before either House or both Houses and those made under the European Communities Acts 1972 to 2009,

(*i*) strategy statements laid before either or both Houses of the Oireachtas pursuant to the Public Service Management Act 1997,

(*j*) annual reports or annual reports and accounts, required by law, and laid before either or both Houses of the Oireachtas, of the Department or bodies referred to in subparagraphs (*d*) and

tuarascálacha bliantúla nó tuarascálacha bliantúla agus cuntais iad de chuid na Roinne nó na gcomhlachtaí dá dtagraítear i bhfomhíreanna (*d*) agus (*e*) agus torthaí feidhmíochta agus oibríochta foriomlána, ráitis straitéise agus pleananna corparáideacha na gcomhlachtaí sin, agus

(*k*) cibé nithe eile a tharchuirfidh an Seanad chuige ó am go ham.

(4) Gan dochar do ghinearáltacht mhír (1), breithneoidh Roghchoiste arna cheapadh de bhun an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, maidir leis an Roinn nó leis na Ranna iomchuí—

(*a*) dréachtghníomhartha reachtacha AE arna dtarchur chuig an Roghchoiste faoi Bhuan-Ordú 116, lena n-áirítear an chaoi a gcomhlíonann na gníomhartha sin prionsabal na coimhdeachta,

(*b*) tograí eile le haghaidh reachtaíocht AE agus saincheisteanna beartais gaolmhara, lena n-áirítear cláir agus treoirlínte arna n-ullmhú ag an gCoimisiún Eorpach mar bhonn le gníomh reachtach a d'fhéadfaí a dhéanamh,

(*c*) doiciméid neamhreachtacha arna bhfoilsiú ag aon institiúid de chuid AE i ndáil le nithe a bhaineann le beartas AE, agus

(*d*) nithe a liostaítear lena mbreithniú ar an gclár oibre do chruinnithe den Chomhairle Airí iomchuí de chuid AE agus toradh na gcruinnithe sin.

(5) Beidh Cathaoirleach Comhchoiste arna cheapadh de bhun an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta de Dháil Éireann.

(6) Féadfaidh na daoine seo a leanas freastal ar chruinnithe de Chomhchoiste arna cheapadh de bhun an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, chun críocha na bhfeidhmeanna a leagtar amach i mír (4), agus féadfaidh siad páirt a ghlacadh in imeachtaí gan ceart vótála a bheith acu ná an ceart tairiscintí a dhéanamh agus leasuithe a thairiscint:

(*a*) comhaltaí de Pharlaimint na hEorpa arna dtoghadh ó thoghlaigh in Éirinn, lena n-áirítear Tuaisceart Éireann,

(*b*) comhaltaí de thoscaireacht na hÉireann chuig Tionól Parlaiminteach Chomhairle na hEorpa, agus

(*c*) ar chuireadh a fháil ón gCoiste, comhaltaí eile de Pharlaimint na hEorpa.

(7) Féadfaidh Roghchoiste arna cheapadh de bhun an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, i leith aon Ombudsman a bhfuil sé de chúram air nó uirthi formhaoirsiú a dhéanamh ar sheirbhísí poiblí faoi réim chúram beartais na Roinne nó na Ranna iomchuí, breithniú a dhéanamh—

(*a*) ar cibé tairiscintí a bhaineann le hOmbudsman a cheapadh agus a tharchuirfear chuig an gCoiste, agus

(*b*) ar cibé tuarascálacha Ombudsman a leagfar faoi bhráid ceachtar Teach den Oireachtas nó faoi bhráid an dá Theach sin agus a roghnóidh an Coiste: Ar choinníoll go mbeidh feidhm ag forálacha Bhuan-Ordú 113 i gcás nach mbeidh an tuarascáil Ombudsman, nó cuid nó codanna

(*e*) and the overall performance and operational results, statements of strategy and corporate plans of such bodies, and

(*k*) such other matters as may be referred to it by the Seanad from time to time.

(4) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), a Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order shall consider, in respect of the relevant Department or Departments—

(*a*) EU draft legislative acts standing referred to the Select Committee under Standing Order 116, including the compliance of such acts with the principle of subsidiarity,

(*b*) other proposals for EU legislation and related policy issues, including programmes and guidelines prepared by the European Commission as a basis of possible legislative action,

(*c*) non-legislative documents published by any EU institution in relation to EU policy matters, and

(*d*) matters listed for consideration on the agenda for meetings of the relevant EU Council of Ministers and the outcome of such meetings.

(5) The Chairman of a Joint Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order shall be a member of Dáil Éireann.

(6) The following may attend meetings of a Joint Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order, for the purposes of the functions set out in paragraph (4) and may take part in proceedings without having a right to vote or to move motions and amendments:

(*a*) members of the European Parliament elected from constituencies in Ireland, including Northern Ireland,

(*b*) members of the Irish delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, and

(*c*) at the invitation of the Committee, other Members of the European Parliament.

(7) A Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order may, in respect of any Ombudsman charged with oversight of public services within the policy remit of the relevant Department or Departments, consider—

(*a*) such motions relating to the appointment of an Ombudsman as may be referred to the Committee, and

(*b*) such Ombudsman reports laid before either or both Houses of the Oireachtas as the Committee may select: Provided that the provisions of Standing Order 113 apply where the Select Committee has not considered the Ombudsman report, or a portion or portions thereof, within

di, breithnithe ag an Roghchoiste laistigh de thréimhse dhá mhí (gan tréimhsí sosa na Nollag, na Cásca nó an tsamhraidh a chur san áireamh) tar éis an tuarascáil a leagan faoi bhráid ceachtar Teach den Oireachtas nó faoi bhráid an dá Theach sin.

Cumhachtaí Roghchoistí.

72. Gan dochar do ghinearáltacht Bhuan-Ordú 70, féadfaidh an Seanad aon cheann nó gach ceann de na cumhachtaí seo a leanas a thabhairt do Roghchoiste: —

(1) an chumhacht fianaise béil agus fianaise scríofa a ghlacadh agus miontuairiscí ar an bhfianaise sin a glacadh go poiblí os comhair an Roghchoiste mar aon le cibé doiciméid ghaolmhara is cuí leis an Roghchoiste, a chlóbhualadh agus a fhoilsiú ó am go ham;

(2) an chumhacht cuir i láthair ó bhéal agus aighneachtaí scríofa ó dhaoine nó ó chomhlachtaí leasmhara a iarraidh agus glacadh leo;

(3) an chumhacht fios a chur ar dhaoine, ar pháipéir agus ar thaifid; [*Féach freisin B.O. 76*]

(4) an chumhacht Fochoistí a cheapadh agus aon ní a chuimsítear lena orduithe tagartha a tharchur chuig na Fochoistí sin agus aon cheann dá chumhachtaí a tharmligean chuig na Fochoistí sin, lena n-áirítear an chumhacht tuairisciú go díreach don Seanad;

(5) an chumhacht moltaí a dhréachtú maidir le hathrú reachtaíochta agus maidir le reachtaíocht nua;

(6) an chumhacht scrúdú a dhéanamh ar aon ionstraim reachtúil, lena n-áirítear na hionstraimí reachtúla sin a leagtar, nó a leagtar ina ndréacht, faoi bhráid ceachtar Teach nó an dá Theach agus na hionstraimí reachtúla sin arna ndéanamh faoi Achtanna na gComhphobal Eorpach, 1972 go 2009, agus moladh a dhéanamh, más dóigh leis gur gá gníomh den sórt sin a dhéanamh, i dtaobh ar chóir an ionstraim a neamhniú nó a leasú;

(7) chun críocha mhír (6), an chumhacht ceangal a chur ar aon Roinn Rialtais nó ar aon údarás déanta ionstraimí lena mbaineann Meabhrán a chur faoi bhráid an Roghchoiste ina míneofar aon ionstraim reachtúil atá faoi bhreithniú nó a bheith i láthair ag cruinniú den Roghchoiste chun aon ionstraim reachtúil den sórt sin a mhíniú: Ar choinníoll go bhféadfaidh an Roinn sin nó an t-údarás sin diúltú a bheith i láthair ar chúiseanna a shonrófar agus a thabharfar i scríbhinn don Roghchoiste, agus féadfaidh an Roghchoiste tuairisciú don Seanad ina leith sin;

(8) an chumhacht ceangal a chur ar chomhalta den Rialtas nó ar Aire Stáit a bheith i láthair os comhair an Roghchoiste chun beartas a bhfuil sé nó sí freagrach ann go hoifigiúil a phlé: Ar choinníoll go bhféadfaidh comhalta den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit diúltú a bheith i láthair ar chúiseanna a shonrófar agus a thabharfar i scríbhinn don Roghchoiste, agus féadfaidh an Roghchoiste tuairisciú don Seanad ina leith sin: agus ar choinníoll fairis sin go bhféadfaidh comhalta den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit a iarraidh a bheith i láthair ag cruinniú den Roghchoiste, lena chumasú dó nó di an beartas sin a phlé;

(9) an chumhacht ceangal a chur ar chomhalta den Rialtas nó ar Aire Stáit a bheith i láthair os comhair an Roghchoiste chun reachtaíocht bheartaithe phríomha nó thánaisteach a phlé (sula bhfoilseofar an reachtaíocht sin) a bhfuil sé nó sí freagrach inti go hoifigiúil: Ar choinníoll go bhféadfaidh comhalta den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit diúltú a bheith i láthair ar chúiseanna a shonrófar agus a thabharfar i scríbhinn don Roghchoiste, agus féadfaidh an Roghchoiste tuairisciú don Seanad ina leith sin: agus ar choinníoll

two months (excluding Christmas, Easter or summer recess periods) of the report being laid before either or both Houses of the Oireachtas.

Powers of Select Committees.

72. Without prejudice to the generality of Standing Order 70, the Seanad may confer any or all of the following powers on a Select Committee:—

(1) power to take oral and written evidence and to print and publish from time to time minutes of such evidence taken in public before the Select Committee together with such related documents as the Select Committee thinks fit;

(2) power to invite and accept oral presentations and written submissions from interested persons or bodies;

(3) power to send for persons, papers and records; [*See also S.O. 76*]

(4) power to appoint sub-Committees and to refer to such sub-Committees any matter comprehended by its orders of reference and to delegate any of its powers to such sub-Committees, including power to report directly to the Seanad;

(5) power to draft recommendations for legislative change and for new legislation;

(6) power to examine any statutory instrument, including those laid or laid in draft before either House or both Houses and those made under the European Communities Acts 1972 to 2009, and to recommend, where it considers that such action is warranted, whether the instrument should be annulled or amended;

(7) for the purposes of paragraph (6), power to require any Government Department or instrument-making authority concerned to submit a Memorandum to the Select Committee explaining any statutory instrument under consideration or to attend a meeting of the Select Committee for the purpose of explaining any such statutory instrument: Provided that such Department or authority may decline to attend for stated reasons given in writing to the Select Committee, which may report thereon to the Seanad;

(8) power to require that a member of the Government or Minister of State shall attend before the Select Committee to discuss policy for which he or she is officially responsible: Provided that a member of the Government or Minister of State may decline to attend for stated reasons given in writing to the Select Committee, which may report thereon to the Seanad: and provided further that a member of the Government or Minister of State may request to attend a meeting of the Select Committee to enable him or her to discuss such policy;

(9) power to require that a member of the Government or Minister of State shall attend before the Select Committee to discuss proposed primary or secondary legislation (prior to such legislation being published) for which he or she is officially responsible: Provided that a member of the Government or Minister of State may decline to attend for stated reasons given in writing to the Select Committee, which may report thereon to the Seanad: and provided further that a member of the Government or

fairis sin go bhféadfaidh comhalta den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit a iarraidh a bheith i láthair ag cruinniú den Roghchoiste, lena chumasú dó nó di an reachtaíocht bheartaithe sin a phlé;

(10) an chumhacht ceangal a chur ar chomhalta den Rialtas nó ar Aire Stáit a bheith i láthair os comhair an Roghchoiste agus mionteagaisc ó bhéal a thabhairt, i seisiún príobháideach más rud é go n-iarrfaidh an comhalta den Rialtas nó an tAire Stáit amhlaidh, roimh chruinnithe den Chomhairle Airí iomchuí de chuid AE chun a chumasú don Roghchoiste a thuairimí a chur in iúl: Ar choinníoll go bhféadfaidh an Coiste ceangal a chur ar chomhalta den Rialtas nó ar Aire Stáit a bheith i láthair amhlaidh tar éis na gcruinnithe sin freisin;

(11) an chumhacht ceangal a chur ar Chathaoirleach ainmnithe comhlachta nó gníomhaireachta atá faoi choimirce Roinne a bheith i láthair os comhair an Roghchoiste, sula gceapfar é nó í, chun na tosaíochtaí straitéiseacha atá aige nó aici maidir leis an ról a phlé;

(12) an chumhacht ceangal a chur ar chomhalta den Rialtas nó ar Aire Stáit atá freagrach go hoifigiúil in Acht a chur i ngníomh freastal os comhair Roghchoiste i ndáil le tuarascáil faoi Bhuan-Ordú 168 a bhreithniú;

(13) faoi réir aon srianta a bheidh forordaithe thairis sin le dlí, an chumhacht ceangal a chur ar shealbhóirí príomhoifigí i gcomhlachtaí sa Stát atá á maoiniú go páirteach nó go hiomlán ag an Stát nó atá bunaithe nó ceaptha ag comhaltaí den Rialtas nó ag an Oireachtas a bheith i láthair ag cruinnithe den Roghchoiste, de réir mar is cuí, chun saincheisteanna a phlé a bhfuil siad freagrach iontu go hoifigiúil: Ar choinníoll go bhféadfaidh sealbhóir oifige den sórt sin diúltú a bheith i láthair ar chúiseanna a shonrófar agus a thabharfar i scríbhinn don Roghchoiste, agus féadfaidh an Roghchoiste tuairisciú don Seanad ina leith sin;

(14) an chumhacht, faoi réir thoiliú Choimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais, seirbhísí daoine a bhfuil saineolas nó eolas teicniúil acu a fhostú, d'fhonn cabhrú leis nó le haon Fhochoiste dá chuid le linn nithe áirithe a bhreithniú; agus

(15) an chumhacht tabhairt faoi thaisteal—

(*a*) faoi réir cibé moltaí a dhéanfaidh an Gasra Oibre de Chathaoirligh Coistí faoi Bhuan-Ordú 107(4)(*a*); agus

(*b*) faoi réir thoiliú Choimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais, agus gnáthnósanna imeachta cuntasaíochta.

Ordachán inordaitheachta (gnáthghnó Coiste).

73. (1) Beidh feidhm ag forálacha an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo maidir le Coiste atá ag seoladh gnáthghnó Coiste (i.e. aon ghnó, seachas fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2), agus atá ag tabhairt ordacháin nó a thug ordachán (dá ngairtear "ordachán inordaitheachta" sa Bhuan-Ordú seo) arna mhíniú in alt 76 den Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013.

(2) Tabharfaidh an Coiste atá ag tabhairt ordachán inordaitheachta na nithe seo a leanas don duine dá dtugtar an t-ordachán sin:

(*a*) fógra réasúnach faoin dáta a cheanglaítear air nó uirthi a bheith i láthair; agus/nó,

Minister of State may request to attend a meeting of the Select Committee to enable him or her to discuss such proposed legislation;

(10) power to require that a member of the Government or Minister of State shall attend before the Select Committee and provide, in private session if so requested by the member of the Government or Minister of State, oral briefings in advance of meetings of the relevant EU Council of Ministers to enable the Select Committee to make known its views: Provided that the Committee may also require such attendance following such meetings;

(11) power to require that the Chairperson designate of a body or agency under the aegis of a Department shall, prior to his or her appointment, attend before the Select Committee to discuss his or her strategic priorities for the role;

(12) power to require that a member of the Government or Minister of State who is officially responsible for the implementation of an Act shall attend before a Select Committee in relation to the consideration of a report under Standing Order 168;

(13) subject to any constraints otherwise prescribed by law, power to require that principal office-holders in bodies in the State which are partly or wholly funded by the State or which are established or appointed by members of the Government or by the Oireachtas shall attend meetings of the Select Committee, as appropriate, to discuss issues for which they are officially responsible: Provided that such an office-holder may decline to attend for stated reasons given in writing to the Select Committee, which may report thereon to the Seanad;

(14) power to engage, subject to the consent of the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission, the services of persons with specialist or technical knowledge, to assist it or any of its sub-Committees in considering particular matters; and

(15) power to undertake travel, subject to—

(*a*) such recommendations as may be made by the Working Group of Committee Chairmen under Standing Order 107(4)(*a*); and

(*b*) the consent of the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission and normal accounting procedures.

Compellability direction (ordinary Committee business).

73. (1) The provisions of this Standing Order shall apply to a Committee conducting ordinary Committee business (i.e. any business, other than a Part 2 inquiry) which is giving or has given a direction (referred to in this Standing Order as a "compellability direction") as defined in section 76 of the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013.

(2) The Committee giving a compellability direction will provide the person who is given that direction with:

(*a*) reasonable notice of his or her required attendance date; and/or,

(*b*) tréimhse réasúnach chun fianaise nó doiciméad a sholáthar, nó chun an t-ordachán a chomhlíonadh ar shlí eile.

(3) Déanfaidh an Coiste atá ag tabhairt ordachán inordaitheachta a chur in iúl don duine dá dtugtar an t-ordachán sin na mór-réimsí gnó atá nó a bheidh an Coiste a sheoladh agus lena mbaineann an t-ordachán, agus beidh an t-ordachán iomchuí i gcónaí maidir le himeachtaí an Choiste.

(4) Aon duine a fhreastalaíonn os comhair Coiste de bhun ordachán inordaitheachta, féadfaidh duine amháin eile, ar duine é nó í a fhéadfaidh a bheith ina chleachtóir dlí nó ina cleachtóir dlí, a bheith ina theannta nó ina teannta, tar éis don duine sin fógra réasúnach a thabhairt don Choiste.

(5) Aon Choiste atá ag tabhairt ordachán inordaitheachta nó a thug ordachán inordaitheachta, agus tar éis do dhuine ordachán a chomhlíonadh, gníomhóidh an Coiste sin agus aird chuí aige ar na nithe seo a leanas:

(*a*) nósanna imeachta cothroma;

(*b*) cearta an duine dá dtugtar an t-ordachán; agus

(*c*) cearta aon duine eile dá ndéanann an t-ordachán difear.

Comhchruinnithe Roghchoistí.

74. Beidh de chumhacht ag gach Roghchoiste a iarraidh ar Roghchoiste eile go dtionólfar comhchruinniú den dá Choiste chun ní sonrach nó nithe sonracha comhghníomhaíochta a bhreithniú agus i gcás aon chomhchruinnithe den sórt sin:—

(*a*) gníomhóidh Cathaoirleach an Choiste iarrthaigh mar Chathaoirleach agus, mura féidir don Chathaoirleach a bheith i láthair, beidh feidhm ag forálacha Bhuan-Ordú 81 (2) agus (3);

(*b*) beidh feidhm ag forálacha an dá Choiste i dtaobh córaim fairis an modhnú go laghdófar gach córam den sórt sin de leath agus ansin go gcothromófar é suas go dtí an chéad slánuimhir eile is gaire; agus

(*c*) ní bheidh feidhm ag orduithe tagartha an dá Choiste ach amháin a mhéid is orduithe iad a bhaineann leis an dá Choiste.

Teachtaireachtaí ó Roghchoistí i ndáil le Billí.

75. I gcás go mbeidh Roghchoiste tar éis a bhreithniú a chríochnú ar Bhille a bhí curtha faoina bhráid ag an Seanad, cuirfidh an Coiste Teachtaireacht á rá sin chuig an Seanad. Is i scríbhinn agus arna síniú ag Cléireach an Choiste a bheidh Teachtaireachtaí den sórt sin agus díreofar chuig Cléireach an tSeanaid iad. Is é Cléireach an tSeanaid a ghlacfaidh Teachtaireachtaí ó Roghchoistí. Cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach aon Teachtaireacht den sórt sin in iúl don Seanad a luaithe is caoithiúil [*Féach freisin B.O. 77(2) agus 155*].

Tuarascálacha ó Roghchoistí.

76. Féadfaidh Roghchoiste, dár tugadh cumhacht chun fios a chur ar dhaoine, ar pháipéir, agus ar thaifid [*B.O. 72(3)*], a thuairimí agus a thagairtí, mar aon le miontuairiscí na fianaise (más ann) a glacadh

(*b*) a reasonable period for providing evidence or a document, or otherwise complying with the direction.

(3) The Committee giving a compellability direction will inform the person who is given that direction of the broad areas of business that the Committee is or will be conducting to which the direction relates, and the direction shall at all times be relevant to the proceedings of the Committee.

(4) Any person attending before a Committee pursuant to a compellability direction may, having given reasonable notice to the Committee, be accompanied by one other person who may be a legal practitioner.

(5) A Committee which is giving or has given a compellability direction, and following the compliance by a person with a direction, will act with due regard to:

(*a*) fair procedures;

(*b*) the rights of the person given the direction; and

(*c*) the rights of any other person affected by the direction.

Joint Meetings of Select Committees.

74. Each Select Committee shall have power to request of another Select Committee that a joint meeting of both Committees be held to consider a specific matter or matters of common activity and, in the case of any such joint meeting:—

(*a*) the Chairman of the requesting Committee shall act as Chairman and, in the unavoidable absence of the Chairman, the provisions of Standing Order 81(2) and (3) shall apply;

(*b*) the quorum provisions of both Committees shall apply with the modification that each such quorum shall be halved and then rounded up to the next nearest whole number; and

(*c*) the orders of reference of the two Committees shall apply only insofar as they are common to both.

Messages from Select Committee in relation to Bills.

75. Where a Select Committee shall have completed its consideration of a Bill referred to it by the Seanad, the Committee shall send a Message to this effect to the Seanad. Such Messages shall be in writing, signed by the Clerk to the Committee, and shall be addressed to the Clerk of the Seanad. Messages from Select Committees shall be received by the Clerk of the Seanad. The Cathaoirleach shall, at the first convenient opportunity, communicate any such Message to the Seanad [*See also S.O.s 77(2) and 155*].

Reports from Select Committees.

76. A Select Committee, empowered to send for persons, papers, and records [*S.O. 72(3)*], may report its opinions and observations, together with the minutes of evidence (if any) taken before it, to the

os a chomhair, a thuairisciú don Seanad, agus fós tuarascáil speisialta a thabhairt ar nithe ar bith is cuí leis a chur faoi bhráid an tSeanaid.

Tuarascálacha Roghchoistí a Chlóbhualadh agus a Fhoilsiú, Cláir Oibre agus Tuarascálacha Bliantúla Roghchoistí.

77. (1) Faoi réir mhír (2), déanfar gach tuarascáil a bheartóidh Roghchoiste a thabhairt, arna glacadh ag an Roghchoiste, a leagan faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann láithreach, mar aon le haon doiciméad a bhaineann leis an gcéanna a bheartaíonn an Roghchoiste a fhoilsiú, agus as a aithle sin beidh cumhacht ag an Roghchoiste an tuarascáil sin agus an doiciméad nó na doiciméid sin, de réir mar a bheidh, a chlóbhualadh agus a fhoilsiú: Ar choinníoll go bhféadfaidh Roghchoiste cumhachtaí faoin mír seo a tharmligean go sainráite chun aon cheann dá Fhochoistí, i ndáil le tuarascálacha i gcoitinne nó i ndáil le tuarascáil ar leithligh.

(2) D'ainneoin ghinearáltacht mhír (1), measfar gurb ionann Cléireach an tSeanaid d'fháil Teachtaireachta, de réir Bhuan-Ordú 75, agus an Roghchoiste do thabhairt tuarascála ar an mBille [*Féach freisin B.O. 155*].

(3) Faoi réir Bhuan-Ordú 98, déanfaidh gach Roghchoiste a nósanna imeachta, agus a ról i gcoitinne, a athbhreithniú go leanúnach, agus tabharfaidh sé tuarascáil faoi na nithe sin don Choiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí uair amháin ar a laghad gach bliain.

(4) A luaithe is féidir i ndiaidh a cheaptha agus uair in aghaidh na bliana ina dhiaidh sin, ullmhóidh gach Roghchoiste clár oibre agus leagfaidh sé an clár sin faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann.

(5) Leagfaidh gach Roghchoiste, ó am go ham de réir mar is cuí leis an Roghchoiste, miontuairiscí ar a chuid imeachtaí faoi bhráid Sheanad Éireann.

(6) I gcás: —

(*a*) go mbeidh dáta ceaptha ag Seanad Éireann don Roghchoiste chun tuairisciú don Seanad agus gur mó ná bliain amháin an seal idir an dáta sin a cheapadh agus an dáta chun tuairisciú, nó

(*b*) nach mbeidh aon dáta ceaptha ag Seanad Éireann chun tuairisciú,

déanfaidh an Roghchoiste sin, ar chothrom dháta a cheaptha gach bliain tar éis bhliain an cheaptha sin, tuarascáil bhliantúil a thabhairt do Sheanad Éireann ina mbeidh mionsonraí: —

(i) faoin obair a bheidh curtha i gcrích ag an Roghchoiste; agus

(ii) faoin obair a bheidh ar siúl ag an Roghchoiste;

agus féadfaidh, má mheasann an Roghchoiste gur cuí é, an tuarascáil i dtaobh a nósanna imeachta, agus i dtaobh a róil (agus sa chás sin cuirfear cóip den tuarascáil bhliantúil ar aghaidh chuig an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí), an clár oibre agus miontuairiscí ar imeachtaí dá dtagraítear i míreanna (3), (4) agus (5) faoi seach den Bhuan-Ordú seo a bheith ar áireamh sa tuarascáil bhliantúil.

Seanad, and may also make a special report of any matters which it may think fit to bring to the notice of the Seanad.

Printing and Publication of Select Committee Reports, Work Programmes and Annual Reports of Select Committees.

77. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), every report which a Select Committee proposes to make shall, on adoption by the Select Committee, be laid before Seanad Éireann forthwith, together with any document relating thereto which the Select Committee proposes to publish, whereupon the Select Committee shall be empowered to print and publish such report and the said document or documents, as the case may be: Provided that a Select Committee may expressly delegate powers under this paragraph to any of its sub-Committees, in respect of reports generally or in respect of an individual report.

(2) Notwithstanding the generality of paragraph (1), the receipt by the Clerk of the Seanad of a Message, in accordance with Standing Order 75, shall be deemed to be the report of the Select Committee on the Bill [*See also S.O. 155*].

(3) Subject to Standing Order 98, each Select Committee shall review its procedures and its role generally, on an ongoing basis, and shall report at least once in each year to the Committee on Procedure and Privileges on these matters.

(4) As soon as may be following its appointment and thereafter at annual intervals, each Select Committee shall prepare a work programme and shall lay such programme before Seanad Éireann.

(5) Each Select Committee shall, from time to time as the Select Committee sees fit, lay minutes of its proceedings before Seanad Éireann.

(6) Where:—

(*a*) Seanad Éireann has appointed a date upon which a Select Committee shall report back to the Seanad and the interval between the appointment of such date and the date for reporting back exceeds one year, or

(*b*) no date for reporting back has been appointed by Seanad Éireann,

such Select Committee shall, on the anniversary of its appointment in each year following the year of such appointment, make an annual report to Seanad Éireann which shall detail: —

(i) the work carried out by the Select Committee; and

(ii) the work in progress by the Select Committee;

and may include, if the Select Committee deems appropriate, the report on its procedures and its role (in which case, a copy of the annual report shall be forwarded to the Committee on Procedure and Privileges), the work programme and minutes of proceedings referred to in paragraphs (3), (4) and (5) respectively of this Standing Order.

Díospóireacht ar Thuarascálacha ó Choistí.

78. Más rud é go ndéanfaidh Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste, Coiste Speisialta nó Comhchoiste, de réir mar a bheidh, tuarascáil a thabhairt ina bhfuil iarraidh go ndéanfaidh an Seanad díospóireacht ar an tuarascáil, déanfar tairiscint go ndéanfaidh an Seanad an tuarascáil a thabhairt dá aire a chur ar Riar na hOibre a luaithe is indéanta tar éis don Choiste an tuarascáil a ghlacadh: Ar choinníoll go measfar aon tairiscint den sórt sin nach ndéanfar laistigh de thrí mhí ón dáta ar cuireadh ar Riar na hOibre i dtosach í a bheith tite ar lár.

Freagracht Cathaoirleach maidir le comhlíonadh rialacha.

79. Beidh freagracht ar Chathaoirleach gach Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta a áirithiú go gcomhlíonfaidh a Choiste nó a Coiste cibé rialacha lena rialaítear caiteachas beartaithe agus a chinnfidh Coimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais ó am go ham.

Coiste Speisialta ar Bhille.

80. Déanfar leis an Ordú ón Seanad ag cur Coiste Speisialta ar bun chun Bille a bhreithniú dáta a cheapadh don chéad chruinniú den Choiste, an líon Seanadóirí a shocrú a bheidh le fónamh air agus an líon is córam dó, agus féadfar, leis an ordú, dáta a shocrú don Choiste chun tuairisciú don Seanad.

Cathaoirleach, Leas-Chathaoirleach agus Cathaoirligh shealadacha.

81. (1) Roimh thosú ar a ghnó dó, toghfaidh gach Coiste duine dá chomhaltaí chun bheith ina Chathaoirleach nó ina Cathaoirleach, agus ní bheidh aige nó aici sin ach aon vóta amháin. I gcás Comhchoistí, féadfaidh comhalta de cheachtar Teach a bheith ina Chathaoirleach nó ina Cathaoirleach.

(2) A luaithe is féidir tar éis Cathaoirleach a thoghadh, féadfaidh gach Coiste duine dá chomhaltaí a thoghadh mar Leas-Chathaoirleach. Mura féidir don Chathaoirleach a bheith i láthair, déanfaidh an Leas-Chathaoirleach na dualgais a chomhlíonadh a chuirtear ar an gCathaoirleach leis na Buan-Orduithe, agus an t-údarás a fheidhmiú a thugtar dó nó di leis na Buan-Orduithe.

(3) I gcás nach féidir do Chathaoirleach Coiste (ná don Leas-Chathaoirleach má bhíonn sé nó sí ceaptha) a bheith i láthair, cromfaidh an Coiste láithreach ar dhuine dá chomhaltaí a bheidh i láthair a thoghadh chun na dualgais a chomhlíonadh a chuirtear ar an gCathaoirleach leis na Buan-Orduithe, agus an t-údarás a fheidhmiú a thugtar dó nó di leis na Buan-Orduithe, fad a bheidh an Cathaoirleach nó an Leas-Chathaoirleach as láthair amhlaidh.

(4) I gcás go scoirfidh Cathaoirleach Coiste atá ag seoladh fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 de bheith ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta den Choiste sin, déanfaidh an Seanad, le Rún, Cathaoirleach a cheapadh as measc an chuid eile de chomhaltaí an Choiste.[1]

Ionadú i Roghchoistí nó i gCoistí Speisialta agus Freastal orthu.

82.(1) (*a*) I gcás comhalta a bheidh ainmnithe chun fónamh ar Roghchoiste nó ar Choiste Speisialta a bheith as láthair, féadfaidh ionadaí páirt a ghlacadh sna himeachtaí agus beidh sé nó sí i dteideal vótáil in ionad an chomhalta a bheidh as láthair.

[1] Féach Cuid 3 den Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013 i ndáil le fiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2 agus nósanna imeachta córa.

Debating of Reports from Committees.

78. Where a Standing, Select, Special or Joint Committee, as the case may be, makes a report containing a request that the report be debated by the Seanad, a motion to take note of the report shall, as soon as practicable after the adoption of the report by the Committee, be placed on the Order Paper: Provided that any such motion which is not moved within three months from the date on which it was first placed on the Order Paper shall be deemed to have lapsed.

Responsibility of Chairman for compliance with rules.

79. The Chairman of every Standing, Select or Special Committee shall have responsibility for ensuring compliance by his or her Committee with such rules governing proposed expenditure as may be determined from time to time by the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission.

Special Committee on Bill.

80. The Order of the Seanad setting up a Special Committee to consider a Bill shall fix the date for the first meeting of the Committee, the number of Senators to serve on it and the quorum thereof and may fix a date upon which the Committee shall report back to the Seanad.

Chairman, vice-Chairman and temporary Chairmen.

81. (1) Every Committee shall, previous to the commencement of its business, elect one of its members to be Chairman, who shall have only one vote. In the case of Joint Committees, the Chairman may be a member of either House.

(2) As soon as may be following the election of Chairman, every Committee may elect one of its members to be vice-Chairman. In the unavoidable absence of the Chairman, the vice-Chairman shall perform the duties devolved upon, and exercise the authority conferred upon the Chairman by Standing Orders.

(3) Where the Chairman of a Committee (and the vice-Chairman, if appointed) is unavoidably absent, the Committee shall at once proceed to elect one of its members present to perform the duties devolved upon, and exercise the authority conferred upon, the Chairman by Standing Orders for the duration of such absence.

(4) Where the Chairman of a Committee which is conducting a Part 2 inquiry ceases to be a member of that Committee, the Seanad shall, by Resolution, appoint a Chairman from amongst the remaining Committee members.[1]

Substitution in, and attendance at Select or Special Committees.

82. (1) (*a*) In the absence of a member nominated to serve on a Select or Special Committee, a substitute may take part in the proceedings and shall be entitled to vote in the absent member's stead.

[1] See Part 3 of the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013 in relation to Part 2 inquiries and fair procedures.

(*b*) Chun críocha an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, maidir le comhalta a bheartóidh gníomhú mar ionadaí ar chomhalta a bheidh as láthair (nó ar ionadaí nach mbeidh i láthair), ní aithneofar é nó í sa cháil sin ach amháin i gcás go gcuirfidh sé nó sí in iúl do Chléireach an Choiste, roimh an gcruinniú nó le linn an chruinnithe, go bhfuil sé beartaithe aige nó aici ionadú a dhéanamh, faoi réir fhorálacha fhomhír (*c*):

Ach i gcás go mbeartóidh an t-ionadaí tairiscintí a dhéanamh ina ainm nó ina hainm féin, ní foláir dó nó di an t-ionadú a chur in iúl i scríbhinn do Chléireach an Choiste roimh dhul in éag don sprioc-am iomchuí chun tairiscintí a chur isteach.

(*c*) Ní bheidh ionadú mar a fhoráiltear i bhfomhír (*b*) bailí ach amháin—

(i) más comhalta de ghrúpa ag a bhfuil ionadaíocht sa Rialtas an comhalta nó an t-ionadaí a bheidh as láthair, i gcás go bhfuil an comhalta a bheidh ag tabhairt fógra ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta d'aon ghrúpa den sórt sin; agus

(ii) mura comhalta de ghrúpa ag a bhfuil ionadaíocht sa Rialtas an comhalta nó an t-ionadaí a bheidh as láthair, i gcás go bhfuil an comhalta a bheidh ag tabhairt fógra sa ghrúpa céanna (mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 145(4)) leis an gcomhalta nó leis an ionadaí a bheidh as láthair.

(*d*) Féadfaidh comhalta de Choiste, lena n-áirítear ionadaí—

(i) i gcás go bhfuil sé nó sí ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta de ghrúpa ag a bhfuil ionadaíocht sa Rialtas, tairiscintí a dhéanamh agus leasuithe a thairiscint in ainm aon chomhalta den Choiste ar comhalta é nó í d'aon ghrúpa den sórt sin;

(ii) i gcás nach bhfuil sé nó sí ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta de ghrúpa ag a bhfuil ionadaíocht sa Rialtas, tairiscintí a dhéanamh agus leasuithe a thairiscint in ainm aon chomhalta den Choiste atá sa ghrúpa céanna (mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 145(4)).

(2) Féadfaidh comhaltaí de Sheanad Éireann, nach comhaltaí de Roghchoiste, a bheith i láthair agus páirt a ghlacadh in imeachtaí aon Roghchoiste nó Fochoiste gan ceart vótála a bheith acu ná an ceart tairiscintí a dhéanamh, ach amháin de réir mhír (1).

Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta a chur ar athló.

83. Le linn dó Bille a bhreithniú, féadfaidh Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta dul ar athló tráth ar bith: Ar choinníoll go ritear an tairiscint is gá chuige sin. Ní ghlacfar aon tairiscint den sórt sin más dóigh le Cathaoirleach an Choiste í a bheith á déanamh chun moill nó toirmeasc a chur ar an ngnó [*B.O. 69*].

Vótálacha a dhéanamh i mBuan-Choiste, i Roghchoiste nó i gCoiste Speisialta.

84. (1) Déanfar vótáil i mBuan-Choistí, i Roghchoistí nó i gCoistí Speisialta tríd an gCléireach a bheidh ag freastal ar an gCoiste do ghlaoch ainmneacha na gcomhaltaí agus, más ionann líon na vótaí ar an dá thaobh, cinnfear gur freagra diúltach a tugadh ar an gceist.

(2) Má éilítear vótáil i Roghchoiste nó i gCoiste Speisialta, cuirfear an glas ar na doirse agus déanfar an vótáil i ndiaidh seal ocht nóiméad nó a luaithe a bheidh comhaltaí uile an Choiste (nó na hionadaithe

(*b*) For the purposes of this Standing Order, a member proposing to act as a substitute for an absent member (or for a substitute not in attendance), shall only be recognised as such where he or she informs the Committee Clerk, either prior to, or during the course of the meeting, of his or her intention to substitute, subject to the provisions of subparagraph (*c*):

Provided that where the substitute intends to move motions in his or her own name, he or she must inform the Committee Clerk, in writing, of the substitution before the expiry of the relevant deadline for submission.

(*c*) A substitution as provided for in subparagraph (*b*) shall only be valid—

(i) if the absent member or substitute is a member of a group represented in Government, where the member giving notice is a member of any such group; and

(ii) if the absent member or substitute is not a member of a group represented in Government, where the member giving notice is in the same group (as defined in Standing Order 145(4)) as the absent member or substitute.

(*d*) A member of a Committee, including a substitute, may—

(i) where he or she is a member of a group represented in Government, move motions and amendments in the name of any member of the Committee who is a member of any such group;

(ii) where he or she is not a member of a group represented in Government, move motions and amendments in the name of any member of the Committee who is in the same group (as defined in Standing Order 145(4)).

(2) Members of Seanad Éireann, not being members of a Select Committee, may attend and take part in proceedings of any Select Committee or sub-Committee without having a right to vote or to move motions, save in accordance with paragraph (1).

Adjournment of Standing, Select or Special Committee.

83. In considering a Bill, a Standing, Select or Special Committee may at any time adjourn: Provided that the necessary motion to this effect has been carried. Any such motion if deemed by the Chairman to be dilatory or obstructive shall not be accepted [*S.O. 69*].

Taking of divisions in Standing, Select or Special Committee.

84. (1) Divisions in Standing, Select or Special Committees shall be taken by the Clerk attending the Committee calling the names of the members and, in the event of there being an equality of votes, the question shall be decided in the negative.

(2) When a division is demanded in a Select or Special Committee, the doors shall be locked and the division taken after the lapse of eight minutes or as soon as all members of the Committee (or duly

uile a bheidh ainmnithe go cuí, de réir mar a bheidh) i láthair, cibé acu is luaithe: Ar choinníoll, i gcás go mbeifear tar éis vótáil a éileamh i Roghchoiste nó i gCoiste Speisialta agus go n-éileofar vótáil dá éis sin sa Seanad sula mbeidh cromtha ag an gCléireach a bheidh ag freastal ar an gCoiste ar an vótáil a dhéanamh trí ainmneacha chomhaltaí an Choiste a ghlaoch, go ndéanfar an vótáil sin i Roghchoiste nó i gCoiste Speisialta a chur siar go dtí tar éis chríochnú na vótála sa Seanad agus críochnú aon vótálacha eile sa Seanad a éileofar láithreach dá éis sin, mura rud é go gcinnfidh an Coiste a mhalairt i dtosach an chruinnithe.

Córam Roghchoistí.

85. (1) Mura bhforáiltear a mhalairt leis na Buan-Orduithe seo nó le hOrdú ón Seanad, beirt is córam do Roghchoiste nó d'Fhochoiste de Roghchoiste.

(2) Ní dhéanfar comhalta de Sheanad Éireann a bheidh i láthair de bhun Bhuan-Ordú 82(2) a áireamh chun córam a chinneadh.

(3) Is é is córam do Chomhchoiste córam cónasctha an dá Roghchoiste atá ar áireamh ann, lúide duine amháin: Ar choinníoll, chun córam a chinneadh, gur comhalta de Sheanad Éireann duine amháin ar a laghad de na comhaltaí a bheidh i láthair agus gur comhalta de Dháil Éireann duine amháin díobh ar a laghad.

Asláithreacht le linn d'fhinné fianaise a thabhairt.

86. (1) Faoi réir Bhuan-Ordú 87, i gcás aon chomhalta de Choiste atá ag seoladh fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 (i gcás go bhfuil an chumhacht ag an bhfiosrúchán cinntí fíorais a dhéanamh) a bheith as láthair le linn d'fhinné aon fhianaise a thabhairt ag cruinniú den Choiste, déanfaidh comhalta a bheidh ainmnithe ag an gCoiste tairiscint a chur síos le haghaidh Rún ó Sheanad Éireann chun an comhalta a chur den Choiste de réir alt 20(4) den Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013 agus ní bheidh feidhm ag Buan-Ordú 97.

(2) Chun críocha an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo agus Bhuan-Ordú 87, is finné é nó í aon duine a thugann fianaise ó bhéal don Choiste seachas fostaithe de chuid Choimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais agus aon duine ag a bhfuil eolas nó saineolas teicniúil arna fhruiliú nó arna fruiliú ag Coimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais.

Asláithreacht le linn d'fhinné fianaise a thabhairt mar gheall ar imthosca eisceachtúla.

87. Más rud é go bhfuil, nó go mbeidh, comhalta de Choiste atá ag seoladh fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 (i gcás go bhfuil an chumhacht ag an bhfiosrúchán cinntí fíorais a dhéanamh) as láthair le linn d'fhinné aon fhianaise a thabhairt ag cruinniú den Choiste, agus go gcomhaontaíonn an Coiste gur imthosca eisceachtúla is cúis leis an asláithreacht:

(1) féadfaidh sé a chinneadh gan dul ar aghaidh le fianaise an fhinné nó tosach fhianaise an fhinné a chur siar; nó

(2) i gcás go bhfuil an Coiste den tuairim gur gá dul ar aghaidh le fianaise an fhinné, féadfaidh sé, tar éis comhairle dlí a bhreithniú, dul ar aghaidh leis an gcruinniú más rud é:

(*a*) go dtoilíonn an finné go ndéanfar a fhianaise nó a fianaise a éisteacht gan an comhalta a bheith i láthair, agus

nominated substitutes, as the case may be) are present, whichever is the earlier: Provided that, where a division has been demanded in Select or Special Committee and a division is subsequently demanded in the Seanad before the Clerk attending the Committee has commenced taking the division by calling the names of the members of the Committee, such division in Select or Special Committee shall be postponed until after the conclusion of the division in the Seanad and the conclusion of any other divisions in the Seanad demanded immediately thereafter, unless the Committee shall decide otherwise at the commencement of the meeting.

Quorum of Select Committees.

85. (1) Unless otherwise provided by these Standing Orders or by Order of the Seanad, the quorum of a Select Committee or of a sub-Committee thereof shall be two.

(2) A member of Seanad Éireann attending pursuant to Standing Order 82(2) shall not be counted for the purposes of determining a quorum.

(3) The quorum of a Joint Committee shall be the combined quorum of the two Select Committees of which it is comprised, minus one: Provided that for the purposes of determining a quorum, at least one of the members present shall be a member of Seanad Éireann and one a member of Dáil Éireann.

Absence for witness evidence.

86. (1) Subject to Standing Order 87, in the event of any member of a Committee which is conducting a Part 2 inquiry (where the inquiry has the power to make findings of fact) being absent for any witness evidence at a meeting of the Committee, a member nominated by the Committee shall table a motion for a Resolution of Seanad Éireann to remove the member from the Committee in accordance with section 20(4) of the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013 and Standing Order 97 shall not apply.

(2) For the purpose of this Standing Order and Standing Order 87, a witness is any person giving oral evidence to the Committee save for employees of, and any person with technical knowledge or expertise engaged by, the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission.

Absence for witness evidence due to exceptional circumstances.

87. Where a member of a Committee which is conducting a Part 2 inquiry (where the inquiry has the power to make findings of fact) is or will be absent for any witness evidence at a meeting of the Committee, and the Committee agrees that the absence is due to exceptional circumstances:

(1) it may decide not to proceed with the witness evidence or to postpone the commencement of the witness evidence; or

(2) where the Committee is of the view that it is necessary to proceed with the witness evidence, it may, following the consideration of legal advice, proceed with the meeting where:

(*a*) the witness consents to having their evidence heard without the member, and

(*b*) go gcomhaontaíonn an finné le haon bhearta eile is gá agus/nó is cuí de réir na comhairle dlí a bheidh tugtha don Choiste,

agus ní dhéanfaidh an comhalta a bheidh ainmnithe ag an gCoiste tairiscint a chur síos (faoi Bhuan-Ordú 86) le haghaidh Rún chun an comhalta a chur den Choiste.

Easpa córaim i mBuan-Choiste, i Roghchoiste nó i gCoiste Speisialta.

88. (1) Más rud é, laistigh de sheal ceathrú uaire an chloig tar éis an ama a bheidh ceaptha le haghaidh an chruinnithe de Bhuan-Choiste, de Roghchoiste nó de Choiste Speisialta, nach mbeidh córam i láthair, beidh an Coiste ar athló agus déanfaidh an Cléireach a bheidh ag freastal ar an gCoiste, tar éis ainmneacha na gcomhaltaí a d'fhreastail a chur síos i miontuairiscí imeachtaí an Choiste nó na hainmneacha a thaifeadadh ar cibé slí a ordóidh Cléireach an Choiste lena mbaineann, cruinniú a chomóradh le haghaidh lae dá éis sin nó le haghaidh trátha ina dhiaidh sin an lá céanna.

(2) Más rud é, aon tráth le linn cruinnithe de Bhuan-Choiste, de Roghchoiste nó de Choiste Speisialta, go gcuirfidh aon chomhalta in iúl don Chathaoirleach nach bhfuil córam i láthair, nó más léir sin ó thuairisc vótála, agus más rud é i gceann seal nach lú ná ocht nóiméad go mbeifear fós gan chóram, cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach an cruinniú ar fionraí go dtí uair is déanaí ná sin agus a luafaidh sé, nó cuirfidh sé nó sí an cruinniú ar athló go dtí lá ina dhiaidh sin gan ceist a chur; agus ní mheasfar aon chinneadh a bheith déanta leis an vótáil sin; agus déanfar an uair a cuireadh an cruinniú ar athló amhlaidh, mar aon le hainmneacha na gcomhaltaí a bhí i láthair, a chur síos i miontuairiscí imeachtaí an Choiste nó a thaifeadadh ar cibé slí a ordóidh Cléireach an Choiste lena mbaineann.

Mí-ord i gCoistí.

89. (1) Ordóidh Cathaoirleach Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta—

(*a*) do chomhalta den Choiste,

(*b*) do chomhalta de Sheanad Éireann a bheidh i láthair de bhun Bhuan-Ordú 82, nó

(*c*) do dhuine a n-údaraítear dó nó di ar shlí eile a bheith i láthair leis na Buan-Orduithe seo nó le téarmaí tagartha an Choiste,

a bheidh á iompar nó á hiompar féin go han-mhí-ordúil imeacht láithreach ón gcruinniú den Choiste agus fanacht as ar feadh an chuid eile den chruinniú sin. An comhalta nó an duine eile a n-ordófar dó nó di imeacht de bhun an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, imeoidh sé nó sí láithreach ón gcruinniú.

(2) Más rud é gur dóigh le Cathaoirleach Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta, ar aon ócáid, nach leor na cumhachtaí a thugtar faoi mhír (1) den Bhuan-Ordú seo chun déileáil leis an gcion, féadfaidh sé nó sí a mholadh go dtabharfaidh an Coiste tuarascáil don Seanad i ndáil leis an ní.

Cruinniú Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta a chur ar athló nó ar fionraí i gcás mí-oird mhóir.

90. I gcás mí-oird mhóir, féadfaidh Cathaoirleach Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta an cruinniú a chur ar athló gan ceist a chur, nó féadfaidh sé nó sí an cruinniú a chur ar fionraí go ceann tréimhse a luafaidh sé nó sí.

(*b*) the witness agrees to any other measures that, according to the legal advice given to the Committee, is necessary and/or appropriate,

and the member nominated by the Committee will not table a motion (under Standing Order 86) for a Resolution to remove the member from the Committee.

Absence of quorum in Standing, Select or Special Committee.

88. (1) If, within the lapse of a quarter of an hour after the time appointed for the meeting of a Standing, Select or Special Committee, a quorum is not present, the Committee shall stand adjourned and the Clerk attending the Committee, after entering the names of the members who attended in the minutes of proceedings of the Committee or recording the names in such manner as the Clerk of the Committee concerned may direct, shall convene a meeting for a subsequent day or for a later time on the same day.

(2) If at any stage during a meeting of a Standing, Select or Special Committee, any member calls the attention of the Chairman to the fact that a quorum is not present, or if on the report of a division, such fact shall appear, and if after a lapse of time of not less than eight minutes, a quorum is still not present, the Chairman shall suspend the meeting to a later hour to be named by him or her, or shall adjourn the meeting without question put to a subsequent day; and no decision shall be considered to have been arrived at by such division; and the hour of such adjournment, as also the names of the members present, shall be entered in the minutes of proceedings of the Committee or recorded in such manner as the Clerk to the Committee concerned may direct.

Disorder in Committee.

89. (1) The Chairman of a Standing, Select or Special Committee shall order—

(*a*) a member of the Committee,

(*b*) a member of Seanad Éireann attending pursuant to Standing Order 82, or

(*c*) a person whose attendance is otherwise authorised by these Standing Orders or by the Committee's orders of reference,

whose conduct is grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the meeting of the Committee for the remainder of that meeting. The member or other person ordered to withdraw in pursuance of this Standing Order shall forthwith withdraw from the meeting.

(2) If, on any occasion, the Chairman of a Standing, Select or Special Committee deems that the powers conferred under paragraph (1) of this Standing Order are inadequate to deal with the offence, he or she may propose that a report of the Committee be made to the Seanad in relation to the matter.

Adjournment or suspension of meeting of Standing, Select or Special Committee in case of great disorder.

90. In the case of great disorder, the Chairman of a Standing, Select or Special Committee may adjourn the meeting without question put or may suspend the meeting for a time to be named by him or her.

Brath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist – freagracht ar chomhalta.

91. (1) Más rud é, maidir le comhalta, gur comhalta é nó í de Choiste a bhfuil fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 á sheoladh nó le seoladh aige, nó go gceaptar é nó í chuig Coiste a bhfuil fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 á sheoladh nó le seoladh aige, agus go bhfuil an comhalta sin ar an eolas faoi aon ní i ndáil leis nó léi féin a bhféadfadh duine réasúnach a bhrath dá dheasca go bhfuil claontacht i gceist i ndáil leis an gcomhalta sin do bheith páirteach san fhiosrúchán sin, ansin staonfaidh an comhalta sin ó pháirt a ghlacadh san fhiosrúchán sin.

(2) Féadfaidh comhalta iarratas a dhéanamh chuig an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí ar thuairim i dtaobh an bhféadfadh duine réasúnach a bhrath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist i ndáil leis an gcomhalta sin do bheith páirteach i bhfiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2. Is é a bheidh mar thoradh ar an tuairim a iarradh tairiscint i dtaobh an mbeidh an comhalta sin ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta den Choiste fiosrúcháin, de réir Bhuan-Ordú 93(4).

(3) Sna Buan-Orduithe seo, i gcás tagairt a bheith déanta go bhféadfadh duine réasúnach a bhrath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist, ciallaíonn sí go bhféadfadh an duine a bhrath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist i ndáil leis na nithe seo a leanas—

(*a*) baint nó plé a bheith ag comhalta le haon ní is ábhar d'fhiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2, i gcás go bhféadfadh duine réasúnach a bhrath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist de dheasca na bainte sin nó an phlé sin;

(*b*) caint a bheidh déanta ag comhalta faoin ní nó faoi na nithe is ábhar don fhiosrúchán; nó

(*c*) aon imthosca iomchuí eile.

Comhalta a chur den Choiste fiosrúcháin i ndáil le brath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist.

92. I gcás go staonfaidh comhalta ó pháirt a ghlacadh i bhfiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 ar na forais go bhféadfadh duine réasúnach a bhrath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist i ndáil leis an gcomhalta sin do bheith páirteach san fhiosrúchán, beartóidh an Seanad le rún, a luaithe is indéanta, go gcuirfear an comhalta den Choiste fiosrúcháin.

Nósanna imeachta maidir le brath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist.

93. (1) (*a*) Féadfaidh aon duine aighneacht a chur faoi bhráid an Choiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí ina n-éileofar go bhféadfadh duine réasúnach a bhrath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist i ndáil le comhalta a bheidh ceaptha chun páirt a ghlacadh i bhfiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2. Is i scríbhinn a bheidh aighneacht den sórt sin agus beidh ar áireamh inti fianaise a bheidh mar thaca leis an éileamh.

(*b*) Déanfaidh an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí, a luaithe is indéanta, an aighneacht faoi mhír (*a*) a bhreithniú agus deis a thabhairt don chomhalta atá i gceist aighneacht a chur faoi bhráid an Choiste mar chosaint ar a sheasamh nó ar a seasamh i cibé foirm is cuí leis an gCoiste.

Ar choinníoll, i gcás nach gcomhlíonfaidh an aighneacht na coinníollacha sin, go gcuirfidh an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí an méid sin in iúl don duine agus go dtabharfaidh sé deis dó nó di an aighneacht a chur faoi bhráid an Choiste ar an modh ceart.

Perception of bias – responsibility of member.

91. (1) If a member is a member of a Committee which is conducting or which is to conduct a Part 2 inquiry, or is appointed to a Committee which is conducting or which is to conduct a Part 2 inquiry, and that member is aware of anything in his or her own behalf which might lead to a perception of bias arising in a reasonable person in relation to that member's participation in that inquiry, then that member shall recuse himself or herself from participating in that inquiry.

(2) A member may apply to the Committee on Procedure and Privileges for an opinion as to whether a perception of bias might arise in a reasonable person in relation to that member's participation in a Part 2 inquiry. The opinion sought shall result in a motion in relation to whether that member shall be a member of the inquiry Committee, in accordance with Standing Order 93(4).

(3) In these Standing Orders, where reference is made to a perception of bias which might arise in a reasonable person, this means a perception of bias which might arise in relation to—

(*a*) a member's connection or dealings with any matter the subject of a Part 2 inquiry, where that connection or those dealings might lead to a perception of bias in a reasonable person;

(*b*) a member's utterances on the matter or matters the subject of the inquiry; or

(*c*) any other relevant circumstances.

Removal from inquiry Committee in relation to perception of bias.

92. Where a member has recused himself or herself from a Part 2 inquiry, on the grounds that a perception of bias might arise in a reasonable person in relation to that member's participation in the inquiry, the Seanad shall resolve, as soon as is practicable, that the member be removed from the inquiry Committee.

Procedures re. Perception of bias.

93. (1) (a) Any person may make a submission to the Committee on Procedure and Privileges claiming that a perception of bias might arise in a reasonable person in relation to a member appointed to take part in a Part 2 inquiry. Such submission shall be in writing and shall include evidence in support of the claim.

(b) Provided that where the submission does not fulfil these conditions, the Committee on Procedure and Privileges shall inform the person of such, and afford them the opportunity to make the submission in the correct manner.

The Committee on Procedure and Privileges shall, as soon as is practicable, consider the submission under paragraph (*a*), and give the member in question the opportunity to make a submission to the Committee in defence of his or her position, in such form as the Committee sees fit.

(2) (*a*) Maidir le comhalta a iarrfaidh tuairim faoi Bhuan-Ordú 91(2) i dtaobh an bhféadfadh duine réasúnach a bhrath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist i ndáil leis an gcomhalta sin do bheith páirteach i bhfiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2, is i scríbhinn a dhéanfaidh sé nó sí an iarraidh chuig an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí agus beidh ina teannta cúis nó cúiseanna go bhfuil an tuairim á hiarraidh.

(*b*) Déanfaidh an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí, a luaithe is indéanta, an tuairim arna hiarraidh faoi mhír (*a*) a bhreithniú.

(3) I gcás go mbeidh an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí tar éis aighneacht faoi mhír (1), nó tuairim arna hiarraidh faoi mhír (2), a bhreithniú, déanfaidh sé, a luaithe is indéanta agus más rud é nach mbeidh an comhalta atá i gceist tar éis staonadh ó pháirt a ghlacadh san fhiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2, tuarascáil a thabhairt i ndáil leis an gcomhalta do bheith páirteach san fhiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2, mar aon le moladh—

(*a*) gurb amhlaidh, tríd is tríd, go bhféadfadh duine réasúnach a bhrath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist i ndáil leis an gcomhalta, nó

(*b*) nach amhlaidh, tríd is tríd, go bhféadfadh duine réasúnach a bhrath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist i ndáil leis an gcomhalta.

(4) A luaithe is indéanta tar éis tuarascáil faoi mhír (3) a ghlacadh, déanfaidh an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí an tuarascáil sin a leagan faoi bhráid an tSeanaid, agus ainmneoidh sé duine dá chomhaltaí chun tairiscint a chur síos a luaithe is indéanta—

(*a*) ina dtabharfar dá aire an moladh sa tuarascáil, agus

(*b*) á mholadh go ndéanfar—

(i) an comhalta atá i gceist a dheimhniú mar chomhalta den Choiste fiosrúcháin, nó

(ii) an comhalta atá i gceist a chur den Choiste fiosrúcháin.

(5) Déanfaidh an Seanad an tairiscint faoi mhír (4) a bhreithniú a luaithe is indéanta.

Cruinnithe Coiste a chur ar fionraí.

94. Féadfar tairiscint go gcuirfear cruinniú Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta ar fionraí go dtí tráth is déanaí an lá céanna a dhéanamh, le cead ó Chathaoirleach an Choiste, agus gan fógra. Ceapfar leis an tairiscint sin an tráth a atosóidh an cruinniú. Ní ghlacfar le haon tairiscint den sórt sin más dóigh le Cathaoirleach an Choiste í a bheith á déanamh chun moill nó toirmeasc a chur ar an ngnó.

Cruinnithe príobháideacha Coistí.

95. (1) Faoi réir mhír (2) den Bhuan-Ordú seo, féadfaidh comhaltaí de Sheanad Éireann cuairteoirí agus ionadaithe údaraithe ón bPreas a thabhairt isteach chuig cruinnithe Buan-Choistí, Roghchoistí nó Coistí Speisialta.

(2) (*a*) A member who seeks an opinion under Standing Order 91(2) on whether a perception of bias might arise in a reasonable person in relation to that member's participation in a Part 2 inquiry, shall make the request to the Committee on Procedure and Privileges in writing, with a reason or reasons why the opinion is being sought.

(*b*) The Committee on Procedure and Privileges shall, as soon as is practicable, consider the opinion sought under paragraph (*a*).

(3) Where the Committee on Procedure and Privileges has considered either a submission under paragraph (1), or an opinion sought under paragraph (2), it shall, as soon as is practicable, and if the member in question has not recused himself or herself from the Part 2 inquiry, make a report in relation to the participation of the member in the Part 2 inquiry, with a recommendation that, on balance—

(*a*) a perception of bias might arise in a reasonable person in relation to the member, or

(*b*) a perception of bias might not arise in a reasonable person in relation to the member.

(4) As soon as is practicable after its adoption of a report under paragraph (3), the Committee on Procedure and Privileges shall lay such report before the Seanad, and shall nominate one of its members to table a motion, as soon as is practicable, which—

(*a*) takes note of the recommendation in the report, and

(*b*) proposes that either—

(i) the member in question be confirmed as a member of the inquiry Committee, or

(ii) the member in question be removed from the inquiry Committee.

(5) The Seanad shall consider the motion under paragraph (4) as soon as is practicable.

Suspension of Committee meetings.

94. A motion that a meeting of a Standing, Select or Special Committee be suspended until a later time on the same day may be made, by permission of the Chairman of the Committee, and without notice. Such motion shall fix the time of the resumption of the meeting. Any such motion which is deemed by the Chairman of the Committee to be dilatory or obstructive shall not be accepted.

Private meetings of Committees.

95. (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this Standing Order, visitors and authorised representatives of the Press may be introduced by members of Seanad Éireann to meetings of Standing, Select or Special Committees.

(2) Féadfaidh Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste nó Coiste Speisialta tráth ar bith, le hordú, teacht le chéile go príobháideach agus dúnfar gach cuairteoir agus ionadaí údaraithe ón bPreas amach as an Seomra fad a bheidh an t-ordú sin i bhfeidhm.

Cléireach Coiste do scaipeadh doiciméad.

96. Ní dhéanfar aon doiciméad a gheobhaidh Cléireach Buan-Choiste nó Roghchoiste nó Fochoiste de a choimeád siar, a tharraingt siar nó a athrú gan fhios don Choiste, nó don Fhochoiste, de réir mar is cuí, nó gan ceadú uaidh. Chun críocha an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, féadfar a chur in iúl do chomhaltaí go bhfuarthas doiciméid den sórt sin, le toiliú an Choiste nó an Fhochoiste lena mbaineann, trí liosta de dhoiciméid den sórt sin a scaipeadh ó am go ham, de réir mar a chinnfidh an Coiste nó an Fochoiste.

An Coiste Roghnóireachta.

97. I dtosach gach Seanaid ceapfar coiste dá ngairfear an Coiste Roghnóireachta agus, mura mbeidh a mhalairt ordaithe, ainmneoidh an Coiste sin na Seanadóirí a bheidh le fónamh ar Roghchoistí nó ar Choistí Speisialta agus beidh cumhacht aige comhaltaí de na Coistí sin a urscaoileadh ó am go ham toisc gan iad a theacht i láthair nó ar a n-iarratas féin, agus comhaltaí eile a cheapadh in ionad na gcomhaltaí a urscaoilfear. Aon Seanadóir déag, ar a n-áirítear an Leas-Chathaoirleach, a bheidh ar an gCoiste Roghnóireachta, agus beidh an Leas-Chathaoirleach ina Chathaoirleach *ex officio* ar an gCoiste. Ceathrar is córam don Choiste.

An Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí.

98. (1) I dtosach gach Seanaid beidh Buan-Choiste arna bhunú dá ngairfear an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí: —

(*a*) chun cúrsaí nós imeachta i gcoitinne a bhreithniú agus chun aon bhreisiú nó leasú a mheasfar is gá a mholadh ar na Buan-Orduithe seo;

(*b*) chun breithniú agus tuairisciú a dhéanamh, de réir mar a iarrfar agus nuair a iarrfar sin air, maidir le pribhléidí comhaltaí;

(*c*) gan dochar do ghinearáltacht mhír (*a*), chun maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar an nós imeachta i mBuan-Choistí, i Roghchoistí, agus i gCoistí Speisialta (de réir mar a bheidh), cibé acu ar iarratas ón gCoiste iomchuí nó ar shlí eile, agus chun scrúdú a dhéanamh, más cuí, ar ról na gCoistí de réir mar a bheidh siad ag forbairt;

(*d*) chun togra iomchuí a ghlacadh ó Choiste a bheartaíonn fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 a sheoladh;

(*e*) chun cibé treoirlínte is cuí leis a bhreithniú agus a eisiúint ó am go ham—

(i) i ndáil le fiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2, agus

(ii) i ndáil le gnó Coiste eile i gcás go mbeidh cumhacht tugtha chun fios a chur ar dhaoine agus chun fios a chur i ndáil le páipéir agus taifid,

de réir ailt 19 agus 79 den Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013;

(2) A Standing, Select or Special Committee may at any time, by order, meet in private and all visitors and authorised representatives of the Press shall be excluded for the duration of such order.

Circulation of documents by Clerk to Committee.

96. No document received by the Clerk to a Standing or Select Committee or a sub-Committee thereof shall be withheld, withdrawn or altered without the knowledge and approval of the Committee or sub-Committee, as may be appropriate. For the purposes of this Standing Order, the receipt of such documents may, with the consent of the Committee or sub-Committee concerned, be brought to the attention of members by the circulation, from time to time as the Committee or sub-Committee may decide, of a list of such documents.

Committee of Selection.

97. There shall be appointed at the commencement of every Seanad a committee to be known as the Committee of Selection, which, unless it shall have been otherwise ordered, shall nominate the Senators to serve on Select or Special Committees and which shall have power to discharge members of such Committees from time to time for non-attendance or at their own request, and to appoint others in substitution for those discharged. The Committee of Selection shall consist of eleven Senators including the Leas-Chathaoirleach who shall be *ex officio* Chairman of the Committee. The quorum of the Committee shall be four.

Committee on Procedure and Privileges.

98. (1) There shall stand established at the commencement of every Seanad a Standing Committee to be known as the Committee on Procedure and Privileges, to:—

(*a*) consider matters of procedure generally and to recommend any additions or amendments to these Standing Orders that may be deemed necessary;

(*b*) consider and report, as and when requested to do so, as to the privileges attaching to members;

(*c*) without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (*a*), oversee the procedure in Standing, Select and Special Committees (as the case may be), whether by request from the relevant Committee or otherwise, and to examine, where appropriate, the role of the Committees as they evolve;

(*d*) receive a relevant proposal from a Committee which proposes to conduct a Part 2 inquiry;

(*e*) from time to time consider and issue such guidelines as it considers appropriate in relation to—

(i) Part 2 inquiries, and

(ii) other Committee business where a power to send for persons, papers and records has been conferred,

in accordance with sections 19 and 79 of the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013;

(*f*) mar chuid dá fhreagracht chun maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar an nós imeachta i gCoistí, chun nithe a bhaineann le brath go bhfuil claontacht i gceist maidir le fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 a bhreithniú, d'fhonn sláine an fhiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2 mar atá sé á sheoladh ag an gCoiste fiosrúcháin a chaomhnú;

(*g*) chun breithniú agus tuairisciú a dhéanamh ar nithe a bheidh arna dtarchur chuig an gCoiste de bhun an Phrótacail maidir le Comhairle Nós Imeachta agus Dlí a Sholáthar do Choistí na dTithe arna mBunú de bhun na mBuan-Orduithe, arna ghlacadh ag an gCoiste agus ag Coimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais;

(*h*) chun na feidhmeanna a chomhlíonadh a thugtar dó le Buan-Orduithe 134 agus 135 i ndáil le héifeacht a thabhairt d'Airteagal 15.10 den Bhunreacht a mhéid a dhéantar foráil leis an Airteagal sin i dtaobh doiciméid (scríbhinní) oifigiúla an tSeanaid agus páipéir phríobháideacha a chomhaltaí a chosaint (a dhídean); agus

(*i*) chun na feidhmeanna a chomhlíonadh a thugtar don choiste de chuid Chuid 10 agus don choiste de chuid Chuid 11 leis an Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013, de bhun Bhuan-Orduithe 136 agus 137.

(2) Beidh cumhacht ag an gCoiste Fochoistí a cheapadh agus aon ní a chuimsítear leis an mBuan-Ordú seo a chur faoi bhráid Fochoistí den sórt sin agus aon cheann dá chuid cumhachtaí faoin mBuan-Ordú seo a tharmligean chun Fochoistí den sórt sin.

(3) Beidh cumhacht ag an gCoiste gníomhú thar ceann Sheanad Éireann agus thar ceann comhaltaí de Sheanad Éireann i ndáil le haon imeachtaí dlí nó le haon éisteacht nó fiosrúchán poiblí eile.

(4) Beidh cumhacht ag an gCoiste:—

(*a*) seirbhísí daoine a bhfuil saineolas nó eolas teicniúil acu a fhostú d'fhonn cabhrú leis nó le haon Fhochoiste dá chuid le linn nithe áirithe a bhreithniú;

(*b*) tabhairt faoi thaisteal mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 72(15) (seachas fomhír (*a*) den chéanna);

(*c*) tuarascálacha a chlóbhualadh agus a fhoilsiú agus Fochoistí a údarú chun tuairisciú go díreach chun an tSeanaid mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 77(1);

(*d*) toiliú a thabhairt i scríbhinn maidir le hordachán nó ordacháin a thabhairt i ndáil le daoine, páipéir agus taifid le haghaidh gnó Coiste, seachas fiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2.

(5) Is iad a bheidh ar an gCoiste an Cathaoirleach, arb é nó arb í a bheidh ina Chathaoirleach nó ina Cathaoirleach ar an gCoiste *ex officio*, an Leas-Chathaoirleach, Treoraí an Tí agus naonúr comhalta eile. Mura féidir don Chathaoirleach a bheith i láthair, féadfaidh an Leas-Chathaoirleach gníomhú ina ionad nó ina hionad. Cúigear is córam don Choiste.

An Coiste um Leasanna Comhaltaí.

99. (1) I dtosach gach Seanaid beidh Roghchoiste de Sheanad Éireann arna bhunú dá ngairfear an Coiste um Leasanna Chomhaltaí Sheanad Éireann chun na feidhmeanna a thugtar dó leis na hAchtanna um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí, 1995 agus 2001, a chomhlíonadh.

(*f*) as part of its responsibility for overseeing procedure in Committees, consider matters relating to perception of bias in respect of a Part 2 inquiry, for the purpose of preserving the integrity of the Part 2 inquiry as it is being conducted by the inquiry Committee;

(*g*) consider and report on matters standing referred to the Committee pursuant to the Protocol on the Provision of Procedural and Legal Advice to Committees of the Houses Established Pursuant to Standing Orders, as adopted by the Committee and the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission;

(*h*) perform the functions conferred on it by Standing Orders 134 and 135 in relation to giving effect to Article 15.10 of the Constitution in so far as that Article provides for the protection of the official documents of the Seanad and the private papers of its members; and

(*i*) perform the functions conferred on the Part 10 committee and the Part 11 committee by the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013, pursuant to Standing Orders 136 and 137.

(2) The Committee shall have power to appoint sub-Committees and to refer to such sub-Committees any matter comprehended by this Standing Order and to delegate any of its powers under this Standing Order to such sub-Committees.

(3) The Committee shall have power to act on behalf of Seanad Éireann and members of Seanad Éireann in relation to any legal proceedings or other public hearing or inquiry.

(4) The Committee shall have power:—

(*a*) to engage the services of persons with specialist or technical knowledge to assist it or any of its sub-Committees in considering particular matters;

(*b*) to travel as defined in Standing Order 72(15) (other than subparagraph (*a*) thereof);

(*c*) to print and publish reports and to authorise sub-Committees to report directly to the Seanad as defined in Standing Order 77(1);

(*d*) to give consent in writing to the giving of a direction or directions in relation to persons, papers and records for Committee business, other than Part 2 inquiries.

(5) The Committee shall consist of the Cathaoirleach, who *ex officio* shall be Chairman, the Leas-Chathaoirleach, the Leader of the House and nine other members. In the unavoidable absence of the Cathaoirleach, the Leas-Chathaoirleach may act as Chairman in his or her stead. The quorum of the Committee shall be five.

Committee on Members' Interests.

99. (1) There shall stand established at the commencement of every Seanad, a Select Committee of Seanad Éireann which shall be called the Committee on Members' Interests of Seanad Éireann, to perform the functions conferred on it by the Ethics in Public Offices Acts 1995 and 2001.

(2) Is é an Coiste Roghnóireachta a ainmneoidh an Coiste agus is é a bheidh air 7 gcomhalta agus 3 is córam don Choiste.

(3) Cinnfear na ceisteanna go léir sa Roghchoiste trí thromlach vótaí na gcomhaltaí a bheidh i láthair agus a vótálfaidh, agus i gcás comhionannais vótaí, cinnfear gur freagra diúltach a tugadh ar an gceist.

(4) I gcás comhalta a bheith as láthair ó chruinniú áirithe den Roghchoiste, féadfaidh comhalta eile de Sheanad Éireann, arna ainmniú nó arna hainmniú ag an ngrúpa/bpáirtí de réir bhrí Bhuan-Ordú 145 lena mbaineann an comhalta atá as láthair, páirt a ghlacadh sna himeachtaí agus vótáil ina ionad/ina hionad.

(5) Beidh an chumhacht ag an gCoiste:—

(*a*) seirbhísí daoine ag a bhfuil saineolas nó eolas teicniúil, mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 72(14), a fhostú chun cabhrú leis le linn dó breithniú a dhéanamh ar aon ní a chuimsítear le forálacha na nAchtanna um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí, 1995 agus 2001;

(*b*) tabhairt faoi thaisteal mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 72(15).

(6) Ní dhéanfar aon doiciméad a bheidh faighte ag Cléireach an Roghchoiste a choimeád siar, a tharraingt siar ná a athrú gan fhios don Choiste agus gan ceadú uaidh.

Achainí a thabhairt ar aghaidh.

100. (1) Breithneoidh an Seanad, de réir fhorálacha an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo agus Bhuan-Orduithe 101, 102 agus 103, achainí arna díriú chuige i ndáil lena chumhachtaí reachtúla nó i ndáil le saincheist beartais phoiblí. Féadfaidh pearsa aonair, comhlacht corpraithe nó comhlachas neamhchorpraithe daoine achainí a thabhairt.

(2) Luafar go soiléir in achainí—

(*a*) ainm an achainígh;

(*b*) seoladh de chuid an achainígh ar chóir gach comhfhreagras a bhaineann leis an achainí a sheoladh chuige; agus

(*c*) ainm agus seoladh aon duine a bheidh ag tacú leis an achainí.

(3) Is é Coiste Achainíocha Poiblí an tSeanaid (an Coiste) a chinnfidh an fhoirm chuí ina mbeidh achainíocha.

(4) Féadfar achainí a thaisceadh leis an gCléireach, nó a sheoladh le ríomhphost chuig an gCléireach, aon tráth a bheidh oifig an Chléirigh ar oscailt. Féadfaidh an t-achainíoch achainíocha a thaisceadh nó a sheoladh nó féadfaidh comhalta iad a thaisceadh nó a sheoladh thar ceann an achainígh.

Inghlacthacht achainíocha.

101. (1) Tá achainí inghlactha mura rud é—

(2) The Committee which shall be nominated by the Committee of Selection and shall consist of 7 members and the quorum of the Committee shall be 3.

(3) All questions in the Select Committee shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting and in the event of there being an equality of votes, the question shall be decided in the negative.

(4) In the absence from a particular meeting of the Select Committee of a member another member of Seanad Éireann, nominated by the group/party within the meaning of Standing Order 145 to which the absent member belongs, may take part in the proceedings and vote in his/her stead.

(5) The Committee shall have the power to:—

(*a*) engage the services of persons with specialist or technical knowledge as defined in Standing Order 72(14) to assist it in its consideration of any matter comprehended by the provisions of the Ethics in Public Offices Acts 1995 and 2001;

(*b*) travel as defined in Standing Order 72(15).

(6) No document received by the Clerk to the Select Committee shall be withheld, withdrawn or altered without the knowledge and approval of the Committee.

Bring forward a petition.

100. (1) The Seanad shall consider, in accordance with the provisions of this Standing Order and Standing Orders 101, 102 and 103 a petition addressed to it in relation to its legislative powers or an issue of public policy. A petition may be brought in by an individual person, a body corporate or an unincorporated association of persons.

(2) A petition shall clearly indicate—

(*a*) the name of the petitioner;

(*b*) an address of the petitioner to which all communications concerning the petition should be sent; and

(*c*) the name and address of any person supporting the petition.

(3) The Seanad Public Petitions Committee (the Committee) shall determine the proper form of petitions.

(4) A petition may be lodged with the Clerk, or sent to the Clerk by e-mail, at any time when the office of the Clerk is open. Petitions may be lodged or sent by the petitioner or by a member on behalf of the petitioner.

Admissibility of petitions.

101. (1) A petition is admissible unless it—

(*a*) go n-iarrtar léi ar an Seanad aon ní a dhéanamh seachas ní a bhfuil cumhacht ag an Seanad é a dhéanamh;

(*b*) nach gcomhlíonann sí na Buan-Orduithe nó nach bhfuil sí i bhfoirm chuí ar shlí eile;

(*c*) go bhfuil sí *sub-judice*;

(*d*) go bhfuil ainm nó ainmneacha pearsan aonair inti;

(*e*) go bhfuil teanga inti atá colúil nó clúmhillteach; agus

(*f*) gurb ionann í agus achainí, nó go bhfuil sí i dtéarmaí atá go substaintiúil de shamhail achainí, a thionscain an duine céanna, an comhlacht corpraithe céanna nó an comhlachas neamhchorpraithe céanna, nó a tionscnaíodh thar a cheann nó thar a ceann, le linn shaolré an tSeanaid sin agus a dúnadh le comhaontú an Choiste.

I ndáil le hachainíocha inghlactha, beidh feidhm freisin ag na forálacha seo a leanas:

(i) ní mór achainí ó chomhlacht corpraithe a dhéanamh faoi ghnáthshéala na Corparáide. Mura bhfuil sí déanta amhlaidh, féachfar uirthi mar achainí ó na pearsana aonair a shínigh í.

(ii) ní ceadmhach achainí a bheith ag plé le gearáin a bhaineann le nithe áitiúla nó réigiúnacha atá faoi rialú na n-údarás áitiúil ná le nithe ar mó is cuí do chomhlacht poiblí rialaitheach nó comhlacht arna bhunú chun críche sásaimh amhail an tOmbudsman iad.

(2) Breithneoidh an Coiste agus cinnfidh sé i gcás díospóide an bhfuil achainí inghlactha agus tabharfaidh sé fógra don achainíoch i dtaobh a chinnidh agus i dtaobh na gcúiseanna atá leis.

Gníomh mar gheall ar achainí.

102. (1) Má tá achainí inghlactha, déanfaidh an Coiste cibé beart is cuí leis i ndáil leis an achainí sin.

(2) Féadfaidh an Coiste—

(*a*) an achainí a tharchur chuig aon Chomhchoiste eile den Seanad agus den Dáil is cuí leis;

(*b*) tuairisciú don Seanad uile; nó

(*c*) an achainí a dhúnadh faoi na Buan-Orduithe.

(3) Tabharfaidh an Coiste fógra don achainíoch faoi aon bheart a dhéanfar faoi mhír (2).

Achainíocha a dhúnadh.

103. (1) Féadfaidh an Coiste, nó aon Choiste eile a mbeidh achainí tarchurtha chuige, achainí a dhúnadh aon tráth.

(*a*) requests the Seanad to do anything other than the Seanad has power to do;

(*b*) does not comply with Standing Orders or is otherwise not in proper form;

(*c*) is *sub judice*;

(*d*) contains the name or names of individuals;

(*e*) contains language which is offensive or defamatory; and

(*f*) is the same as, or in substantially similar terms to, a petition brought by or on behalf of the same person, body corporate or unincorporated association during the lifetime of that Seanad and which was closed by agreement of the Committee.

In relation to admissible petitions the following provisions shall also apply:

(i) a petition from a body corporate must be made under the common seal of the Corporation. Otherwise, it will be viewed as a petition of the individuals who signed it.

(ii) a petition cannot deal with complaints relating to local or regional matters under the control of the local authorities or matters which are more appropriate to a regulatory public body or body established for the purpose of redress such as the Ombudsman.

(2) The Committee shall consider and decide in a case of dispute whether a petition is admissible and shall notify the petitioner of its decision and of the reasons for that decision.

Action on a petition.

102. (1) If a petition is admissible, the Committee shall take such action as it considers appropriate in relation to that petition.

(2) The Committee may—

(*a*) refer the petition to any other Joint Committee of the Seanad and Dáil as it considers appropriate;

(*b*) report to the whole Seanad; or

(*c*) close the petition under Standing Orders.

(3) The Committee shall notify the petitioner of any action taken under paragraph (2).

Closing petitions.

103. (1) The Committee, or any other Committee to which a petition has been referred, may close a petition at any time.

(2) I gcás go ndúnfaidh Coiste achainí tabharfaidh sé fógra don achainíoch go bhfuil an achainí dúnta agus i dtaobh na gcúiseanna ar dúnadh í.

An Comhchoiste Riaracháin.

104. (1) Beidh arna bhunú, i dtosach gach Seanaid, Buanchoiste a chomhcheanglófar le Coiste dá shamhail de chuid na Dála chun bheith ina Chomhchoiste Riaracháin.

(2) Déanfaidh an Coiste ionadaíocht do thuairimí comhaltaí i dtaca le soláthar seirbhísí do na Tithe agus ag na Tithe i gcoitinne, agus féadfaidh sé moltaí maidir leis sin a dhéanamh do Choimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais ("an Coimisiún").

(3) Beidh moltaí ón gCoiste faoi réir na nithe seo a leanas—

(*a*) ceadú an Choimisiúin i ndáil le himpleachtaí airgeadais na moltaí sin;

(*b*) údarás rialála an Choimisiúin nó an Aire Airgeadais, mar a fhoráiltear le dlí; agus

(*c*) an gá atá le héifeachtacht agus barainneacht i dtaca le húsáid acmhainní an Choimisiúin agus cúinsí luach ar airgead i gcoitinne.

(4) Gan dochar do ghinearáltacht mhír (2), féadfaidh an Coiste comhairle a thabhairt don Choimisiún, agus moltaí a dhéanamh chuige ar mhodh tuarascála, maidir leis na nithe seo a leanas—

(*a*) Seirbhísí do Chomhaltaí, lena n-áirítear:

(i) saoráidí rúnaíochta agus eile;

(ii) seirbhísí leabharlainne agus taighde; agus

(iii) seirbhísí comhairle dlí (de réir bhrí alt 4(2)(e) de na hAchtanna um Choimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais, 2003 agus 2006).

(*b*) Cóiríocht agus saoráidí, lena n-áirítear:

(i) na beáir, an siopa agus na bialanna;

(ii) na dálaí faoina seolann, nó na háitribh ina seolann, comhaltaí a gcuid dualgas; agus

(iii) slándáil agus rochtain.

(*c*) Seirbhísí Cumarsáide, lena n-áirítear:

(i) oideachas, caidreamh leis na meáin agus seirbhísí faisnéise poiblí; agus

(ii) craoladh (den uile chineál) imeachtaí Sheanad Éireann agus a Choistí, lena n-áirítear rialacha tuairisceoireachta agus rochtain ar an gcartlann:

(2) Where a Committee closes a petition it shall notify the petitioner that the petition is closed and of the reasons for closing it.

Joint Administration Committee.

104. (1) There shall stand established at the commencement of every Seanad a Standing Committee which shall be joined with a similar Committee of the Dáil to constitute the Joint Administration Committee.

(2) The Committee shall represent the views of members on the provision of services for and by the Houses generally, and may make recommendations thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission ("the Commission").

(3) Recommendations of the Committee shall be subject to—

(*a*) the sanction of the Commission in relation to the financial implications of such recommendations;

(*b*) the regulatory authority of the Commission or the Minister for Finance, as provided by law; and

(*c*) the requirement for efficiency and economy in the use of Commission resources and value for money considerations generally.

(4) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2), the Committee may advise, and make recommendations by way of report to, the Commission, on—

(*a*) Members' Services, including:

(i) secretarial and other facilities;

(ii) library and research services; and

(iii) legal advice services (within the meaning of section 4(2)(e) of the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission Acts 2003 and 2006).

(*b*) Accommodation and facilities, including:

(i) the bars, shop and restaurants;

(ii) the conditions or premises in which members carry out their duties; and

(iii) security and access.

(*c*) Communications Services, including:

(i) education, media relations and public information services; and

(ii) broadcasting (in all its forms) of the proceedings of Seanad Éireann and its Committees, including rules of coverage and archive access:

Ar choinníoll, i ndáil le craoladh, go ndéanfaidh an Coiste:

(I) na socruithe faireacháin is gá a chomhall do theilifísiú in-Tí agus do chraoladh fuaime agus teilifísithe Sheanad Éireann agus a Choistí;

(II) athbhreithniú agus modhnú ar na rialacha tuairisceoireachta do theilifísiú imeachtaí Sheanad Éireann agus a Choistí;

(III) na rialacha rochtana a chinneadh i leith chartlann imeachtaí Sheanad Éireann agus a Choistí; agus

(IV) a chinneadh, faoi réir thoiliú Choimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais, ó am go ham, na táillí is iníoctha i leith chraoladh imeachtaí Sheanad Éireann agus a Choistí.

(*d*) Cibé nithe eile a tharchuirfidh an Coimisiún chuig an gCoiste ó am go ham.

(5) Gach tuarascáil a dhéanfaidh an Comhchoiste, tarchuirfear í chuig an gCoimisiún agus a Choiste Bainistíochta, agus féadfaidh an Coimisiún freagra foirmiúil a ullmhú ar na moltaí atá inti.

(6) Naonúr comhaltaí de Sheanad Éireann a bheidh ar an mBuanchoiste agus áireofar orthu Ceannairí nó Aoirí na bPáirtithe/na nGrúpaí, más féidir. I gcás Seanadóir a bheidh ainmnithe chun fónamh ar an gCoiste a bheith as láthair, beidh feidhm ag forálacha Bhuan-Ordú 82. Cúigear is córam don Chomhchoiste, ar comhalta de Dháil Éireann duine amháin díobh ar a laghad agus ar comhalta de Sheanad Éireann duine amháin díobh ar a laghad. Áireofar ar an gComhchoiste comhalta amháin den Choimisiún ar a laghad (cibé acu is Teachta nó Seanadóir é nó í). Beidh Cathaoirleach an Chomhchoiste ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta de Dháil Éireann.

(7) Beidh na cumhachtaí seo a leanas ag an gComhchoiste:

(*a*) cumhacht Fochoistí a cheapadh, mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 72(4);

(*b*) cumhacht sainchomhairleoirí a fhostú, mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 72(14); agus

(*c*) cumhacht tabhairt faoi thaisteal, mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 72(15).

(8) Beidh cumhacht ag an gComhchoiste daoine a ainmniú chun cabhrú leis ina phléitĺ; agus freastalóidh na daoine sin ar cibé cruinnithe a chinnfidh an Comhchoiste.

(9) Tabharfaidh an Comhchoiste tuarascáil don Choimisiún ar a chuid gníomhaíochtaí ar bhonn bliantúil, faoin 31 Nollaig gach bliain.

Coiste na Gaeilge, na Gaeltachta agus na nOileán.

105. (1) Beidh arna bhunú, i ndiaidh ationól an tSeanaid tar éis Olltoghcháin, Buan-Choiste, a chomhcheanglófar le Coiste dá shamhail de chuid na Dála chun Comhchoiste na Gaeilge, na Gaeltachta agus na nOileán a chomhdhéanamh chun na feidhmeanna a leagtar amach sa Bhuan-Ordú seo a chomhlíonadh.

Provided, that in relation to broadcasting, the Committee shall:

(I) discharge the necessary monitoring arrangements for in-House televising and for sound and televised broadcasting of Seanad Éireann and its Committees;

(II) review and modify the rules of coverage for the televising of proceedings of Seanad Éireann and its Committees;

(III) determine rules of access in respect of the archive of proceedings of Seanad Éireann and its Committees; and

(IV) determine, subject to the consent of the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission, from time to time the fees to be payable in respect of broadcasting of proceedings of Seanad Éireann and its Committees.

(*d*) Such other matters as may be referred to the Committee by the Commission from time to time.

(5) Every report which the Joint Committee may make shall be referred to the Commission and its Management Committee, which may prepare a formal response to the recommendations therein.

(6) The Standing Committee shall consist of nine members of Seanad Éireann and shall include the Party/Group Leaders or Whips, where feasible. In the absence of a Senator nominated to serve on the Committee the provisions of Standing Order 82 shall apply. The quorum of the Joint Committee shall be five, of whom at least one shall be a member of Dáil Éireann and one a member of Seanad Éireann. The Joint Committee shall include at least one member of the Commission (whether Deputy or Senator). The Chairman of the Joint Committee shall be a member of Dáil Éireann.

(7) The Joint Committee shall have the following powers:

(*a*) power to appoint sub-Committees as defined in Standing Order 72(4);

(*b*) power to engage consultants as defined in Standing Order 72(14); and

(*c*) power to travel as defined in Standing Order 72(15).

(8) The Joint Committee shall have power to nominate persons to assist it in its deliberations; and such persons shall attend such meetings as the Joint Committee may determine.

(9) The Joint Committee shall report to the Commission on its activities on an annual basis, by 31 December each year.

Committee on the Irish Language, Gaeltacht and the Islands.

105. (1) There shall stand established following the reassembly of the Seanad subsequent to a General Election, a Standing Committee to be joined with a similar Committee of the Dáil to constitute the Joint Committee on the Irish Language, Gaeltacht and the Islands to perform the functions set out in this Standing Order.

(2) Breithneoidh an Comhchoiste ábhair bheartais a bhaineann leis an nGaeilge, leis an nGaeltacht agus leis na hOileáin agus atá go ginearálta faoi chúram Ranna Rialtais agus comhlachtaí poiblí gaolmhara agus breithneoidh sé, go háirithe–

(*a*) straitéis i ndáil leis an nGaeilge agus cur chun cinn na Gaeilge i gcoitinne,

(*b*) litríocht, ceol agus cultúr na Gaeilge agus nithe gaolmhara,

(*c*) méadú ar úsáid na Gaeilge in imeachtaí dhá Theach an Oireachtais agus ina gCoistí agus timpeall an dá Theach a chur chun cinn,

(*d*) dul chun cinn maidir le cur i ngníomh Scéimeanna Gaeilge i gcomhlachtaí poiblí,

(e) tuarascálacha ón gCoimisinéir Teanga agus nithe gaolmhara,

(*f*) nithe a bhaineann leis an bhForas Teanga, i ndáil le Foras na Gaeilge agus le Gníomhaireacht na hUltaise araon,

(*g*) teagasc na Gaeilge agus oideachas trí mheán na Gaeilge,

(*h*) freagrachtaí reachtúla Raidió Teilifís Éireann agus Údarás Craolacháin na hÉireann i ndáil leis an nGaeilge,

(*i*) nithe a bhaineann le craoltóirí Gaeilge, lena n-áirítear TG4, Raidió na Gaeltachta, Raidió na Life agus Raidió Rí-Rá, agus

(*j*) aon nithe eile a bhaineann leis an nGaeilge, leis an nGaeltacht agus leis na hOileáin.

(3) Ceathrar comhaltaí de Sheanad Éireann a bheidh ar Bhuan-Choiste an tSeanaid. Ceathrar is córam don Chomhchoiste, ar comhalta de Sheanad Éireann duine amháin acu ar a laghad agus ar comhalta de Dháil Éireann duine amháin acu ar a laghad. Beidh Cathaoirleach Bhuan-Choiste na Dála ina Chathaoirleach nó ina Cathaoirleach ar an gComhchoiste freisin.

(4) Beidh ag an gComhchoiste, maidir lena chúram, na cumhachtaí a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 72, seachas míreanna (3) agus (10) den Bhuan-Ordú sin.

(5) Beidh de chumhacht ag an gComhchoiste faoi Bhuan-Ordú 71 breithniú a dhéanamh ar na nithe seo a leanas–

(*a*) scéim ghinearálta nó dréacht-cheannteidil aon Bhille a bhaineann leis an nGaeilge, leis an nGaeltacht agus leis na hOileáin, agus

(*b*) aon tuarascáil iar-achtacháin a leagfaidh comhalta den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit faoi bhráid ceachtar Teach nó an dá Theach maidir le haon Bhille, arna achtú ag Tithe an Oireachtais, a bhaineann leis an nGaeilge, leis an nGaeltacht agus leis na hOileáin.

(6) Beidh feidhm ag forálacha Bhuan-Orduithe 74, 77 agus 82 maidir leis an gComhchoiste.

(2) The Joint Committee shall consider policy matters relating to the Irish language, Gaeltacht and the Islands generally within the remit of Government Departments and associated public bodies and, in particular, shall consider–

(*a*) strategy in relation to the Irish language and the promotion of the Irish language in general,

(*b*) Irish language literature, music, culture and related matters,

(*c*) the promotion of the wider use of Irish in the proceedings of both Houses of the Oireachtas, their Committees and in the environs of both Houses,

(*d*) progress in the implementation of Irish Language Schemes in public bodies,

(*e*) reports of An Coimisinéir Teanga and related matters,

(*f*) matters relating to An Foras Teanga, both in relation to An Foras Gaeilge and the Ulster Scots Agency,

(*g*) the teaching of Irish and education in Irish,

(*h*) the statutory responsibilities of Raidió Teilifís Éireann and the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland in relation to the Irish language,

(*i*) matters relating to Irish language broadcasters, including TG4, Raidió na Gaeltachta, Raidió na Life and Raidió RíRá, and

(*j*) any other matters relating to the Irish language, Gaeltacht and the Islands.

(3) The Seanad Standing Committee shall consist of four members of Seanad Éireann. The quorum of the Joint Committee shall be four, of whom at least one shall be a member of Seanad Éireann and one a member of Dáil Éireann. The Chairman of the Dáil Standing Committee shall also be the Chairman of the Joint Committee.

(4) The Joint Committee shall, in respect of its remit, have the powers defined in Standing Order 72, other than paragraphs (3) and (10) thereof.

(5) The Joint Committee shall be empowered under Standing Order 71 to consider –

(*a*) the general scheme or draft heads of any Bill relating to the Irish language, Gaeltacht and the Islands, and

(*b*) any post-enactment report laid before either House or both Houses by a member of the Government or Minister of State on any Bill relating to the Irish language, Gaeltacht and the Islands enacted by the Houses of the Oireachtas.

(6) The provisions of Standing Orders 74, 77 and 82 shall apply to the Joint Committee.

(7) Míneofar an Comhchoiste mar an "Comhchoiste Oireachtais" chun críocha an Achta Craolacháin, 2009, a mhéid a bhaineann sé le TG4.

Coinníollacha maidir le hImeachtaí a Chraoladh.

106. Go n-údarófar do chraoltóirí náisiúnta, áitiúla agus coigríche craoladh fuaime agus físe a dhéanamh ar imeachtaí an tSeanaid agus a chuid Coistí, agus go n-údarófar iad a chraoladh freisin ar an idirlíon trí mheán an ghréasáin dhomhanda ach sin faoi réir na gcoinníollacha seo a leanas: —

(*a*) nach ndéanfar taifeadtaí ná sleachta de na himeachtaí a úsáid i gcláir siamsaíochta, i gcláir aoire polaitiúla, i gcraoltaí páirtithe polaitíochta ná in aon chineál fógraíochta ná poiblíochta, seachas i bhfoirm tréiléar do chláir nuachta agus cúrsaí reatha;

(*b*) go gcinnteoidh craoltóirí go mbainfidh cothromaíocht pholaitíochta leis an ábhar a úsáideann siad;

(*c*) go gceadófar do chraoltóirí, faoi réir cheadú an Chomhchoiste Riaracháin nó Fochoiste de, tuairisciú beo a dhéanamh ar aon mhír gnó ach sin faoi réir na gcoinníollacha seo a leanas:

(i) nach gcuirfear isteach ar an mír sin le tráchtaireacht, anailísiú ná agaí tráchtála; agus

(ii) nach ndéanfar an mhír sin a athchraoladh go hiomlán ná go páirteach ach amháin mar a cheadaítear sa Bhuan-Ordú seo agus faoi réir a théarmaí;

agus

(*d*) go ndéanfar an cóipcheart sa chlosábhar agus san ábhar teilifísithe go léir a dhílsiú don Chathaoirleach thar ceann Sheanad Éireann agus a chuid Coistí.

Gasra Oibre de Chathaoirligh Coistí.

107. (1) Beidh arna bhunú, i ndiaidh ationól an tSeanaid tar éis Olltoghcháin, Buan-Choiste, a chomhcheanglófar le Buan-Choiste atá le ceapadh ag Dáil Éireann, chun bheith ina Ghasra Oibre de Chathaoirligh Coistí, a bhreithneoidh oibriú Coistí i gcoitinne.

(2) Is é a bheidh i gcomhaltas an Choiste Cathaoirleach gach Buan-Choiste, Roghchoiste, Coiste Speisialta agus Comhchoiste, seachas an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí, agus seisear is córam don Chomhchoiste.

(3) Gan dochar do ghinearáltacht mhír (1), féadfaidh an Coiste breithniú a dhéanamh ar na nithe seo a leanas–

(*a*) éifeachtacht chóras na gCoistí,

(*b*) tograí athleasaithe agus beartais a bhaineann le córas na gCoistí nó a bhfuil tionchar acu air,

(7) The Joint Committee shall be defined as the "Joint Oireachtas Committee" for the purposes of the Broadcasting Act 2009 insofar as it relates to TG4.

Conditions on Broadcasting of Proceedings.

106. That the broadcasting on sound and vision of the proceedings of the Seanad and its Committees by national, local and foreign broadcasters, and also on the internet via the world wide web, shall be authorised subject to the following conditions: —

(*a*) that recordings or extracts of the proceedings shall not be used in programmes of light entertainment, political satire, party political broadcasts or in any form of advertising or publicity, other than in the form of news and current affairs programme trailers;

(*b*) that broadcasters shall ensure political balance in the material they use;

(*c*) that, subject to the approval of the Joint Administration Committee or a sub-Committee thereof, broadcasters may be permitted to carry live coverage of any item of business subject to the following provisos:

(i) that such item shall not be interrupted by commentary, analysis or commercial breaks; and

(ii) that such item may not be re-broadcast in whole or in part except as permitted in and subject to the terms of this Standing Order;

and

(*d*) that copyright of all audio and televised material shall be vested in the Cathaoirleach on behalf of Seanad Éireann and its Committees.

Working Group of Committee Chairmen.

107. (1) There shall stand established, following the reassembly of the Seanad subsequent to a General Election, a Standing Committee, to be joined with a Standing Committee to be appointed by Dáil Éireann to form the Working Group of Committee Chairmen, which shall consider the operation of Committees generally.

(2) The membership of the Committee shall be the Chairman of each Standing, Select, Special and Joint Committee, with the exception of the Committee on Procedure and Privileges, and the quorum of the Joint Committee shall be six.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), the Committee may consider–

(*a*) the effectiveness of the Committee system,

(*b*) reform and policy proposals relating to, or impacting on, the Committee system,

(*c*) nithe is ábhar comhleasa do Chathaoirligh na gCoistí agus eisiúint treorach do Choistí i gcoitinne,

(*d*) sceidealú reachtaíochta sna Coistí,

(*e*) tograí a dhéanann difear do sholáthar seirbhísí do Choistí, agus

(*f*) aon ní eile a bhféadfar dul i gcomhairle leis ina leith faoi mhír (7).

(4) Déanfaidh an Coiste, go háirithe, na nithe seo a leanas a bhreithniú agus a chinneadh–

(*a*) cionroinnt airgid a bheidh ar fáil do Choistí le haghaidh comhairleachta agus taistil, ach sin faoi réir thoiliú Choimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais; agus

(*b*) leithroinnt na cóiríochta a bheidh ar fáil i gcomhair cruinnithe Coistí:

Ar choinníoll nach mbeidh feidhm ag an mír seo maidir leis an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí.

(5) Láithreoidh an Taoiseach os comhair an Choiste le linn sheisiúin Earraigh agus Fómhair an tSeanaid araon chun saincheisteanna maidir le beartas poiblí a phlé, agus comhaontóidh an Coiste clár oibre do na cruinnithe sin leis an Taoiseach roimh ré.

(6) Féadfaidh an Coiste, faoi réir forálacha reachtaíochta lena rialaítear Seirbhís Thithe an Oireachtais, agus faoi réir thoiliú Choimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais, más cuí, moltaí a dhéanamh faoi aon ní is iomchuí maidir le soláthar seirbhísí do Choistí agus atá faoina chúram.

(7) Féadfaidh an Coiste dul i gcomhairle leis an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí, agus féadfaidh an Coiste sin dul i gcomhairle leis an gCoiste, i ndáil le nithe a fhearann ar Choistí. Féadfaidh an Coiste cibé moltaí is cuí leis i ndáil le nithe a fhearann ar Choistí a chur faoi bhráid na gcomhlachtaí sin.

(8) Beidh ag an gCoiste na cumhachtaí a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 72(1), (2), (4), (8), (14) agus (15).

AN COMHCHOISTE UM ACHAINÍOCHA ÓN BPOBAL

An Comhchoiste um Achainíocha ón bPobal.

108. (1) Beidh arna bhunú, i ndiaidh ationól an tSeanaid tar éis Olltoghcháin, Buan-Choiste, a chomhcheanglófar le Coiste dá shamhail de chuid Dháil Éireann, chun bheith ina Chomhchoiste um Achainíocha ón bPobal, chun breithniú a dhéanamh ar an méid seo a leanas—

(*a*) achainíocha ón bpobal a bheidh dírithe chuig Tithe an Oireachtais agus a bheidh arna dtarchur chuig an gCoiste de réir Bhuan-Orduithe 109 go 112, go huile;

(*b*) cibé nithe eile a tharchuirfidh Tithe an Oireachtais chuig an gCoiste; agus

(*c*) aon nithe gaolmhara eile.

(*c*) matters of common interest to Committee Chairmen and the issuing of guidance for Committees generally,

(*d*) scheduling of legislation in Committees,

(*e*) proposals which affect the delivery of services to Committees, and

(*f*) any other matter on which it may be consulted under paragraph (7).

(4) The Committee shall, in particular, consider and decide on–

(*a*) apportionment of moneys available to Committees for consultancy and travel, subject to the consent of the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission; and

(*b*) allocation of accommodation available for Committee meetings:

Provided that this paragraph shall not apply to the Committee on Procedure and Privileges.

(5) The Taoiseach shall appear before the Committee in both the Spring and the Autumn Seanad sessions to discuss matters of public policy, and the Committee shall agree an agenda for those meetings with the Taoiseach in advance.

(6) The Committee may, subject to the provisions of legislation governing the Houses of the Oireachtas Service, and the consent of the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission where appropriate, make recommendations on any matter relevant to the provision of services to Committees falling within its remit.

(7) The Committee may consult with, and be consulted by, the Committee on Procedure and Privileges in relation to matters affecting Committees. The Committee may make such recommendations to those bodies in relation to matters affecting Committees as it considers appropriate.

(8) The Committee shall have the powers defined in Standing Order 72(1), (2), (4), (8), (14) and (15).

Joint Committee on Public Petitions

Joint Committee on Public Petitions.

108. (1) There shall stand established, following the reassembly of the Seanad subsequent to a General Election, a Standing Committee, which shall be joined with a similar Committee of Dáil Éireann, to form the Joint Committee on Public Petitions, to consider—

(*a*) public petitions addressed to the Houses of the Oireachtas which shall stand referred to the Committee in accordance with Standing Orders 109 to 112, inclusive;

(*b*) such other matters as may be referred to the Committee by the Houses of the Oireachtas; and

(*c*) any other related matters.

(2) Féadfaidh an Coiste freisin breithniú a dhéanamh ar ní is díol imní nó spéise don phobal i gcoitinne i ndáil le cumhachtaí reachtacha Thithe an Oireachtais nó le saincheist beartais phoiblí: Ar choinníoll go rachaidh Cathaoirleach an Chomhchoiste, roimh thosach an bhreithnithe sin, i gcomhairle leis an gCoiste iomchuí arna bhunú de bhun Bhuan-Ordú 71.

(3) Ceathrar comhaltaí de Sheanad Éireann a bheidh ar an mBuan-Choiste. Ceathrar is córam don Chomhchoiste, ar comhalta de Dháil Éireann duine amháin díobh ar a laghad agus ar comhalta de Sheanad Éireann duine amháin díobh ar a laghad. Beidh Cathaoirleach an Chomhchoiste ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta de Dháil Éireann.

(4) Beidh na cumhachtaí seo a leanas ag an gComhchoiste:

(*a*) na cumhachtaí a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 72, seachas míreanna (3), (6), (7), (10) agus (11) den Bhuan-Ordú sin; agus

(*b*) cumhacht chun aon ní a bheidh arna bhreithniú aige (agus ar cinneadh dóthain tábhachta a bheith leis chun go bhfuil gá le breithniú breise) a tharchur chuig an gComhchoiste iomchuí a bheidh arna cheapadh faoi Bhuan-Ordú 71 chun é a bhreithniú tuilleadh agus tuairisciú don Choiste.

(5) Beidh feidhm ag forálacha Bhuan-Ordú 82 maidir leis an gComhchoiste.

(6) Féadfaidh an Comhchoiste dul i mbun plé leis an gCoiste um Achainíocha de chuid Pharlaimint na hEorpa, lena n-áirítear plé i ndáil le Tionscnamh Eorpach na Saoránach.

(7) Beidh sé ina threoir don Chomhchoiste nach mbreithneoidh sé aon ní a bheidh á bhreithniú ag an gCoiste um Chuntais Phoiblí, nó ar thug an Coiste sin fógra faoi á rá go bhfuil beartaithe aige é a bhreithniú, i bhfeidhmiú a fheidhmeanna faoi Bhuan-Ordú 218 de Bhuan-Orduithe Dháil Éireann i dtaobh Gnó Phoiblí agus/nó Acht an Ard Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste (Leasú), 1993.

(8) Ullmhóidh an Comhchoiste clár oibre bliantúil agus tuarascáil bhliantúil, mar atá leagtha amach i mBuan-Ordú 77, agus leagfar iad faoi bhráid dhá Theach an Oireachtais.

Achainí a thaisceadh.

109. (1) Féadfar achainí a dhíriú chuig Tithe an Oireachtais maidir le ní is díol imní nó spéise don phobal i gcoitinne i ndáil lena gcumhachtaí reachtacha nó le saincheist beartais phoiblí.

(2) Féadfaidh pearsa aonair, comhlacht corpraithe nó comhlachas neamhchorpraithe daoine achainí a thaisceadh.

(3) Luafar go soiléir in achainí—

(*a*) ainm an achainígh;

(*b*) seoladh de chuid an achainígh ar chóir gach comhfhreagras a bhaineann leis an achainí a sheoladh chuige; agus

(*c*) ainm agus seoladh aon duine atá ag tacú leis an achainí.

(2) The Committee may also consider a matter of general public concern or interest in relation to the legislative powers of the Houses of the Oireachtas or an issue of public policy: Provided that prior to the commencement of such consideration, the Chairman of the Joint Committee shall consult with the relevant Committee established pursuant to Standing Order 71.

(3) The Standing Committee shall consist of four members of Seanad Éireann. The quorum of the Joint Committee shall be four, of whom at least one shall be a member of Seanad Éireann and one a member of Dáil Éireann. The Chairman of the Joint Committee shall be a member of Dáil Éireann.

(4) The Joint Committee shall have the following powers:

(*a*) the powers defined in Standing Order 72, other than paragraphs (3), (6), (7), (10) and (11) thereof; and

(*b*) power to refer any matter which has been considered by it (and which has been concluded to be of sufficient importance to require additional consideration) to the relevant Joint Committee appointed under Standing Order 71 for further consideration and report back to the Committee.

(5) The provisions of Standing Order 82 shall apply to the Joint Committee.

(6) The Joint Committee may engage with the Committee on Petitions of the European Parliament including in relation to the European Citizens' Initiative.

(7) It shall be an instruction to the Joint Committee that it shall not consider any matter which is being considered, or of which notice has been given of a proposal to consider, by the Committee of Public Accounts in the exercise of its functions under Standing Order 218 of the Standing Orders of Dáil Éireann relative to Public Business and/or the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993.

(8) The Joint Committee shall prepare an annual work programme and an annual report as outlined in Standing Order 77, which shall be laid before both Houses of the Oireachtas.

Lodging of petitions.

109. (1) A petition may be addressed to the Houses of the Oireachtas on a matter of general public concern or interest in relation to their legislative powers or an issue of public policy.

(2) A petition may be lodged by an individual person, a body corporate or an unincorporated association of persons.

(3) A petition shall clearly indicate—

(*a*) the name of the petitioner;

(*b*) an address of the petitioner to which all communications concerning the petition should be sent; and

(*c*) the name and address of any person supporting the petition.

(4) Beidh gach achainí a dhíreofar chuig Tithe an Oireachtais arna tarchur chuig an gComhchoiste um Achainíocha ón bPobal (dá ngairtear "an Coiste" sa Bhuan-Ordú seo agus i mBuan-Orduithe 110, 111 agus 112).

(5) Cinnfidh an Coiste, ó am go ham—

(*a*) foirm chuí achainíocha;

(*b*) an modh ar a dtaiscfear achainíocha leis na Tithe; agus

(*c*) cibé nithe eile i ndáil le hachainíocha a bhreithniú is cuí leis an gCoiste agus nach ndéantar foráil lena n-aghaidh ar shlí eile sna Buan-Orduithe seo.

Inghlacthacht achainíocha.

110. (1) Tá achainí inghlactha mura rud é—

(*a*) go n-iarrtar léi ar an Seanad aon ní a dhéanamh seachas ní a bhfuil cumhacht ag an Seanad é a dhéanamh;

(*b*) nach gcomhlíonann sí na Buan-Orduithe nó nach bhfuil sí i bhfoirm chuí ar shlí eile;

(*c*) go bhfuil sí *sub judice* de réir bhrí Bhuan-Ordú 47;

(*d*) go bhfuil ainm nó ainmneacha pearsan aonair inti;

(*e*) go bhfuil teanga inti atá colúil nó ar de chineál clúmhillteach í;

(*f*) gurb ionann í agus achainí, nó go bhfuil sí i dtéarmaí atá go substaintiúil de shamhail achainí, a thionscain an duine céanna, an comhlacht corpraithe céanna nó an comhlachas neamhchorpraithe céanna, nó a tionscnaíodh thar a cheann nó thar a ceann, le linn shaolré an tSeanaid sin agus a dúnadh le comhaontú an Choiste;

(*g*) go bhfuil sí suaibhreosach, cráiteach nó gur mí-úsáid ar an gcóras achainíocha í ar shlí eile; agus

(*h*) go gceanglaítear léi ar an gCoiste gearán aonair a bhreithniú ab ábhar do chinneadh ó Ombudsman, nó ó chomhlacht rialála poiblí nó comhlacht arna bhunú chun críche sásaimh.

(2) I ndáil le hachainíocha inghlactha, i gcás achainí ina bpléitear—

(*a*) le nithe áitiúla nó réigiúnacha; nó

(*b*) le nithe ar mó is cuí do chomhlacht rialála poiblí nó comhlacht arna bhunú chun críche sásaimh iad;

suífidh an Coiste gur úsáid an t-achainíoch na bealaí achomhairc nó sásaimh go léir atá ar fáil sula mbreithneoidh an Coiste an ní.

(4) All petitions addressed to the Houses of the Oireachtas shall stand referred to the Joint Committee on Public Petitions (referred to in this Standing Order and Standing Orders 110, 111 and 112 as "the Committee").

(5) The Committee shall, from time to time, determine—

(*a*) the proper form of petitions;

(*b*) the manner in which petitions are to be lodged with the Houses; and

(*c*) such other matters in relation to the consideration of petitions as the Committee considers appropriate and which are not otherwise provided for in these Standing Orders.

Admissibility of petitions.

110. (1) A petition is admissible unless it—

(*a*) requests the Seanad to do anything other than the Seanad has power to do;

(*b*) does not comply with Standing Orders or is otherwise not in proper form;

(*c*) is *sub judice* within the meaning of Standing Order 47;

(*d*) contains the name or names of individuals;

(*e*) contains language which is offensive or in the nature of being defamatory;

(*f*) is the same as, or in substantially similar terms to, a petition brought by or on behalf of the same person, body corporate or unincorporated association during the lifetime of that Seanad and which was closed by agreement of the Committee;

(*g*) is frivolous, vexatious or otherwise constitutes an abuse of the petitions system; and

(*h*) requires the Committee to consider an individual complaint which has been the subject of a decision by an Ombudsman, or by a regulatory public body or a body established for the purpose of redress.

(2) In relation to admissible petitions, where a petition deals with—

(*a*) local or regional matters; or

(*b*) matters which are more appropriate to a regulatory public body or a body established for the purpose of redress;

the Committee shall establish that all available avenues of appeal or redress have been utilised by the petitioner prior to the Committee considering the matter.

(3) Breithneoidh an Coiste agus cinnfidh sé i gcás díospóide an bhfuil achainí inghlactha agus tabharfaidh sé fógra don achainíoch faoina chinneadh agus faoi na cúiseanna atá leis an gcinneadh sin.

Gníomhartha i ndáil le hachainíocha.

111. (1) Má tá achainí inghlactha, déanfaidh an Coiste cibé gníomh is cuí leis i ndáil leis an achainí sin.

(2) Gan dochar do ghinearáltacht mhír (1), féadfaidh an Coiste—

(*a*) an achainí a tharchur chuig Ombudsman nó chuig comhlacht rialála poiblí nó comhlacht arna bhunú chun críche sásaimh;

(*b*) an achainí a tharchur chuig aon Choiste eile is cuí leis, mar aon le hiarraidh go ndéanfar í a bhreithniú tuilleadh agus tuairisciú don Choiste; agus

(*c*) tuarascáil a thabhairt don Seanad mar aon le moltaí, lena n-áirítear iarraidh go ndéanfaidh an Seanad díospóireacht ar an tuarascáil.

(3) Tabharfaidh an Coiste fógra don achainíoch faoi aon ghníomh a dhéanfar faoi mhír (2).

Achainíocha a dhúnadh.

112. (1) Féadfaidh an Coiste achainí a dhúnadh aon tráth.

(2) I gcás go ndúnfaidh an Coiste achainí, tabharfaidh sé fógra don achainíoch go bhfuil an achainí dúnta agus faoi na cúiseanna ar dúnadh í.

Tuarascálacha Ombudsman a bhreithniú.

113. I gcás nach ndéanfaidh Roghchoiste, faoi Bhuan-Ordú 71(7)(*b*), tuarascáil Ombudsman, nó cuid nó codanna di, a bhreithniú laistigh de thréimhse dhá mhí (gan tréimhsí sosa na Nollag, na Cásca nó an tsamhraidh a chur san áireamh) tar éis an tuarascáil a leagan faoi bhráid ceachtar Teach den Oireachtas nó faoi bhráid an dá Theach sin, cromfaidh an Comhchoiste um Achainíocha ón bPobal ar an tuarascáil Ombudsman, nó aon chodanna di nach mbeidh breithnithe ag an Roghchoiste, a bhreithniú.

RÓL SHEANAD ÉIREANN FAOI AIRTEAGAL 29.4 DEN BHUNREACHT (AN CONRADH AR AN AONTAS EORPACH AGUS AN CONRADH AR FHEIDHMIÚ AN AONTAIS EORPAIGH: CONRADH LIOSPÓIN)

Socruithe idirthréimhseacha.

114. (1) Beidh arna bhunú ar thosach gach Seanaid Roghchoiste a mbeidh na cumhachtaí a leagtar amach i mBuan-Orduithe 116, 117 agus 118 arna dtabhairt dó.

(2) Ceapfaidh an Seanad, tráth nach déanaí ná an tríú lá suí i ndiaidh an tosaigh sin agus ar ainmniú ón gCoiste Roghnóireachta, sé chomhalta chuig an Roghchoiste a bhunófar faoi mhír (1) den Bhuan-Ordú seo, ar córam triúr díobh, agus le linn dó é sin a dhéanamh, déanfaidh sé—

(*a*) na feidhmeanna a bheidh le comhlíonadh ag an Roghchoiste a mhíniú, agus

(3) The Committee shall consider and decide in a case of dispute whether a petition is admissible and shall notify the petitioner of its decision and of the reasons for that decision.

Actions in relation to petitions.

111. (1) If a petition is admissible, the Committee shall take such action as it considers appropriate in relation to that petition.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), the Committee may—

(*a*) refer the petition to an Ombudsman or a regulatory public body or a body established for the purpose of redress;

(*b*) refer the petition to any other Committee as it considers appropriate, with a request for further consideration and report back to the Committee; and

(*c*) report to the Seanad with recommendations, including a request that the report be debated by the Seanad.

(3) The Committee shall notify the petitioner of any action taken under paragraph (2).

Closing of petitions.

112. (1) The Committee may close a petition at any time.

(2) Where the Committee closes a petition it shall notify the petitioner that the petition is closed and of the reasons for closing it.

Consideration of Ombudsman reports.

113. Where a Select Committee does not under Standing Order 71(7)(*b*) consider an Ombudsman report, or a portion or portions thereof, within two months (excluding Christmas, Easter or Summer recess periods) of the report being laid before either or both Houses of the Oireachtas, the Joint Committee on Public Petitions shall proceed to consider the Ombudsman report, or any portions thereof not considered by the Select Committee.

ROLE OF SEANAD ÉIREANN UNDER ARTICLE 29.4 OF THE CONSTITUTION (TREATY ON EUROPEAN UNION AND TREATY ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EUROPEAN UNION: THE LISBON TREATY)

Transitional arrangements.

114. (1) There shall stand established, at the commencement of every Seanad, a Select Committee which shall stand conferred with the powers set out in Standing Orders 116, 117 and 118.

(2) The Seanad shall, not later than the third sitting day following such commencement and on the nomination of the Committee of Selection, appoint six members to the Select Committee established under paragraph (1) of this Standing Order, of whom three shall constitute a quorum, and in so doing, shall—

(*a*) define the functions to be performed by the Select Committee, and

(*b*) na cumhachtaí, más ann, a bheidh le tarmligean chun an Roghchoiste faoi Bhuan-Ordú 72 a mhíniú.

Treoracha do Roghchoistí áirithe.

115. (1) Maidir le Roghchoiste dá mbeidh cumhachtaí tugtha faoi Bhuan-Orduithe 116, 117 nó 118 agus a bheidh comhcheangailte le Roghchoiste arna cheapadh ag Dáil Éireann chun Comhchoiste a dhéanamh, féadfaidh sé a chinneadh, áfach, gníomhú mar Roghchoiste den Seanad maidir le ní sonraithe nó nithe sonraithe nó ar feadh tréimhse ama sonraithe chun na cumhachtaí a dúradh a fheidhmiú.

(2) Beidh sé ina threoir do Roghchoiste dá mbeidh cumhachtaí tugtha faoi Bhuan-Orduithe 116, 117 nó 118 nach ndéanfaidh sé breithniú ar aon ní a chuimsítear leis na Buan-Orduithe a luadh cheana i gcás go mbeidh an ní sin á bhreithniú cheana féin ag Roghchoiste eile.

(3) Beidh de chumhacht ag gach Roghchoiste dá mbeidh cumhachtaí tugtha faoi Bhuan-Orduithe 116, 117 nó 118 a iarraidh ar Roghchoiste eile de cheachtar Teach dá mbeidh na cumhachtaí sin tugtha sa tslí chéanna go dtionólfar comhchruinniú den dá Choiste chun ní sonrach nó nithe sonracha comhghníomhaíochta a bhreithniú agus, i gcás aon chomhchruinnithe den sórt sin—

(*a*) gníomhóidh Cathaoirleach an Choiste iarrthaigh mar Chathaoirleach agus, mura féidir don Chathaoirleach a bheith i láthair, beidh feidhm ag forálacha Bhuan-Ordú 81(2) agus (3);

(*b*) beidh feidhm ag forálacha an dá Choiste i dtaobh córaim fairis an modhnú go laghdófar gach córam den sórt sin de leath agus ansin go gcothromófar é suas go dtí an chéad slánuimhir eile is gaire; agus

(*c*) ní bheidh feidhm ag orduithe tagartha an dá Choiste ach amháin a mhéid is orduithe iad a bhaineann leis an dá Choiste.

Dréachtghníomhartha reachtacha: teorainn ocht seachtaine chun tuairim a thabhairt ar shárú na coimhdeachta ("cárta buí agus cárta oráiste").

116. (1) De réir Airteagal 6 de Phrótacal Uimh. 2 a ghabhann leis an gConradh ar an Aontas Eorpach agus leis an gConradh ar Fheidhmiú an Aontais Eorpaigh (*Prótacal maidir le Prionsabail na Coimhdeachta agus na Comhréireachta a Chur i bhFeidhm*) arna chur chun feidhme le halt 7(3) d'Acht an Aontais Eorpaigh, 2009, féadfaidh an Seanad a chumhachtú do Roghchoiste tuairim réasúnaithe a fhoirmiú nach gcomhlíonann dréachtghníomh reachtach (de réir bhrí Airteagal 3 den Phrótacal sin) prionsabal na coimhdeachta.

(2) Beidh gach dréachtghníomh reachtach a chuirfear ar aghaidh chuig an Seanad faoi Airteagal 4 den Phrótacal a dúradh arna tharchur chuig Roghchoiste a chumhachtaítear faoin mBuan-Ordú seo.

(3) Beidh sé ina threoir do Roghchoiste a chumhachtaítear faoin mBuan-Ordú seo —

(*a*) le linn dó tuairim réasúnaithe a fhoirmiú i dtaobh an gcomhlíonann dréachtghníomh reachtach prionsabal na coimhdeachta, go rachaidh an Coiste i gcomhairle le cibé Coistí eile agus le cibé páirtithe leasmhara is cuí leis;

(*b*) define the powers, if any, to be devolved upon the Select Committee under Standing Order 72.

Instructions to certain Select Committees.

115. (1) A Select Committee on which powers have been conferred under Standing Orders 116, 117 or 118 and which has been joined with a Select Committee appointed by Dáil Éireann to form a Joint Committee may nevertheless decide to act as a Select Committee of the Seanad in respect of a specified matter or matters or for a specified time period for the purpose of exercising the said powers.

(2) It shall be an instruction to a Select Committee on which powers have been conferred under Standing Orders 116, 117 or 118 that it shall not enter into consideration of any matter comprehended by the aforementioned Standing Orders where such matter is already under consideration by another Select Committee.

(3) Each Select Committee on which powers have been conferred under Standing Orders 116, 117 or 118 shall have power to request of another Select Committee of either House on which such powers have been similarly conferred that a joint meeting of both Committees be held to consider a specific matter or matters of common activity and, in the case of any such joint meeting—

(*a*) the Chairman of the requesting Committee shall act as Chairman and, in the unavoidable absence of the Chairman, the provisions of Standing Order 81(2) and (3) shall apply;

(*b*) the quorum provisions of both Committees shall apply with the modification that each such quorum shall be halved and then rounded up to the next nearest whole number; and

(*c*) the orders of reference of the two Committees shall apply only insofar as they are common to both.

Draft legislative acts: eight week limit to express opinion on infringement of subsidiarity ("yellow and orange card").

116. (1) In accordance with Article 6 of Protocol No. 2 to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (*Protocol on the Application of the Principles of Subsidiarity and Proportionality*) as applied by section 7(3) of the European Union Act 2009, the Seanad may empower a Select Committee to form a reasoned opinion that a draft legislative act (within the meaning of Article 3 of the said Protocol) does not comply with the principle of subsidiarity.

(2) All draft legislative acts forwarded to the Seanad under Article 4 of the said Protocol shall stand referred to a Select Committee empowered under this Standing Order.

(3) It shall be an instruction to a Select Committee empowered under this Standing Order that —

(*a*) in forming a reasoned opinion on whether a draft legislative act complies with the principle of subsidiarity, the Committee shall consult with such other Committees and such stakeholders as it considers appropriate;

(*b*) más rud é gurb é tuairim an Choiste nach gcomhlíonann dréachtghníomh reachtach prionsabal na coimhdeachta, go ndéanfaidh sé tuairim réasúnaithe sa chéill sin a chur isteach ar mhodh tuarascála a leagfar faoi bhráid an tSeanaid;

(*c*) i gcás go mbeidh tuarascáil leagtha ag an gCoiste faoi mhír (3)(*b*) den Bhuan-Ordú seo, go ndéanfaidh an Cathaoirleach, láithreach, tairiscint maidir léi a chur síos faoi alt 7(3) d'Acht an Aontais Eorpaigh, 2009: Ar choinníoll, maidir leis an tuairim réasúnaithe a bheidh leagtha amach i dtuarascáil an Choiste, go bhféadfaidh an Seanad, trí leasú ar an tairiscint a bheidh curtha síos ag an gCathaoirleach faoin mír seo, tuairim a chur ina hionad, cur léi nó í a athrú ar shlí eile.

(4) I gcás go n-aontaíonn an Seanad tairiscint a bheidh curtha síos de bhun mhír (3)(*c*) den Bhuan-Ordú seo, tar éis í a leasú nó gan í a leasú, cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach faoi deara cóip—

(*a*) den Rún a bheidh aontaithe ag an Seanad,

(*b*) den tuairim réasúnaithe a bheidh aontaithe ag an Seanad, agus

(*c*) den tuarascáil ón gCoiste dá dtagraítear i mír (3)(*c*),

a chur chuig Uachtarán Pharlaimint na hEorpa, Uachtarán na Comhairle agus Uachtarán an Choimisiúin.

Athruithe ar chinnteoireacht AE: teorainn 6 mhí chun cur i gcoinne ("cárta dearg").

117. (1) Féadfaidh an Seanad a chumhachtú do Roghchoiste breithniú a dhéanamh ar cibé fógraí—

(*a*) faoin tríú fomhír d'Airteagal 48.7 den Chonradh ar an Aontas Eorpach (*passerelle ginearálta*: athrú ó ghníomhú d'aon toil go dtí gníomhú trí thromlach cáilithe nó ó nós imeachta reachtach speisialta go dtí gnáthnós imeachta reachtach) arna cur chun feidhme le halt 7(1) d'Acht an Aontais Eorpaigh, 2009, agus

(*b*) faoin tríú fomhír d'Airteagal 81.3 den Chonradh ar Fheidhmiú an Aontais Eorpaigh (*passerelle dhlí an teaghlaigh*: athrú go dtí gnáth nós imeachta reachtach le haghaidh beart a bhaineann leis an dlí teaghlaigh agus a mbeidh impleachtaí trasteorann acu) arna cur chun feidhme le halt 7(2) d'Acht an Aontais Eorpaigh, 2009,

a tharchuirfidh an Seanad chuig an gCoiste ó am go ham.

(2) Beidh sé ina threoir do Roghchoiste a chumhachtaítear faoin mBuan-Ordú seo —

(*a*) le linn dó fógraí den sórt sin a bhreithniú, go rachaidh an Coiste i gcomhairle le cibé Coistí eile agus le cibé páirtithe leasmhara is cuí leis;

(*b*) i gcás go mbeidh an Coiste i gcoinne an chinnidh dá dtagraíonn an fógra, go leagfaidh sé tuarascáil sa chéill sin faoi bhráid an tSeanaid;

(*c*) i gcás go mbeidh tuarascáil leagtha ag an gCoiste faoi mhír (2)(*b*) den Bhuan-Ordú seo, go ndéanfaidh an Cathaoirleach, láithreach, tairiscint maidir léi a chur síos faoi alt 7(1) nó 7(2) d'Acht an Aontais Eorpaigh, 2009, mar is cuí; agus

(*b*) where the Committee is of the opinion that a draft legislative act does not comply with the principle of subsidiarity, it shall submit a reasoned opinion to this effect by way of a report which shall be laid before the Seanad;

(*c*) where a report has been laid by the Committee under paragraph (3)(*b*) of this Standing Order, the Chairman shall forthwith table a motion thereon under section 7(3) of the European Union Act 2009: Provided that the Seanad may substitute, add to or otherwise vary, the reasoned opinion set out in the Committee's report by way of amendment to the motion tabled by the Chairman under this paragraph.

(4) Where the Seanad agrees a motion tabled pursuant to paragraph (3)(*c*) of this Standing Order, either with or without amendment, the Cathaoirleach shall cause a copy of—

(*a*) the Resolution agreed by the Seanad,

(*b*) the reasoned opinion agreed by the Seanad, and

(*c*) the report of the Committee referred to in paragraph (3)(*c*),

to be sent to the Presidents of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission.

Changes in EU decision-making: six month limit to oppose ("red card").

117. (1) The Seanad may empower a Select Committee to consider such notifications under—

(*a*) the third subparagraph of Article 48.7 of the Treaty on European Union (*general passerelle:* change from unanimity to qualified majority or from special legislative procedure to ordinary legislative procedure) as applied by section 7(1) of the European Union Act 2009, and

(*b*) the third subparagraph of Article 81.3 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (*family law passerelle:* change to ordinary legislative procedure for measures concerning family law with cross-border implications) as applied by section 7(2) of the European Union Act 2009,

as may be referred to the Committee from time to time by the Seanad.

(2) It shall be an instruction to a Select Committee empowered under this Standing Order that —

(*a*) in considering such notifications, the Committee shall consult with such other Committees and such stakeholders as it considers appropriate;

(*b*) where the Committee is opposed to the decision to which the notification refers, it shall lay a report to this effect before the Seanad;

(*c*) where a report has been laid by the Committee under paragraph (2)(*b*) of this Standing Order, the Chairman shall forthwith table a motion thereon under section 7(1) or 7(2) of the European Union Act 2009, as appropriate; and

(*d*) i gcás nach mbeidh an Coiste i gcoinne an chinnidh dá dtagraíonn an fógra, go gcuirfidh sé Teachtaireacht chuige sin chun an tSeanaid de réir an nóis imeachta atá leagtha amach i mBuan-Ordú 75.

(3) Cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach faoi deara cóip de gach Rún arna dhéanamh ag an Seanad faoi mhír (2)(*c*) den Bhuan-Ordú seo a chur chuig Uachtarán na Comhairle Eorpaí nó chuig an gComhairle de réir mar is cuí, mar aon le cóip den Tuarascáil dá dtagraíonn an Rún.

Gníomhartha reachtacha: sárú na coimhdeachta: iarraidh ar athbhreithniú ag Cúirt Bhreithiúnais an Aontais Eorpaigh.

118. (1) De réir Airteagal 8 de Phrótacal Uimh. 2 a ghabhann leis an gConradh ar an Aontas Eorpach agus leis an gConradh ar Fheidhmiú an Aontais Eorpaigh (*Prótacal maidir le Prionsabail na Coimhdeachta agus na Comhréireachta a Chur i bhFeidhm*) arna chur chun feidhme le halt 7(4) d'Acht an Aontais Eorpaigh, 2009, féadfaidh an Seanad a chumhachtú do Roghchoiste breithniú a dhéanamh i dtaobh an ndéanann aon ghníomh de chuid institiúide den Aontas Eorpach sárú ar phrionsabal na coimhdeachta.

(2) Beidh sé ina threoir do Roghchoiste a chumhachtaítear faoin mBuan-Ordú seo —

(*a*) le linn dó breithniú a dhéanamh i dtaobh an ndéanann gníomh de chuid institiúide den Aontas Eorpach sárú ar phrionsabal na coimhdeachta, go rachaidh an Coiste i gcomhairle le cibé Coistí eile agus le cibé páirtithe leasmhara is cuí leis;

(*b*) más rud é—

(i) gurb é tuairim an Choiste go ndéanann gníomh de chuid institiúide den Aontas Eorpach sárú ar phrionsabal na coimhdeachta, agus

(ii) gur mian leis an gCoiste go ndéanfaí imeachtaí ag lorg athbhreithniú ar an ngníomh lena mbaineann a thionscnamh i gCúirt Bhreithiúnais an Aontais Eorpaigh,

go leagfaidh sé tuarascáil sa chéill sin faoi bhráid an tSeanaid; agus

(*c*) i gcás go mbeidh tuarascáil leagtha ag an gCoiste faoi mhír (2)(*b*) den Bhuan-Ordú seo, go ndéanfaidh an Cathaoirleach, láithreach, tairiscint maidir léi a chur síos faoi alt 7(4) d'Acht an Aontais Eorpaigh, 2009.

(3) Cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach faoi deara cóip de gach Rún arna dhéanamh ag an Seanad de réir mhír (2)(*c*) den Bhuan-Ordú seo a chur chuig an Aire iomchuí.

FIOSRÚCHÁIN DE CHUID CHUID 2

Fiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2.

119. (1) Ceadóidh an Seanad fiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2 a sheoladh de réir na mBuan-Orduithe seo.

(*d*) where the Committee is not opposed to the decision to which the notification refers, it shall send a Message to this effect to the Seanad in accordance with the procedure set out in Standing Order 75.

(3) The Cathaoirleach shall cause a copy of all Resolutions made by the Seanad under paragraph (2)(*c*) of this Standing Order to be sent to the President of the European Council or the Council as appropriate, together with a copy of the Report to which the Resolution refers.

Legislative acts: infringement of subsidiarity: request for review by EU Court of Justice.

118. (1) In accordance with Article 8 of Protocol No. 2 to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (*Protocol on the Application of the Principles of Subsidiarity and Proportionality*) as applied by section 7(4) of the European Union Act 2009, the Seanad may empower a Select Committee to consider whether any act of an institution of the European Union infringes the principle of subsidiarity.

(2) It shall be an instruction to a Select Committee empowered under this Standing Order that —

(*a*) in considering whether an act of an institution of the European Union infringes the principle of subsidiarity, the Committee shall consult with such other Committees and such stakeholders as it considers appropriate;

(*b*) where the Committee—

(i) is of the opinion that an act of an institution of the European Union infringes the principle of subsidiarity, and

(ii) wishes that proceedings seeking a review of the act concerned be brought to the Court of Justice of the European Union,

it shall lay a report to this effect before the Seanad; and

(*c*) where a report has been laid by the Committee under paragraph (2)(*b*) of this Standing Order, the Chairman shall forthwith table a motion thereon under section 7(4) of the European Union Act 2009.

(3) The Cathaoirleach shall cause a copy of all Resolutions made by the Seanad in accordance with paragraph (2)(*c*) of this Standing Order to be sent to the relevant Minister.

PART 2 INQUIRIES

Part 2 inquiries.

119. (1) The Seanad shall approve the conducting of Part 2 inquiries in accordance with these Standing Orders.

(2) Déanfaidh Coiste a bheartaíonn fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 a sheoladh togra iomchuí ina thaobh sin a chur, faoi Bhuan-Ordú 120, faoi bhráid Coiste arna ainmniú ag an Seanad faoi na Buan-Orduithe seo chun na tograí sin a ghlacadh.

(3) Cuirfidh an Coiste a bheidh ainmnithe chun tograí iomchuí a ghlacadh faoi deara na tograí sin a mheasúnú agus ullmhóidh sé tuarascáil iomchuí ar na tograí iomchuí sin.

(4) Ní foláir go gceadóidh an Seanad na téarmaí tagartha le haghaidh fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2, de réir Bhuan-Ordú 123, agus ní rithfidh an Seanad aon Rún maidir le Téarmaí Tagartha, ná ní dhiúltóidh sé aon rún den sórt sin a rith, sula ndéanfar an tuarascáil arna hullmhú faoi mhír (3) a bhreithniú.

(5) Déanfaidh an Seanad foilsiú tuarascálacha eatramhacha nó críochnaitheacha[2] de chuid Coiste a bheidh ag seoladh fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 a cheadú de réir Bhuan-Ordú 125.

An Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí chun fógra maidir le togra iomchuí a fháil.

120. (1) Is é an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí an Coiste ainmnithe faoi Bhuan-Ordú 119(2) chun fógra maidir le togra iomchuí a fháil ó aon Choiste a bheartaíonn fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 a sheoladh.

(2) Déanfaidh an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí, ó am go ham, rialacha agus nósanna imeachta a bhaineann le measúnú tograí iomchuí a cheapadh agus a leagan faoi bhráid an tSeanaid, lena n-áirítear rialacha agus nósanna imeachta a bhaineann le haon chomhairliúchán maidir le tograí iomchuí agus aon mhodh measúnachta a bhaineann leo.

(3) Chun críocha na mBuan-Orduithe seo, ach amháin i gcás go gcuirtear a mhalairt in iúl, ciallaíonn "fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2" fiosrúchán faoi Chaibidil 1 de Chuid 2 den Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013.

(4) Chun críocha na mBuan-Orduithe seo, ach amháin i gcás go gcuirtear a mhalairt in iúl, ciallóidh tuarascálacha eatramhacha agus tuarascálacha críochnaitheacha i ndáil le fiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2 tuarascálacha eatramhacha agus tuarascálacha críochnaitheacha faoi ailt 33(1) agus 34(1) den Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013.

Togra iomchuí.

121. Maidir le togra iomchuí faoi Bhuan-Ordú 119(2), a mhéid is indéanta, beidh ann na nithe seo a leanas nó díreofar ann ar na nithe seo a leanas—

(*a*) an cineál fiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2 atá beartaithe de bhun ailt 7 go 10, go huile, den Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013;

(*b*) an ní nó na nithe is ábhar don fhiosrúchán beartaithe, chun a shonrú, a mhéid is indéanta, an t-iompar, na teagmhais, na gníomhaíochtaí, na himthosca, na córais, na cleachtais nó na nósanna imeachta a bheidh le fiosrú, lena n-áirítear—

[2] Féach Cuid 4 den Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013 i ndáil le tuarascálacha ó Choistí a bheidh ag seoladh fiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2.

(2) A Committee which proposes to conduct a Part 2 inquiry shall make a relevant proposal in that regard, under Standing Order 120, to a Committee designated by the Seanad under these Standing Orders to receive such proposals.

(3) The Committee designated to receive relevant proposals shall cause those proposals to be evaluated and shall make a relevant report on those relevant proposals.

(4) The terms of reference for a Part 2 inquiry must be approved by the Seanad, in accordance with Standing Order 123, and no Terms of Reference Resolution shall be passed, or be declined to be passed, by the Seanad, prior to the consideration of the report prepared under paragraph (3).

(5) The publication of final or interim reports[2] of a Committee conducting a Part 2 inquiry shall be approved by the Seanad in accordance with Standing Order 125.

Committee on Procedure and Privileges to receive notice of relevant proposal.

120. (1) The Committee on Procedure and Privileges shall be the designated Committee under Standing Order 119(2) to receive notice of a relevant proposal from any Committee which proposes to conduct a Part 2 inquiry.

(2) The Committee on Procedure and Privileges shall from time to time devise and lay before the Seanad rules and procedures relating to evaluation of relevant proposals, including rules and procedures relating to any consultation on and method of assessment of relevant proposals.

(3) For the purposes of these Standing Orders, except where otherwise indicated, "Part 2 inquiry" means an inquiry under Chapter 1 of Part 2 of the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013.

(4) For the purposes of these Standing Orders, except where otherwise indicated, interim and final reports in relation to Part 2 inquiries shall mean interim and final reports under sections 33(1) and 34(1) of the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013.

Relevant proposal.

121. A relevant proposal under Standing Order 119(2) shall address or contain, insofar as is practicable—

(*a*) the type of Part 2 inquiry proposed pursuant to sections 7 to 10, inclusive, of the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013;

(*b*) the matter or matters the subject of the proposed inquiry, to specify, as far as is practicable, the conduct, events, activities, circumstances, systems, practices or procedures to be inquired into, including—

[2] See Part 4 of the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013 in relation to reports of Committees conducting Part 2 inquiries.

(i) na dátaí a tharla, nó na tréimhsí ar lena linn a tharla an t-iompar nó na teagmhais, na dátaí a gabhadh de láimh nó na tréimhsí ar lena linn a gabhadh de láimh na gníomhaíochtaí, na dátaí a d'eascair nó na tréimhsí ar lena linn a d'eascair na himthosca, nó na dátaí a bhí, nó na tréimhsí ar lena linn a bhí na córais, na cleachtais nó na nósanna imeachta i ngníomh,

(ii) an áit nó an ceantar inar tharla an t-iompar nó na teagmhais, inar gabhadh de láimh na gníomhaíochtaí, inar eascair na himthosca, nó ina raibh na córais, na cleachtais nó na nósanna imeachta i ngníomh, agus

(iii) na daoine lena mbaineann an t-iompar sin nó na teagmhais, na gníomhaíochtaí nó na himthosca sin, nó na daoine a bhfuil a ngníomhaíochtaí, a gcórais, a gcleachtais nó a nósanna imeachta le fiosrú;

(*c*) an amhlaidh go mbaineann an ní nó na nithe le feidhm de chuid an tSeanaid;

(*d*) an chúis gur chóir gurbh ábhar d'fhiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 an ní nó na nithe, seachas é nó iad a scrúdú trí fhoirmeacha eile d'imscrúdú parlaiminteach;

(*e*) i ndáil leis an gCoiste a bheartaíonn an fiosrúchán a sheoladh—

(i) an chúis, de thoradh a orduithe tagartha láithreacha, go measann sé gur chóir dó an fiosrúchán a sheoladh, nó

(ii) na hathruithe, más ann, ar a orduithe tagartha láithreacha is gá, ina thuairim, chun go seolfaidh sé an fiosrúchán;

(*f*) an sceideal ama a bhfuiltear ag súil lena úsáid i dtaca leis an bhfiosrúchán beartaithe, lena n-áirítear an le linn tréimhse aonair nó ina chéimeanna a bheartaítear an fiosrúchán beartaithe a sheoladh;

(*g*) na hathruithe, más ann, is gá a dhéanamh, i dtuairim an Choiste a bheartaíonn an fiosrúchán a sheoladh, ar an dlí reachtúil, chun an fiosrúchán a sheoladh;

(*h*) dréacht-Rún maidir le Téarmaí Tagartha á rá, *inter alia*, maidir leis an gCoiste a bheartaíonn an fiosrúchán a sheoladh, le linn dó é a sheoladh, an amhlaidh—

(i) go mbeartaíonn sé cinntí fíorais a dhéanamh, lena n-áirítear cinntí fíorais a d'fhéadfadh cur i gcoinne dea-chlú duine (ag brath ar chineál an fhiosrúcháin atá beartaithe), nó i ndáil le mí-iompar iomchuí,

(ii) go mbeartaíonn sé moltaí a dhéanamh ag eascairt as na nithe seo a leanas—

(I) a chinntí fíorais, nó

(II) na cinntí fíorais arna ndéanamh ag Coiste eile le linn fiosrúchán eile de chuid Chuid 2 a sheoladh má luaitear go sainráite sna téarmaí tagartha don fhiosrúchán eile sin de chuid Chuid 2 go bhféadfar a chinntí fíorais a úsáid i bhfiosrúcháin eile de chuid Chuid 2,

(i) the dates on which, or the periods during which, the conduct or events occurred, the activities were undertaken, the circumstances arose, or the systems, practices or procedures were in operation,

(ii) the location or area where the conduct or events occurred, the activities were undertaken, the circumstances arose, or the systems, practices or procedures were in operation, and

(iii) the persons to whom that conduct or those events, activities or circumstances relate, or whose activities, systems, practices or procedures are to be inquired into;

(*c*) whether the matter or matters relate to a function of the Seanad;

(*d*) the reason the matter or matters ought to be the subject of a Part 2 inquiry, rather than being examined through other forms of parliamentary investigation;

(*e*) in relation to the Committee proposing to conduct the inquiry—

(i) the reason that it, further to its existing orders of reference, considers that it ought to conduct the inquiry, or

(ii) the changes, if any, to its existing orders of reference, which are, in its opinion, necessary for it to conduct the inquiry;

(*f*) the anticipated time schedule for the proposed inquiry, including whether it is proposed to conduct the proposed inquiry in a single period or in phases;

(*g*) the changes, if any, to statute law, which are, in the opinion of the Committee proposing to conduct the inquiry, necessary to conduct the inquiry;

(*h*) a draft Terms of Reference Resolution, which shall state, *inter alia*, whether the Committee proposing to conduct the inquiry, in conducting it—

(i) proposes to make findings of fact, including findings of fact that may impugn the good name of a person (depending on the type of inquiry proposed), or in relation to relevant misbehaviour,

(ii) proposes to make recommendations arising from—

(I) its findings of fact, or

(II) the findings of fact made by another Committee in conducting another Part 2 inquiry if the terms of reference for that other Part 2 inquiry expressly state that its findings of fact may be used in other Part 2 inquiries,

(iii) go mbeartaíonn sé go bhféadfaidh Coiste eile a chinntí fíorais, más ann, a úsáid le linn fiosrúchán eile de chuid Chuid 2 a sheoladh,

(iv) go bhfuil nó go mbeidh an chumhacht aige chun fios a chur ar dhaoine nó chun fios a chur i ndáil le páipéir agus taifid;

agus

(*i*) cibé nithe eile i ndáil leis an bhfiosrúchán beartaithe is cuí leis an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí.

Breithniú an Choiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí ar thogra iomchuí.

122. Le linn breithniú a dhéanamh ar thogra iomchuí arna dhéanamh de bhun Bhuan-Orduithe 119(2) agus 121, déanfaidh an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí na nithe seo a leanas a bhreithniú—

(*a*) an cóir fiosrúchán beartaithe de chuid Chuid 2 a sheoladh;

(*b*) mura cóir é a sheoladh, an cóir gníomh malartach a bhreithniú;

(*c*) más cóir an fiosrúchán a sheoladh—

(i) cén Coiste ar cóir dó é a sheoladh;

(ii) cén modh, faoi ailt 7 go 10 go huile den Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013, ar ar cóir é a sheoladh; agus

(iii) an dréacht-Rún maidir le Téarmaí Tagartha don fhiosrúchán beartaithe; agus

(*d*) cibé nithe eile i ndáil leis an bhfiosrúchán beartaithe is cuí leis an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí.

Tuarascáil iomchuí agus Rún maidir le Téarmaí Tagartha.

123. (1) Cuirfidh an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí faoi deara tuarascáil iomchuí faoi Bhuan- Ordú 119(3) a ullmhú maidir le haon tograí iomchuí a fhaigheann sé le haghaidh fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 agus déanfaidh sé, a luaithe is indéanta tar éis an tuarascáil iomchuí a ghlacadh, an tuarascáil iomchuí a leagan faoi bhráid an tSeanaid agus déanfaidh comhalta a bheidh ainmnithe ag an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí tairiscint a chur síos chun an tuarascáil iomchuí agus na moltaí atá inti a bhreithniú.

(2) Déanfar moltaí sa tuarascáil iomchuí i ndáil leis na nithe atá i mBuan-Ordú 122, agus féadtar go mbeidh ar áireamh sa tuarascáil sin an dréacht-Rún maidir le Téarmaí Tagartha i ndáil leis an togra iomchuí, mar aon le haon leasuithe air is cuí leis an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí, lena mbreithniú ag an Seanad.

(3) Déanfaidh an Seanad an tuarascáil iomchuí agus na moltaí a bheidh inti a bhreithniú agus ní dhéanfaidh sé Rún maidir le Téarmaí Tagartha a rith faoi Bhuan-Ordú 119(4) i ndáil leis an togra iomchuí, ná ní dhiúltóidh sé Rún den sórt sin a rith, go dtí go mbeidh an breithniú sin déanta.

(iii) proposes that its findings of fact, if any, may be used by another Committee in conducting another Part 2 inquiry,

(iv) has or is to have the power to send for persons, papers or records;

and

(*i*) such other matters in relation to the proposed inquiry as the Committee on Procedure and Privileges considers appropriate.

Committee on Procedure and Privileges consideration of relevant proposal.

122. When considering a relevant proposal made pursuant to Standing Orders 119(2) and 121, the Committee on Procedure and Privileges shall consider—

(*a*) whether a proposed Part 2 inquiry should be conducted;

(*b*) if it should not be conducted, whether an alternative course of action should be considered;

(*c*) if the inquiry should be conducted—

(i) the Committee by which it should be conducted;

(ii) the manner, under sections 7 to 10, inclusive, of the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013, in which it should be conducted; and

(iii) the draft Terms of Reference Resolution for the proposed inquiry; and

(*d*) such other matters in relation to the proposed inquiry as the Committee on Procedure and Privileges considers appropriate.

Relevant report and Terms of Reference Resolution.

123. (1) The Committee on Procedure and Privileges shall cause to be prepared a relevant report under Standing Order 119(3) on any relevant proposals it receives for a Part 2 inquiry and shall, as soon as is practicable after its adoption of the relevant report, lay the relevant report before the Seanad, and a member nominated by the Committee on Procedure and Privileges shall table a motion to consider the relevant report and the recommendations contained therein.

(2) The relevant report shall make recommendations in relation to the matters contained in Standing Order 122, and may include the draft Terms of Reference Resolution in relation to the relevant proposal, with any amendments thereto which are considered appropriate by the Committee on Procedure and Privileges, for consideration by the Seanad.

(3) The Seanad shall consider the relevant report and the recommendations therein and shall neither pass nor decline to pass a Terms of Reference Resolution under Standing Order 119(4) in relation to the relevant proposal until such consideration has been given.

Fiosrúchán dá éis.

124. Más mian le Coiste a bheidh ag seoladh fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 fiosrúchán iarmhartach a sheoladh, ar fiosrúchán é nach dtagann faoi réim an Rúin maidir le Téarmaí Tagartha arna rith ag an Seanad, tabharfaidh sé tuilleadh fógra i scríbhinn i dtaobh togra iomchuí breise don Choiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí, agus beidh feidhm ag forálacha Bhuan-Orduithe 119 go 123 go huile maidir leis an togra iomchuí breise sin.

Tuarascálacha ar fhiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2.

125. D'ainneoin ghinearáltacht Bhuan-Orduithe 76 agus 77[3], i gcás go dtabharfaidh Coiste a bheidh ag seoladh fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 tuarascáil eatramhach nó tuarascáil chríochnaitheach, déanfar an tuarascáil a chur chuig Cléireach an tSeanaid ar dtús agus déanfaidh sé nó sí socrú, a luaithe is indéanta, chun an tuarascáil a scaipeadh ar na comhaltaí. I gcás go mbeidh tuarascáil den sórt sin scaipthe ag Cléireach an tSeanaid ar na comhaltaí, féadfaidh an Seanad, i gcás gur tuarascáil eatramhach an tuarascáil, a ordú dá éis sin go ndéanfar an tuarascáil a leagan faoi bhráid an tSeanaid agus a phoibliú, agus déanfaidh an Seanad, i gcás gur tuarascáil chríochnaitheach an tuarascáil, a ordú go ndéanfar an tuarascáil a leagan faoi bhráid an tSeanaid agus a phoibliú.

Dualgas comhalta sláine fiosrúcháin a chosaint.

126. Beidh sé ina dhualgas ginearálta ar chomhalta sláine fiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2 a chosaint, lena n-áirítear rúndacht pléití agus doiciméad a bhaineann leis an bhfiosrúchán a chothabháil.

Urscaoileadh ó Choiste.

127. (1) I gcás go ndéanfaidh comhalta de Choiste a mbeidh fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 á sheoladh aige ordachán arna thabhairt ag an gCathaoirleach dó nó di chun scor de cheistiú áirithe a shárú, féadfaidh an Coiste comhaontú a dhéanamh tuarascáil a thabhairt don Seanad, á mholadh, d'ainneoin aon ní i mBuan-Ordú 97, go ndéanfar an comhalta a bheidh i gceist a urscaoileadh ón gCoiste.

(2) I gcás go measfaidh Coiste a mbeidh fiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2 á sheoladh aige gur sháraigh duine dá chomhaltaí ceanglas de chuid an Achta Fiosrúchán is infheidhme maidir leis an bhfiosrúchán de chuid Chuid 2, agus gur sárú tromchúiseach an sárú i dtuairim an Choiste, féadfaidh an Coiste comhaontú a dhéanamh tuarascáil a thabhairt don Seanad—

(*a*) ina sonrófar an t-alt iomchuí de chuid an Achta Fiosrúchán ina bhfuil an ceanglas a sáraíodh, agus an fhianaise a bhaineann leis an sárú; agus

(*b*) ina molfar, d'ainneoin aon ní i mBuan-Ordú 97, go ndéanfar an comhalta a bheidh i gceist a urscaoileadh ón gCoiste.

(3) Le linn dó a fheidhmeanna faoi mhír (2) a chomhlíonadh, déanfaidh an Coiste, gach tráth, aird chuí a thabhairt ar na prionsabail Bhunreachta a bhaineann le cothroime bhunúsach nósanna imeachta agus ar riachtanais an cheartais aiceanta agus Bunreachta.

(4) A luaithe is indéanta tar éis dó tuarascáil faoi mhír (1) nó faoi mhír (2) a ghlacadh, déanfaidh an Coiste an tuarascáil a leagan faoi bhráid an tSeanaid, agus déanfaidh comhalta den Choiste a bheidh ainmnithe ag an gCoiste tairiscint a chur síos, a luaithe is indéanta, á mholadh go dtabharfaidh an Seanad

[3] Féach Cuid 4 den Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013 i ndáil le tuarascálacha ó Choistí a bheidh ag seoladh fiosrúcháin de chuid Chuid 2.

Subsequent inquiry.

124. If a Committee conducting a Part 2 inquiry wishes to conduct a consequential inquiry not covered by the Terms of Reference Resolution passed by the Seanad, it shall give further notice in writing of an additional relevant proposal to the Committee on Procedure and Privileges, to which additional relevant proposal the provisions of Standing Orders 119 to 123, inclusive, shall apply.

Part 2 inquiry reports.

125. Notwithstanding the generality of Standing Orders 76 and 77[3], where a Committee conducting a Part 2 inquiry makes an interim or final report, the report shall first be sent to the Clerk of the Seanad, who shall as soon as is practicable arrange for its circulation to members. Where members have been circulated with such a report by the Clerk of the Seanad, the Seanad may, where the report is an interim report, subsequently order that the report be laid before the Seanad and made public, and shall, where the report is a final report, order that the report be laid before the Seanad and made public.

Duty of member to uphold integrity of inquiry.

126. It shall be a general duty of a member to uphold the integrity of a Part 2 inquiry, including maintaining the confidentiality of deliberations and documents relating to the inquiry.

Discharge from Committee.

127. (1) Where a member of a Committee which is conducting a Part 2 inquiry contravenes a direction given to him or her by the Chairman to cease particular questioning, the Committee may agree to report to the Seanad, recommending, notwithstanding anything in Standing Order 97, that the member in question be discharged from the Committee.

(2) Where a Committee which is conducting a Part 2 inquiry considers that one of its members has contravened a requirement of the Inquiries Act applicable to the Part 2 inquiry, and, in the opinion of the Committee, the contravention is a serious contravention, the Committee may agree to report to the Seanad—

(*a*) specifying the relevant section of the Inquiries Act containing the requirement which has been contravened, and the evidence relating to the contravention; and

(*b*) recommending, notwithstanding anything in Standing Order 97, that the member in question be discharged from the Committee.

(3) In performing its functions under paragraph (2), the Committee shall at all times have due regard to the Constitutional principles of basic fairness of procedures and the requirements of natural and Constitutional justice.

(4) As soon as is practicable after its adoption of a report under paragraph (1) or paragraph (2), the Committee shall lay the report before the Seanad, and a member of the Committee nominated by the Committee shall table a motion, as soon as is practicable, proposing that the Seanad takes note of

[3] See Part 4 of the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013 in relation to reports of Committees conducting Part 2 inquiries.

an moladh sa tuarascáil dá aire agus, d'ainneoin aon ní i mBuan-Ordú 97, go ndéanfaidh sé an comhalta a bheidh i gceist a urscaoileadh ón gCoiste.

(5) Déanfaidh an Seanad tairiscint faoi mhír (4) a bhreithniú a luaithe is indéanta.

(6) Ní bheidh feidhm ag forálacha Bhuan-Ordú 125 maidir le tuarascáil faoin mBuan-Ordú seo.

(7) Na tagairtí do "an tAcht Fiosrúchán" sa Bhuan-Ordú seo, is tagairtí iad don Acht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013.

Oifig an Chléirigh agus Taifid an Tseanaid

Cín Lae na nImeachtaí.

128. Coimeádfaidh an Cléireach cuntas ar imeachtaí uile an tSeanaid, nó an Choiste den Seanad uile, agus nuair a bheidh miontuairiscí na n-imeachtaí léite agus sínithe ag an gCathaoirleach clóbhuailfear iad agus beidh siad ina gCín Lae ar Imeachtaí an tSeanaid.

Taifid agus doiciméid a choimeád.

129. Is é nó is í an Cléireach a choimeádfaidh Cín Lae na nImeachtaí, na taifid, agus gach doiciméad eile is leis an Seanad, agus ní dhéanfaidh sé nó sí ná ní cheadóidh sé nó sí aon Chín Lae ar na hImeachtaí ná aon taifid ná doiciméid den sórt sin a thabhairt amach as an Seomra nó as na hoifigí gan cead sainráite ón Seanad, ach amháin mar a fhoráiltear a mhalairt sna Buan-Orduithe seo: Ach má bhíonn an Seanad curtha ar athló go ceann aon tréimhse is faide ná seachtain, féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach an cead sin a thabhairt agus tuairisceoidh sé nó sí sin don Seanad ar theacht le chéile arís dó.

Rialú ar fhoireann na Parlaiminte.

130. Is ag an gCléireach a bheidh stiúradh agus rialú na n-oifigeach agus na comhfhoirne uile, faoi réir cibé orduithe a gheobhaidh sé nó sí ó am go ham ón gCathaoirleach nó ón Seanad.

An Cléireach a bheith as láthair.

131. Nuair a bheidh an Cléireach as láthair comhlíonfaidh nó feidhmeoidh an Leas-Chléireach gach dualgas a chuirtear ar an gCléireach, agus gach cumhacht a thugtar dó nó di, leis na Buan-Orduithe seo.

An Cléireach agus an Leas-Chléireach a bheith as láthair.

132. I gcás an Cléireach agus an Leas-Chléireach a bheith as láthair, féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach duine de chomhfhoireann Thithe an Oireachtais a cheapadh chun bheith ina Chléireach Gníomhach nó ina Cléireach Gníomhach, agus déanfaidh an Cléireach Gníomhach sin, de thuras na huaire, dualgais uile an Chléirigh a chomhlíonadh agus cumhachtaí agus feidhmeanna uile an Chléirigh a fheidhmiú.

Doiciméid (Scríbhinní) Oifigiúla, Páipéir Phríobháideacha agus Cumarsáidí Rúnda

Doiciméid (Scríbhinní) oifigiúla agus páipéir phríobháideacha.

133. (1) Mura n-éilíonn an comhthéacs a mhalairt:

the recommendation in the report and, notwithstanding anything in Standing Order 97, discharges the member in question from the Committee.

(5) The Seanad shall consider a motion under paragraph (4) as soon as is practicable.

(6) The provisions of Standing Order 125 shall not apply to a report under this Standing Order.

(7) References in this Standing Order to "the Inquiries Act" are references to the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013.

Office of Clerk and Records of the Seanad

Journal of Proceedings.

128. All proceedings of the Seanad, or of the Committee of the whole Seanad, shall be noted by the Clerk, and the minutes of proceedings, after being perused and signed by the Cathaoirleach, shall be printed and shall constitute the Journal of the Proceedings of the Seanad.

Custody of records and documents.

129. The custody of the Journal of the Proceedings, records, and all other documents whatsoever belonging to the Seanad shall be in the Clerk, who shall neither take nor permit to be taken any such Journal of the Proceedings, records or documents from the Chamber or offices without the express leave of the Seanad, except as otherwise provided for in these Standing Orders: Provided that in the event of the Seanad being adjourned for any period longer than a week, such leave may be given by the Cathaoirleach, who shall report the same to the Seanad upon its reassembling.

Control over parliamentary staff.

130. The Clerk shall have the direction of and control over all the officers and joint staff, subject to such orders as he may, from time to time, receive from the Cathaoirleach or the Seanad.

Absence of Clerk.

131. All the duties devolving upon, and all the powers conferred upon, the Clerk by these Standing Orders shall in his or her absence be performed or exercised by the Clerk-Assistant.

Absence of Clerk and Clerk-Assistant.

132. In the absence of the Clerk and Clerk-Assistant, the Cathaoirleach may appoint a member of the joint staff of the Houses of the Oireachtas to be Acting Clerk, and such Acting Clerk shall, for the time being, perform all the duties and exercise all the powers and functions of the Clerk.

Official Documents, Private Papers and Confidential Communications

Official documents and private papers.

133. (1) Unless the context otherwise requires:

(*a*) ciallaíonn "doiciméad oifigiúil" (dá ngairtear "scríbhinn oifigiúil" in Airteagal 15.10 de Bhunreacht na hÉireann) i mBuan-Ordú 134 doiciméad oifigiúil chun críocha an Bhuan-Ordaithe sin, agus ciallaíonn sé i mBuan-Ordú 136 doiciméad oifigiúil mar a mhínítear é in alt 112(1) d'Acht 2013;

(*b*) folaíonn aon tagairt do Bhuan-Ordú 134 tagairt don Sceideal a ghabhann leis na Buan-Orduithe seo;

(*c*) ciallaíonn "páipéar príobháideach" i mBuan-Ordú 135 páipéar príobháideach chun críocha an Bhuan-Ordaithe sin;

(*d*) ciallaíonn "Acht 2013" sa Bhuan-Ordú seo agus i mBuan-Orduithe 136 agus 137 an tAcht um Thithe an Oireachtais (Fiosrúcháin, Pribhléidí agus Nósanna Imeachta), 2013; agus

(*e*) i mBuan-Ordú 135, ciallaíonn "sealbhóir oifige" Aire den Rialtas, Aire Stáit nó comhalta arb é nó í an tArd-Aighne, agus sa Sceideal a ghabhann leis na Buan-Orduithe seo, folaíonn an téarma sin freisin an Taoiseach agus an Tánaiste.

(2) Ní tharscaoilfidh cosaint arna tabhairt i dtaobh doiciméid le Buan-Ordú 134 nó 135 nó dá bhua teidlíocht aon duine, ná ní dhéanfaidh sí dochar do theidlíocht aon duine (lena n-áirítear an Seanad nó aon cheann dá Choistí) aon phribhléid nó díolúine eile a agairt, mar shampla, pribhléid ghairmiúil dhlíthiúil nó díolúine maidir le leas an phobail, a fhéadfaidh a bheith ag gabháil, nó a bhféadfar an argóint a dhéanamh ina leith í a bheith ag gabháil, leis an doiciméad.

(3) Sa Sceideal a ghabhann leis na Buan-Orduithe seo, ciallaíonn "oifigeach don Seanad" an Cathaoirleach, an Leas-Chathaoirleach, aon Chathaoirleach sealadach, an Cathaoirleach nó an Leas-Chathaoirleach ar aon Choiste den Seanad, an Cléireach, agus an Leas-Chléireach, agus an Cléireach d'aon Choiste den Seanad, agus pléifear le haon ní arna dhéanamh ag duine éigin nó maidir le duine éigin ar fhoireann de chuid comhalta i gcáil an duine sin mar chomhalta foirne den sórt sin mar ní a bheidh déanta ag an gcomhalta nó maidir leis an gcomhalta.

(4) Ní foláir plé le doiciméad, is doiciméad oifigiúil chun críocha Bhuan-Ordú 134 nó is páipéar príobháideach chun críocha Bhuan-Ordú 135, ar mhodh rúin, agus ceanglaítear leis na Buan-Orduithe seo é a choimeád ar mhodh rúin.

(5) I mBuan-Orduithe 134 agus 135, tá de bhrí le "doiciméad" an míniú atá in alt 2(1) d'Acht 2013, agus bainfidh sé le cóip den doiciméad in aon ghaireacht.

Doiciméid (Scríbhinní) oifigiúla agus an Bunreacht.

134. (1) Déantar an Buan-Ordú seo d'fhonn éifeacht a thabhairt d'Airteagal 15.10 den Bhunreacht a mhéid a dhéanann sé foráil maidir le doiciméid (scríbhinní) oifigiúla an tSeanaid a chosaint (a dhídean).

(2) Chun críche an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, is éard iad doiciméid oifigiúla na doiciméid go léir atá i gcoimeád an tSeanaid nó Coiste den Seanad, nó ar leis an Seanad nó Coiste den Seanad iad, nó atá faoina rialú ag an Seanad nó ag Coiste, agus:

(*a*) a ullmhófar nó a ullmhaíodh d'fhonn aon ghnó de chuid an tSeanaid nó de chuid Coiste den sórt sin a dhéanamh, nó chun críocha a bheidh teagmhasach leis an gcéanna,

(*a*) an "official document" in Standing Order 134 means an official document for the purposes of that Standing Order, and in Standing Order 136 means an official document as defined in section 112(1) of the 2013 Act;

(*b*) any reference to Standing Order 134 includes a reference to the Schedule to these Standing Orders;

(*c*) a "private paper" in Standing Order 135 means a private paper for the purposes of that Standing Order;

(*d*) the "2013 Act" in this Standing Order and in Standing Orders 136 and 137 means the Houses of the Oireachtas (Inquiries, Privileges and Procedures) Act 2013; and

(*e*) in Standing Order 135 "office-holder" means a Minister of the Government, a Minister of State, or a member who is the Attorney-General, and in the Schedule to these Standing Orders that term also includes the Taoiseach and the Tánaiste.

(2) The conferral of protection on a document by or by virtue of Standing Order 134 or 135 does not waive or prejudice the entitlement of any person (including the Seanad or any of its Committees) to invoke any other privilege or immunity, for example, legal professional privilege or public interest immunity, that may attach, or may arguably attach, to the document.

(3) In the Schedule to these Standing Orders, an "officer of the Seanad" means the Cathaoirleach, the Leas-Chathaoirleach, any temporary Chairman, the Chairman or vice-Chairman of any Committee of the Seanad, the Clerk, and the Clerk-Assistant, and the Clerk of any Committee of the Seanad, and anything done by or to some person on a member's staff in that person's capacity as such is to be treated as having been done by or to the member.

(4) A document which is an official document for the purposes of Standing Order 134 or a private paper for the purposes of Standing Order 135, must be treated as confidential, and is required by these Standing Orders to be kept confidential.

(5) In Standing Orders 134 and 135 "document" imports the definition contained in section 2(1) of the 2013 Act, and extends to a copy of the document at any remove.

Official documents and the Constitution.

134. (1) This Standing Order is made for the purposes of giving effect to Article 15.10 of the Constitution in so far as it provides for the protection of the official documents of the Seanad.

(2) For the purpose of this Standing Order, official documents are all documents in the custody of, or belonging to, the Seanad or a Committee of the Seanad, or over which the Seanad or Committee exercises control, and which:

(*a*) are or have been prepared for the purposes of, or purposes incidental to, transacting any business of the Seanad or of such a Committee,

(*b*) a chruthófar nó a cruthaíodh leis na Buan-Orduithe seo nó dá mbun, nó le hordú nó le hordachán den Seanad nó de Choiste den sórt sin nó dá bhun,

(*c*) a thabharfar nó a tugadh i bhfianaise don Seanad nó do Choiste den sórt sin, nó

(*d*) a thabharfar nó a tugadh ar aird don Seanad nó do Choiste den sórt sin, nó a chuirfear nó a cuireadh faoi bhráid an tSeanaid nó Coiste den sórt sin:

murar leagadh an doiciméad, nó mura bhfuil sé le leagan faoi láthair, faoi bhráid an tSeanaid nó murar cuireadh é, nó mura bhfuil sé le cur faoi láthair, go dleathach ar shlí eile sa réimse poiblí.

(3) (*a*) Pléifear leis na hearnálacha doiciméad sa Sceideal a ghabhann leis na Buan-Orduithe seo, faoi réir fhomhír (*d*) den mhír seo, mar dhoiciméid a thagann faoi réim mhír (2)(*a*) nó (2)(*b*).

(*b*) Féadfaidh an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí, faoi réir an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, earnálacha eile doiciméad a ainmniú a bpléifear leo mar dhoiciméid a thagann faoi réim mhír (2)(*a*) nó (2)(*b*) agus féadfaidh an Coiste sin, aon tráth, an t-ainmniú sin a athrú nó a chúlghairm.

(*c*) Ní foláir aon ainmniú, aon athrú nó aon chúlghairm dá dtagraítear i bhfomhír (*b*) den mhír seo a fhoilsiú a luaithe is indéanta tar éis a dhéanta nó a déanta.

(*d*) Maidir le doiciméid a thairgfear do Chléireach Coiste den Seanad ach a ndiúltóidh an Coiste iad a ghlacadh, agus doiciméid a thabharfar do Choiste den sórt sin ach a bheidh scortha, le breith ón gCoiste de réir reachta, de bheith ina ndoiciméid de chuid an Choiste sin, ní doiciméid oifigiúla iad agus pléifear leo mar dhoiciméid nach raibh riamh ina ndoiciméid oifigiúla, mura gcáileoidh siad ar fhoras éigin eile.

(4) Ní thabharfaidh an Cléireach rochtain ar dhoiciméad oifigiúil, ná ní cheadóidh sé nó sí doiciméad oifigiúil a nochtadh, mura rud é go mbeidh, agus a mhéid a bheidh, foráil déanta le haghaidh na rochtana sin nó an nochta sin i mír (5) nó (6) nó faoi mhír (5) nó (6), nó ar shlí eile sna Buan-Orduithe seo nó fúthu.

(5) (*a*) Féadfar rochtain ar dhoiciméad oifigiúil sonraithe nó ar dhoiciméid oifigiúla shonraithe a thabhairt, nó féadfar a nochtadh a cheadú, aon tráth, cibé acu i gcoitinne nó chun críche sonraí, agus cibé acu gan choinníoll nó ar théarmaí arna gcinneadh:

(i) le Rún ón Seanad; nó

(ii) ag an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí thar ceann an tSeanaid.

(*b*) Dá ndéanfaí an Seanad a chur ar athló go ceann aon tréimhse is faide ná seachtain, féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach an fheidhm is infheidhmithe ag an gCoiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí nó ag an Seanad faoi fhomhír (*a*) a fheidhmiú agus ní foláir don Chathaoirleach tuairisc a thabhairt don Seanad, ar é a ationól, ina luafar go ndearna sé nó sí amhlaidh.

(*c*) Ní foláir don Choiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí, don Seanad nó don Chathaoirleach, i bhfeidhmiú a gcumhachtaí dóibh faoi fhomhíreanna (*a*) nó (*b*), aird a thabhairt ar na nithe seo a leanas:

(*b*) are or have been created by or pursuant to these Standing Orders, or to an order or direction of the Seanad or of such a Committee,

(*c*) are or have been given in evidence to the Seanad or to such a Committee, or

(*d*) are or have been presented or submitted to the Seanad or to such a Committee:

unless the document has been, or is presently to be, laid before the Seanad or has been, or is presently to be, otherwise lawfully placed in the public domain.

(3) (*a*) The categories of documents in the Schedule to these Standing Orders are, subject to subparagraph (*d*) of this paragraph, to be treated as falling within the scope of paragraph (2) (*a*) or (2)(*b*).

(*b*) The Committee on Procedure and Privileges may, subject to this Standing Order, designate other categories of documents that are to be treated as falling within paragraph (2)(*a*) or (2) (*b*), and may at any time vary or revoke that designation.

(*c*) Any designation, variation, or revocation referred to in subparagraph (*b*) of this paragraph must be published as soon as practicable after it is made.

(*d*) Documents proffered to the Clerk of a Committee of the Seanad but which the Committee declines to receive, and documents given to such a Committee but which have ceased by decision of the Committee in accordance with statute to be documents of that Committee, are not, and are to be treated as never having been, official documents, unless they qualify on some other ground.

(4) The Clerk must not afford access to, or allow disclosure of, an official document unless, and to the extent that, that access or disclosure is provided for in or under paragraph (5) or (6) or otherwise in or under these Standing Orders.

(5) (*a*) At any time, access to a specified official document, or specified official documents, may be afforded, or disclosure of it or them allowed, whether generally or for a specific purpose, and whether unconditionally or on terms:

(i) by Resolution of the Seanad; or

(ii) by the Committee on Procedure and Privileges on behalf of the Seanad.

(*b*) Should the Seanad be adjourned for any period longer than a week, the function exercisable by the Committee on Procedure and Privileges or the Seanad under subparagraph (*a*) may be exercised by the Cathaoirleach who must report his or her having done so to the Seanad once it reassembles.

(*c*) The Committee on Procedure and Privileges, the Seanad, or the Cathaoirleach must, in exercising their powers under subparagraphs (*a*) or (*b*), have regard to:

(i) a mhéid a bhaineann an doiciméad nó na doiciméid le ní a mbaineann tábhacht phoiblí leis nó a bhaineann le leas an phobail;

(ii) cearta agus leasanna aon duine dá ndéantar difear; agus

(iii) aon imthosca iomchuí eile.

(6) (*a*) Maidir le deonú rochtana ar dhoiciméad oifigiúil, nó nochtadh doiciméid oifigiúil, do Choimisiún Thithe an Oireachtais nó dá fhoireann, ag an Seanad nó ag Coiste den Seanad nó thar a cheann, d'fhonn a chumasú don Choimisiún sin nó do Sheirbhís Thithe an Oireachtais a fheidhmeanna reachtúla nó a feidhmeanna reachtúla a chomhall:

(i) ní gá aon toiliú dá bhforáiltear i mír (5) nó fúithi, aon chead faoi Bhuan-Ordú 129, ná aon cheadú eile faoi na Buan-Orduithe seo, cibé slí ar a dtuairiscítear é, lena aghaidh;

(ii) ní dhéantar leis an doiciméad a chur sa réimse poiblí ná cur isteach ar shlí eile ar rúndacht an doiciméid; ná

(iii) ní bhaineann sé den doiciméad an stádas atá aige mar dhoiciméad oifigiúil.

(*b*) Aon chomhalta a bhfuil seilbh nó rochtain aige nó aici ar dhoiciméad oifigiúil de réir na mBuan-Orduithe seo nó le húdarás dleathach eile, féadfaidh sé nó sí, gan aon toiliú dá bhforáiltear i mír (5) nó fúithi, nó dá bhforáiltear ar shlí eile sna Buan-Orduithe seo nó fúthu, an doiciméad oifigiúil a úsáid chun aon ghnó de chuid an tSeanaid, nó de chuid Coiste den Seanad, a dhéanamh, nó chun críoch atá teagmhasach leis an gcéanna, más úsáid de shórt a luaitear sna Buan-Orduithe seo an úsáid sin, agus sin fiú amháin má thagann an doiciméad isteach sa réimse poiblí dá thoradh sin.

(7) Maidir leis an gcead a luaitear i mBuan-Ordú 129, ní dheonófar é i leith doiciméad oifigiúil ach amháin de réir an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo.

(8) Ní dhéanfaidh comhalta, ach amháin mar a fhoráiltear i mír (5) nó (6) nó faoin gcéanna, nó ar shlí eile sna Buan-Orduithe seo nó fúthu, aon doiciméad oifigiúil nó lánas an doiciméid sin a nochtadh go poiblí. Is mí-úsáid pribhléide *prima facie* é aon chomhalta do nochtadh, de shárú ar an mír seo, doiciméad oifigiúil nó a lánais.

(9) (*a*) Maidir le doiciméid atá i gcoimeád dhá Theach an Oireachtais, nó Comhchoiste, nó ar le dhá Theach an Oireachtais, nó le Comhchoiste, iad, nó ar a bhfeidhmíonn an dá Theach nó Comhchoiste rialú, bainfidh cosaint an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo leo, ar choinníoll go bhfuil contrapháirt i mBuan-Orduithe na Dála do na téarmaí den Bhuan-Ordú seo lena dtugtar an chosaint sin.

(*b*) Féadfar deonú rochtana ar dhoiciméad oifigiúil a thuairiscítear i bhfomhír (*a*) a cheadú nó a thabhairt, nó nochtadh an chéanna a cheadú nó a thabhairt, más rud é:

(i) go bhfuil contrapháirt i mBuan-Orduithe na Dála don fhoráil den Bhuan-Ordú seo chun an rochtain sin a thabhairt nó an nochtadh sin a cheadú; agus

(i) the extent to which the document or documents relates or relate to a matter of public importance or public interest;

(ii) the rights and interests of any person affected; and

(iii) any other relevant circumstances.

(6) (*a*) The grant of access to, or the disclosure of, an official document afforded by or on behalf of the Seanad or a Committee of the Seanad, to the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission or its staff, for the purpose of enabling either that Commission or the Houses of the Oireachtas Service to discharge its statutory functions:

(i) does not require any consent provided for in or under paragraph (5), any leave under Standing Order 129, or any other permission under these Standing Orders however described;

(ii) does not place the document in the public domain, or otherwise impinge on its confidentiality; and

(iii) does not deprive the document of its status as an official document.

(*b*) A member who has possession of, or access to, an official document in accordance with these Standing Orders or by other lawful authority may use, without any consent provided for in or under paragraph (5) or otherwise in or under these Standing Orders, the official document for the purposes of, or purposes incidental to, transacting any business of the Seanad or of a Committee of the Seanad, once that use is contemplated by these Standing Orders, and even if the document comes into the public domain as a result.

(7) The leave contemplated by Standing Order 129 must not in respect of an official document be granted other than in accordance with this Standing Order.

(8) A member must not, except as provided for in or under paragraph (5) or (6) or otherwise in or under these Standing Orders, disclose in public any official document or the contents of that document. Disclosure by any member, in breach of this paragraph, of an official document or its contents, is *prima facie* an abuse of privilege.

(9) (*a*) This Standing Order's protection extends to documents in the custody of, or belonging to, both Houses of the Oireachtas or a Joint Committee, or over which both Houses or a Joint Committee exercise control, provided that the terms of this Standing Order affording that protection have a counterpart in the Standing Orders of the Dáil.

(*b*) The grant of access to, or disclosure of, an official document described in subparagraph (*a*) may be allowed or afforded where:

(i) the provision in this Standing Order for affording that access or allowing that disclosure has a counterpart in the Standing Orders of the Dáil; and

(ii) más gá toiliú dá bhforáiltear i mír (5) nó fúithi, nó ar shlí eile sna Buan-Orduithe seo nó fúthu, le haghaidh na rochtana nó an nochta sin, go ndeonóidh an dá Theach comhthoilithe.

Páipéir phríobháideacha agus an Bunreacht.

135. (1) Déantar an Buan-Ordú seo chun éifeacht a thabhairt d'Airteagal 15.10 den Bhunreacht a mhéid a dhéantar foráil leis maidir le páipéir phríobháideacha comhaltaí a chosaint (a dhídean).

(2) Chun críche an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, is éard iad páipéir phríobháideacha comhalta na doiciméid go léir a bhfuil súil réasúnach ag an gcomhalta ina leith gur páipéir phríobháideacha iad, agus:

(*a*) a ullmhaítear chun na gcríoch seo a leanas, nó chun críoch atá teagmhasach leo:

(i) aon ghnó de chuid an tSeanaid, nó aon Choiste den Seanad, a dhéanamh; nó

(ii) ról an chomhalta mar ionadaí poiblí;

(*b*) ach:

(i) i gcás inar sealbhóir oifige an comhalta, nach doiciméid a bhaineann le feidhmeanna an chomhalta mar shealbhóir oifige (cibé acu atá na doiciméid sin á sealbhú ag an gcomhalta, ag Roinn nó Oifig an tsealbhóra oifige, ag aon duine dá chomhairleoirí speisialta nó dá comhairleoirí speisialta, nó ag duine éigin eile); ná

(ii) nach bhfuil sa réimse poiblí go dleathach.

(3) Folaíonn tagairt do chomhalta sa Bhuan-Ordú seo:

(*a*) de réir mar is féidir sa chomhthéacs, iarchomhalta ina cháil nó ina cáil mar iarchomhalta, agus

(*b*) de réir mar a éilíonn an comhthéacs, comhalta éagtha, mar aon lena sheiceadóirí nó lena seiceadóirí nó lena riarthóirí ina gcáil mar sheiceadóirí nó riarthóirí.

(4) Beidh comhalta i dteideal diúltú d'iarraidh ar rochtain ar aon cheann dá pháipéir phríobháideacha, nó dá páipéir phríobháideacha, nó ar an gcéanna a nochtadh, agus más chuig an Seanad, chuig aon cheann dá Choistí, nó chuig an gCléireach a dhéantar an iarraidh ar an gcéad ásc, ní foláir don Chléireach diúltú don iarraidh agus a chur in iúl gan mhoill don chomhalta go ndearnadh an iarraidh.

(5) Ní dhéanfaidh comhalta páipéar príobháideach aon chomhalta eile nó lánas an pháipéir phríobháidigh sin a nochtadh go poiblí ach amháin le toiliú sainráite an chomhalta eile sin. Is mí-úsáid pribhléide *prima facie* é aon chomhalta do nochtadh, de shárú ar an mír seo, páipéar príobháideach comhalta eile nó a lánais.

Doiciméid oifigiúla agus Acht 2013.

136. (1) Déantar an Buan-Ordú seo chun tuilleadh éifeachta a thabhairt do Chuid 11 d'Acht 2013 i leith dhoiciméid oifigiúla an tSeanaid.

(ii) if consent provided for in or under paragraph (5) or otherwise in or under these Standing Orders is required for that access disclosure, concurring consents are granted by both Houses.

Private papers and the Constitution.

135. (1) This Standing Order is made for the purposes of giving effect to Article 15.10 of the Constitution in so far as it provides for the protection of the private papers of members.

(2) For the purpose of this Standing Order, the private papers of a member are all documents concerning which the member has a reasonable expectation of privacy, and:

(*a*) which are prepared for the purposes of, or purposes incidental to:

(i) transacting any business of the Seanad or any Committee of the Seanad; or

(ii) the member's role as public representative; but

(*b*) which are not:

(i) where the member is an office-holder, documents relating to the member's functions as office-holder (whether those documents are held by the member, by the office-holder's Department or Office, by any of his or her special advisers, or by some other person); or

(ii) lawfully in the public domain.

(3) A reference to a member in this Standing Order includes:

(*a*) where the context admits, a former member in his or her capacity as a former member, and

(*b*) where the context requires, a deceased member, as well as his or her executors or administrators in their capacity as executors or administrators.

(4) A member is entitled to refuse a request for access to, or disclosure of, any of his or her private papers, and if the request is made in the first instance to the Seanad, to any of its Committees, or to the Clerk, the Clerk must refuse the request and without delay inform the member that it has been made.

(5) A member must not disclose in public the private paper of any other member or the contents of that private paper other than with the express consent of that other member. Disclosure by any member, in breach of this paragraph, of another member's private paper or its contents, is *prima facie* an abuse of privilege.

Official documents and the 2013 Act.

136. (1) This Standing Order is made to give further effect to Part 11 of the 2013 Act in respect of the official documents of the Seanad.

(2) Ar an Seanad do cheadú an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, tá an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí arna cheapadh mar an coiste de chuid Chuid 11 dá bhforáiltear i gCuid 11 d'Acht 2013.

(3) Féadfaidh an coiste de chuid Chuid 11, aon tráth, uaidh féin nó ar iarratas ó aon chomhalta, ordachán de bhun alt 113(1) d'Acht 2013, ina sonraítear na hearnálacha doiciméad atá le bheith ina ndoiciméid oifigiúla, a thabhairt, a athrú nó a chúlghairm, agus ní foláir aon ordachán, athrú nó cúlghairm den sórt sin a fhoilsiú a luaithe is indéanta tar éis a dhéanta nó a déanta.

(4) I gcás go bhfuil doiciméad á shealbhú ag an Seanad agus an Dáil i gcomhpháirt, ní doiciméad oifigiúil de cheachtar Teach chun críocha Acht 2013 an doiciméad sin mura bhfuil ordachán i bhfeidhm ó na coistí de chuid Chuid 11 den dá Theach á rá go bhfuil an earnáil doiciméad lena mbaineann an doiciméad arna hainmniú mar earnáil doiciméad oifigiúil.

(5) (*a*) Féadfaidh an coiste de chuid Chuid 11 breithniú a dhéanamh ar iarratas le haghaidh rochtain ar dhoiciméad oifigiúil nó ar dhoiciméid oifigiúla, nó le haghaidh nochtadh an chéanna, agus féadfaidh sé moladh a dhéanamh don Seanad i leith an iarratais sin.

(*b*) Féadfaidh an Seanad, faoi réir fhomhír (*c*), le Rún, toiliú go hiomlán nó go páirteach le hiarratas den sórt sin, agus is é an Rún sin an toiliú i scríbhinn ón Seanad arna thabhairt de réir na mBuan-Orduithe seo mar a luaitear le halt 114(1)(*a*) d'Acht 2013.

(*c*) Ceanglaítear comhthoilithe i scríbhinn a fháil ón dá Theach le haghaidh rochtain ar dhoiciméad oifigiúil den dá Theach nó le haghaidh nochtadh an chéanna.

(*d*) Féadfaidh toiliú faoi fhomhír (*b*) a bheith ginearálta nó chun críche sonraí, agus féadfaidh sé a bheith gan choinníoll nó ar théarmaí.

Páipéir phríobháideacha, cumarsáidí rúnda agus Acht 2013.

137. (1) Déantar an Buan-Ordú seo chun tuilleadh éifeachta a thabhairt do Chuid 10 d'Acht 2013 i leith páipéir phríobháideacha agus cumarsáidí rúnda comhalta ar bith.

(2) Ar an Seanad do cheadú an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo, tá an Coiste um Nós Imeachta agus Pribhléidí arna cheapadh mar an coiste de chuid Chuid 10 dá bhforáiltear i gCuid 10 d'Acht 2013.

(3) Féadfaidh an coiste de chuid Chuid 10 treoirlínte agus prótacail mar a luaitear le halt 108 d'Acht 2013 a ullmhú agus féadfaidh sé a mholadh go ndéanfaidh an Seanad iad a ghlacadh.

Tuairisc Oifigiúil na nDíospóireachtaí

Tuairisc Oifigiúil na nDíospóireachtaí a eisiúint.

138. (1) Déanfar Tuairisc Oifigiúil ar Dhíospóireachtaí an tSeanaid do gach suí a eisiúint faoi mhaoirseacht an Chathaoirligh.

(2) Cuirfear ar fáil do gach Seanadóir cóip den Tuairisc Oifigiúil sin, agus fós de gach foilseachán eile de chuid an tSeanaid.

(2) On the approval of this Standing Order by the Seanad, the Committee on Procedure and Privileges stands appointed as the Part 11 committee provided for in Part 11 of the 2013 Act.

(3) The Part 11 committee may at any time, either of its own motion or on application by any member, give, vary, or revoke a direction pursuant to section 113(1) of the 2013 Act specifying the categories of documents which are to be official documents, and any such direction, variation, or revocation must be published as soon as practicable after it is made.

(4) Where a document is held jointly by the Seanad and the Dáil, that document is not an official document of either House for the purposes of the 2013 Act unless there is in force a direction of the Part 11 committees of both Houses that the category of documents to which the document belongs stands designated as official documents.

(5) (*a*) The Part 11 committee may consider an application for access to, or disclosure of, an official document or official documents, and may make a recommendation to the Seanad in respect of that application.

(*b*) The Seanad may, subject to subparagraph (*c*), by Resolution consent fully or in part to such an application, and that Resolution is the consent in writing of the Seanad given in accordance with these Standing Orders as contemplated by section 114(1)(*a*) of the 2013 Act.

(*c*) Access to, or disclosure of, an official document of both Houses requires the concurring consents in writing of both Houses.

(*d*) A consent under subparagraph (*b*) may either be general or for a specific purpose, and may be unconditional or on terms.

Private papers, confidential communications and the 2013 Act.

137. (1) This Standing Order is made to give further effect to Part 10 of the 2013 Act in respect of the private papers and confidential communications of any member.

(2) On the approval of this Standing Order by the Seanad, the Committee on Procedure and Privileges stands appointed as the Part 10 committee provided for in Part 10 of the 2013 Act.

(3) The Part 10 committee may prepare guidelines and protocols as contemplated by section 108 of the 2013 Act and recommend their adoption by the Seanad.

Official Report of Debates

Issue of Official Report of Debates.

138. (1) An Official Report of the Debates of the Seanad for each sitting shall be issued under the supervision of the Cathaoirleach.

(2) A copy of such Official Report, as well as of every other publication of the Seanad, shall be made available for every Senator.

(3) Déanfar eagrán ceartaithe de Thuairisc Oifigiúil na nDíospóireachtaí a ullmhú i bhfoirm imleabhar ceangailte ó am go ham de réir mar a chinnfidh an Cathaoirleach.

Cuairteoirí agus Ionadaithe ón Bpreas

Cuairteoirí agus an Preas.

139. Féadfaidh comhaltaí cuairteoirí a thabhairt isteach chun cibé áiteanna a choimeádfaidh an Cathaoirleach in áirithe dóibh, agus ar cibé coinníollacha a fhorordóidh sé nó sí. Féadfaidh ionadaithe údaraithe ón bPreas a bheith i láthair ag suíonna an tSeanaid, nó ag suíonna Coiste den Seanad uile.

Cuairteoirí agus an Preas a dhúnadh amach i gcás éigeandáil speisialta.

140. I gcás éigeandáil speisialta a bheith ann, féadfaidh aon Seanadóir a thairiscint, gan fógra a thabhairt, go ndúnfar gach cuairteoir agus Preasionadaí amach as an Seomra, agus má thoilítear leis an tairiscint sin mar atá leagtha amach sa Bhunreacht, dúnfar amach gach cuairteoir agus Preasionadaí le hordú ón gCathaoirleach.

Rúin, oRduIthe agus BIllí

Foirm na nithe a thabharfar os comhair an tSeanaid.

141. (1) Aon ní a bheidh le cinneadh ag an Seanad, is trí Rún nó Ordú a thairiscint, nó trí Bhille a thabhairt isteach, a thabharfar os comhair an tSeanaid é.

(2) Ar na nithe a bhféadfar déileáil leo le Rún áirítear Buan-Orduithe, an Seanad a chur ar athló, an Cathaoirleach nó an Leas-Chathaoirleach a thoghadh nó a chur as oifig, comhbhrón, cáineadh, buíochas agus tuairim a chur in iúl, agus aon ní eile a fhéadfaidh an Seanad, de réir dlí, a chinneadh le Rún. Féadfaidh Treoraí an Tí, nó Seanadóir ag gníomhú dó nó di thar a cheann nó thar a ceann vóta comhbhróin a thairiscint, gan fógra a thabhairt [*B.O. 142*].

(3) Ar na nithe a bhféadfar déileáil leo le hOrdú áirítear Seanadóirí a chur ar fionraí, Coistí a cheapadh, Billí agus doiciméid a chlóbhualadh, agus ceisteanna nós imeachta i gcoitinne.

(4) Ar na nithe a ndéileálfar leo le Billí áirítear gach togra reachtaíochta.

Ráitis Chomhbhróin

Ráitis Chomhbhróin.

142. Ag suí den Seanad tar éis do chomhalta, d'iarchomhalta, do chomhalta den Dáil, do Cheann Stáit, do Phríomh-Aire nó do dhuine eile de stádas comhchosúil d'fháil bháis, féadfar éisteacht a thabhairt do ráitis chomhbhróin de réir na socruithe a chomhaontófar ar mholadh ó Threoraí an Tí.

(3) A revised edition of the Official Report of the Debates shall be prepared in bound volumes at such periods as the Cathaoirleach shall determine.

VISITORS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESS

Visitors and Press.

139. Visitors may be introduced by members to such places as may be reserved for them by the Cathaoirleach, and upon such conditions as he or she may prescribe. Authorised representatives of the Press may be present at sittings of the Seanad, or of a Committee of the whole Seanad.

Exclusion of visitors and Press in case of special emergency.

140. In case of special emergency, any Senator may move, without notice, that all visitors and Press representatives be excluded from the Chamber, and if such motion receive the assent prescribed by the Constitution, all visitors and Press representatives shall be excluded by direction of the Cathaoirleach.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDERS AND BILLS

Form of matters brought before Seanad.

141. (1) Any matter for decision by the Seanad shall be brought before it by motion for a Resolution or Order, or by the introduction of a Bill.

(2) The matters which may be dealt with by Resolution shall include Standing Orders, adjournments of the Seanad, election or removal of the Cathaoirleach or the Leas-Chathaoirleach, expressions of condolence, censure, thanks and opinion, and any other matter which, by law, the Seanad may decide by Resolution. A vote of condolence may be moved, without notice, by the Leader of the House or a Senator acting for him or her [*S.O. 142*].

(3) The matters which may be dealt with by Order shall include the suspension of Senators, the appointment of Committees, the printing of Bills and documents, and questions of procedure generally.

(4) The matters which shall be dealt with by Bills shall include all proposals for legislation.

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY

Expressions of Sympathy.

142. At a sitting of the Seanad following the death of a member, a former member, a member of the Dáil, a Head of State, Prime Minister or other person of similar status, expressions of sympathy may be heard in accordance with the arrangements agreed to on the proposal of the Leader of the House.

Céimeanna Billí

Breithniú Réamhreachtach

Coiste do dhéanamh breithniú réamhreachtach ar Bhille.

143. Sula ndéanfar é a thíolacadh nó a thabhairt isteach sa Seanad, tabharfaidh comhalta den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit scéim ghinearálta nó dréacht-cheannteidil Bille (seachas in imthosca eisceachtúla) [*féach freisin B.O. 149*] don Choiste ag a bhfuil cumhacht faoi Bhuan-Ordú 71 chun scéim ghinearálta nó dréacht-cheannteidil aon Bhille arna fhoilsiú ag an Aire nó thar ceann an Aire a bhreithniú. Déanfaidh an Coiste scéim ghinearálta nó dréacht-cheannteidil an Bhille a bhreithniú, ag féachaint do threoirlínte arna gcomhaontú ag an nGasra Oibre de Chathaoirligh Coistí: Ar choinníoll go bhféadfaidh an Coiste a chinneadh, i ndáil le Bille áirithe, nach gá breithniú den sórt sin a dhéanamh agus, sna cásanna sin, nach gá an scéim ghinearálta ná na dréacht-cheannteidil a bhreithniú.

An Chéad Chéim

Billí a thionscnamh trína dtabhairt isteach.

144. Nuair a bheidh Bille le tionscnamh trína thabhairt isteach sa Seanad déanfar cóip de, arna húdarú le síniú triúr Seanadóir ar a laghad mar thairgeoirí, a sheachadadh don Chléireach, agus déanfar teideal an Bhille mar aon le gearrthuairisc ar a chuspóir, a d'ullmhaigh na tairgeoirí agus lenar ghlac an Cathaoirleach, a chur ar Riar na hOibre. Is é nó is í an Seanadóir a mbeidh a ainm nó a hainm mar chéadsínitheoir ar an gcóip sin a mheasfar a bheith i mbun an Bhille, agus tairgfidh seisean nó sise go dtabharfar cead an Bille a thabhairt isteach. Má chuirtear i gcoinne na tairisceana sin, féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach, más oiriúnach leis nó léi é, an cheist uirthi a chur tar éis dó nó di ráiteas mínitheach a cheadú ón Seanadóir a rinne an tairiscint agus ráiteas a cheadú ón Seanadóir atá ag cur i gcoinne na tairisceana. Má thugtar cead an Bille a thabhairt isteach, déanfar ordú don Dara Céim agus faoi réir Bhuan-Ordú 145 clóbhuailfear an Bille: Ach i gcás Bille Rialtais, féadfaidh Treoraí an Tí (nó Seanadóir eile a bheidh údaraithe ag an Rialtas chun críche an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo) an Bille a thionscnamh agus measfar é nó í a bheith i mbun an Bhille chun na críche sin.

Billí a thionscnamh trína dtíolacadh. Míniú ar "grúpa".

145. (1) Féadfaidh Treoraí an Tí (nó Seanadóir eile a bheidh údaraithe ag an Rialtas chun críche an Bhuan-Ordaithe seo), nó féadfaidh Seanadóir arna ainmniú nó arna hainmniú faoi mhír (3) den Bhuan-Ordú seo, Bille a thíolacadh gan cead an tSeanaid a fháil.

(2) Déanfar Bille a thíolacadh trí chóip den Bhille arna síniú ag an tairgeoir a sheachadadh don Chléireach agus faoi réir Bhuan-Ordú 146 clóbhuailfear an Bille ansin. Déanfar teideal an Bhille mar aon le gearrthuairisc ar a chuspóir, a d'ullmhaigh an tairgeoir agus lenar ghlac an Cathaoirleach, a chur ar Riar na hOibre, agus déanfar Ordú don dara léamh.

(3) Beidh de cheart ag gach grúpa Seanadóir dá líon a ainmniú chun Bille a thíolacadh ar choinníoll nach mbeidh trí Bhille os comhair an tSeanaid arna dtíolacadh ag Seanadóirí a bheidh ainmnithe ag an ngrúpa sin.

(4) Is é is grúpa ann grúpa a bheidh aitheanta amhlaidh ag an gCathaoirleach agus arb é a líon cúigear Seanadóir ar a laghad.

STAGES OF BILLS

Pre-Legislative Consideration

Pre-legislative consideration of Bill by Committee.

143. Prior to its presentation or introduction to the Seanad, the general scheme or draft heads of a Bill shall (save in exceptional circumstances) [*see also S.O. 149*], be given by a member of the Government or Minister of State to the Committee empowered under Standing Order 71 to consider the general scheme or draft heads of any Bill published by or on behalf of the Minister. The general scheme or draft heads of the Bill shall be considered by the Committee, having regard to guidelines agreed by the Working Group of Committee Chairmen: Provided that the Committee may decide in relation to a particular Bill that such consideration is not necessary, and in such cases, need not consider the general scheme or draft heads.

First Stage

Initiation of Bills by introduction.

144. When a Bill is to be initiated by introduction in the Seanad a copy thereof, authorised by the signatures of not less than three Senators as proposers, shall be delivered to the Clerk, and its title and a short description of its purpose, prepared by the proposers and accepted by the Cathaoirleach, shall appear on the Order Paper. The Senator whose name shall appear as first signatory on the said copy shall be deemed to be the Senator having charge of the Bill and shall move for leave to introduce the Bill. If such motion be opposed, the Cathaoirleach, after permitting an explanatory statement from the Senator who moves, and a statement from a Senator who opposes the motion may, if he or she thinks fit, put the question thereon. If leave to introduce the Bill be given, an Order shall be made for its Second Stage and subject to Standing Order 145 the Bill shall be printed: Provided that in the case of a Government Bill, such initiation shall be exercisable by the Leader of the House (or another Senator authorised by the Government for the purpose of this Standing Order) who shall be deemed to be in charge of the Bill for that purpose.

Initiation of Bills by presentation. Definition of "group".

145. (1) The Leader of the House (or another Senator authorised by the Government for the purpose of this Standing Order), or a Senator nominated under paragraph (3) of this Standing Order, may present a Bill without obtaining leave of the Seanad.

(2) Presentation of a Bill shall be effected by the delivery to the Clerk of a copy of the Bill signed by the proposer and subject to Standing Order 146 the Bill shall then be printed. The title of the Bill and a short description of its purpose, prepared by the proposer and accepted by the Cathaoirleach, shall appear on the Order Paper and an Order for its second reading shall be made.

(3) Each group shall have the right to nominate a Senator of the group to present a Bill provided that there is not before the Seanad three Bills presented by Senators nominated by that group.

(4) A group shall be a group so recognised by the Cathaoirleach and consisting of not less than five Senators.

Billí Rialtais a chlóbhualadh.

146. Ní dhéanfar Bille Rialtais a chlóbhualadh ach amháin má bhíonn Meabhrán clóbhuailte Míniúcháin agus Airgeadais [*Féach freisin B.O. 167*] ag gabháil leis ina míneofar forálacha an Bhille ar bhealach sothuigthe, ina leagfar amach an dlí láithreach agus na hathruithe a mholtar a dhéanamh ann agus ina soláthrófar faisnéis (mura rud é go gcuirfidh an meabhrán in iúl nach féidir an fhaisnéis a sholáthar san am a bheidh ar fáil nó go bhfuil sé sin ar neamhréir le leas an phobail) faoi na ceannteidil seo a leanas:

(*a*) costais mheasta Státchiste mar a leanas: —

(i) an costas don bhliain reatha;

(ii) an costas don chéad bhliain eile;

(iii) an costas do bhliain iomlán;

(iv) an líon blianta sula sroichfear an costas iomlán; agus

(*b*) na himpleachtaí measta foirne do Ranna Stáit, Comhlachtaí Stáit agus Údaráis Áitiúla:

ar choinníoll nach mbeidh feidhm ag an mír seo i gcás Billí a chuimsítear le Buan-Ordú 171(1).

Billí a tionscnaíodh sa Dáil.

147. (1) Bille a tionscnaíodh agus a ritheadh sa Dáil agus a cuireadh go dtí an Seanad, measfar an Chéad Chéim a bheith rite aige sa Seanad agus cuirfear síos don Dara Céim é ar an gcéad Riar na hOibre eile a ullmhófar tar éis é a fháil ón Dáil, ach, mura Bille Airgid deimhnithe é nó Bille a ndearnadh an tréimhse chun a bhreithnithe ag an Seanad a ghiorrú faoi Airteagal 24 den Bhunreacht, ní bhreithneofar é, mura n-ordóidh an Seanad a mhalairt, go ceann trí lá glan tar éis don Chléireach é a fháil ón Dáil.

(2) Murar socraíodh an Seanad a thionól taobh istigh d'ocht lá ón lá a fuarthas Bille Airgid deimhnithe nó Bille a ndearnadh an tréimhse chun a bhreithnithe ag an Seanad a ghiorrú faoi Airteagal 24 den Bhunreacht, déanfaidh an Cathaoirleach an Seanad a chomóradh láithreach chun teacht le chéile taobh istigh de na hocht lá sin.

Billí a tionscnaíodh sa Seanad agus a leasaíodh sa Dáil.

148. (1) Bille a tionscnaíodh sa Seanad agus a leasaíodh sa Dáil measfar, tar éis é a fháil ar ais ón Dáil, an Chéad Chéim, an Dara Céim agus an Tríú Céim a bheith rite aige sa Seanad agus cuirfear ar Riar na hOibre é don Cheathrú Céim.

(2) Ar an gceist "Go nglacfar an Bille chun an breithniú deiridh a dhéanamh air", féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach a cheadú do chomhalta labhairt aon uair amháin maidir le hábhar gach grúpála de leasuithe arna ndéanamh ag an Dáil. Is de lánrogha an Chathaoirligh a bheidh an ghrúpáil sin.

Printing of Government Bills.

146. A Government Bill shall be printed only if accompanied by a printed Explanatory and Financial Memorandum [*See also S.O. 167*] explaining the provisions of the Bill in a readily intelligible manner, setting out the existing law and the changes therein proposed and providing information (unless the memorandum indicates that the provision of the information is not practicable in the time available or is contrary to the public interest) under the following headings:

(*a*) estimated exchequer cost as follows: —

(i) the current year cost;

(ii) the next year costs;

(iii) the full year cost;

(iv) the number of years before full cost is reached; and

(*b*) the estimated staffing implications for Departments of State, State Bodies and Local Authorities:

provided that this paragraph shall not apply in the case of Bills comprehended by Standing Order 171(1).

Bills initiated in Dáil.

147. (1) A Bill which has been initiated in and passed by the Dáil and sent to the Seanad shall be deemed to have passed its First Stage in the Seanad and shall be put down for Second Stage upon the Order Paper next prepared after its receipt from the Dáil, but, save in the case of a certified Money Bill, and a Bill the time for the consideration of which by the Seanad shall have been abridged under Article 24 of the Constitution, shall not be considered, unless the Seanad otherwise orders, before the expiration of three clear days after it has been received from the Dáil by the Clerk.

(2) If no meeting of the Seanad shall have been arranged to be held within eight days of the receipt of a certified Money Bill or of a Bill the time for the consideration of which by the Seanad shall have been abridged under Article 24 of the Constitution, the Cathaoirleach shall forthwith summon the Seanad to meet within such eight days.

Bills initiated in Seanad and amended in Dáil.

148. (1) A Bill which has been initiated in the Seanad and amended by the Dáil shall, after its receipt back from the Dáil, be deemed to have passed its First, Second and Third Stages in the Seanad and shall be placed on the Order Paper for its Fourth Stage.

(2) On the question "That the Bill be received for final consideration" the Chair may allow a member to contribute once on the subject matter of each grouping of amendments made by the Dáil. Such grouping shall be at the sole discretion of the Chair.

An Dara Céim

An nós imeachta ar an Dara Céim.

149. (1) Nuair a dhéanfar an cheist: — "Go léifear an Bille an dara huair anois" a thairiscint ón gCathaoir, glaofaidh an Cathaoirleach ar an gcomhalta den Rialtas, ar an Aire Stáit nó ar an Seanadóir a bheidh i mbun an Bhille chun an díospóireacht a thosú, agus ní thráchtfar sa díospóireacht sin ach ar bhunbhrí an Bhille. Tabharfar caoi don chomhalta den Rialtas, don Aire Stáit nó don Seanadóir a bheidh i mbun an Bhille an díospóireacht a chríochnú sula gcuirfear an cheist ón gCathaoir.

(2) (i) I gcás go mbeidh breithniú réamhreachtach déanta ar an mBille faoi Bhuan-Ordú 143, féadfaidh comhalta den Choiste arna cheapadh nó arna ceapadh chun scéim ghinearálta nó dréacht- cheannteidil aon Bhille arna fhoilsiú ag an Aire nó thar ceann an Aire a bhreithniú agus a bheidh ainmnithe ag an gCoiste chuige sin labhairt i ndáil le breithniú réamhreachtach an Choiste sin ar an mBille: Ar choinníoll nach bhfágfaidh an óráid sin go mbeidh cosc ar an gcomhalta sin óráid eile a thabhairt i gcáil phearsanta le linn na díospóireachta.

(ii) I gcás nach ndearnadh an breithniú réamhreachtach faoi Bhuan-Ordú 143, tabharfaidh an comhalta den Rialtas nó an tAire Stáit a bheidh i mbun an Bhille an chúis leis sin le linn a ráitis tosaigh.

(3) Féadfar leasuithe a dhéanamh ar an tairiscint: — "Go léifear an Bille an dara huair anois" —

(i) tríd an bhfocal "anois" a ligean ar lár agus trí na focail "trí mhí ó inniu", nó "sé mhí ó inniu", nó dáta éigin eile, a chur i ndeireadh na tairisceana;

(ii) trí na focail go léir nó cuid de na focail i ndiaidh "Go" a scriosadh agus focail lena luaitear cúis speisialta éigin i gcoinne an Bille a léamh an dara huair a chur ina n-ionad.

An Tríú Céim (Coiste)

Ordú Bille a chur chun Coiste.

150. (1) Tar éis Bille a bheith léite an dara huair, féadfar a ordú go mbeidh sé le breithniú i gCoiste den Seanad uile lá a ainmneofar an tráth sin, nó féadfar é a chur faoi bhráid Coiste éigin eile.

(2) Féadfaidh an Seanad, ar thairiscint a dhéanamh gan fógra, an Bille a chur chun Coiste den Seanad uile maidir le cuid dá fhorálacha agus faoi bhráid Coiste Speisialta maidir le forálacha eile. Má chuirtear i gcoinne na tairisceana sin, féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach, más oiriúnach leis nó léi é, an cheist uirthi a chur tar éis dó nó di ráiteas mínitheach a cheadú ón té a rinne an tairiscint agus ó Sheanadóir atá ag cur i gcoinne na tairisceana.

Fógra maidir le leasuithe agus ord na leasuithe i gCoiste.

151. Nuair a bheidh Bille le breithniú i gCoiste, tabharfar fógra i dtráth cuí i dtaobh leasuithe a bheidh le tairiscint [*B.O. 26*] agus cuirfear in ord ceart iad.

Bille a bhreithniú alt ar alt. Féadfar Bille a leasú.

152. Nuair a bheidh Bille i gCoiste, ní foláir é a bhreithniú alt ar alt. Beidh sé in ord, áfach, sula dtosófar ar alt nó ailt a bhreithniú, a thairiscint go gcuirfear an t-alt nó na hailt siar go dtí go mbeifear

Second Stage

Procedure on Second Stage.

149. (1) When the question: — "That the Bill be now read a second time" has been proposed from the Chair, the Cathaoirleach shall call upon the member of the Government, Minister of State or Senator in charge of the Bill to open the debate, which shall be confined to the general principle of the Bill. The member of the Government, Minister of State or Senator in charge of the Bill shall be afforded an opportunity of closing the debate before the question is put from the Chair.

(2) (i) Where the Bill has been the subject of pre-legislative consideration under Standing Order 143, a member of the Committee appointed to consider the general scheme or draft heads of any Bill published by or on behalf of the Minister and who has been nominated by the Committee for the purpose may speak in relation to that Committee's pre-legislative consideration of the Bill: Provided that such contribution shall not preclude a further contribution in a personal capacity by that member in the course of the debate.

(ii) In the event the pre-legislative consideration under Standing Order 143 has not taken place, the member of the Government or Minister of State in charge of the Bill shall give the reason therefor during his or her opening remarks.

(3) Amendments may be made to the motion: — "That the Bill be now read a second time"—

(i) by omitting the word "now" and adding at the end of the motion the words "this day three months" or "this day six months" or some other date;

(ii) by deleting all or some of the words after "That" and substituting words which state some special reason against the second reading of the Bill.

Third (Committee) Stage

Order for Committee.

150. (1) When a Bill has been read a second time, it may be ordered to be considered in Committee of the whole Seanad on a day then named, or be referred to some other Committee.

(2) The Seanad may on motion made without notice commit the Bill to a Committee of the whole Seanad in respect of some of its provisions and to a Special Committee in respect of other provisions. If such a motion be opposed the Cathaoirleach, after permitting an explanatory statement from the mover of the motion and from a Senator who opposes the motion, may, if he or she thinks fit, put the question thereon.

Notice and arrangement of amendments in Committee.

151. When a Bill is to be considered in Committee, proposed amendments shall be notified in due time [*S.O. 26*] and shall be arranged in proper order.

Consideration of Bill section by section. Power to amend.

152. In Committee, a Bill shall be considered section by section. It shall be in order, however, before consideration of a section or sections is entered upon, to move the postponement of the section or

réidh le halt nó le hailt eile nó le sceidil. Féadfar aon alt de Bhille a leasú i gCoiste agus féadfar ailt nua a chur isteach ann.

Alt nua. Déileáil le leasuithe. An réamhrá agus an teideal.

153. (1) I gCoiste féadfar leasú go gcuirfear alt nua isteach i mBille a thairiscint nuair a ghlaofar amach ón gCathaoir uimhir an ailt a mbeidh an t-alt nua le cur isteach roimhe, agus is í an cheist ar an leasú sin is túisce a chinnfear.

(2) Nuair a bheifear réidh leis na leasuithe (más ann) a tairgeadh ar alt, tairgfear an cheist, "Go bhfanfaidh an t-alt sin (nó an t-alt sin arna leasú) ina chuid den Bhille", nó, de réir mar is cuí, "Go scriosfar an t-alt sin as an mBille".

(3) Déanfar an breithniú ar réamhrá Bille (más ann) agus ar a theideal a chur siar go dtí go mbeidh breithniú déanta ar na hailt agus ar na sceidil (más ann).

Srianta ar leasuithe. Leasú ar an teideal, más gá.

154. Beidh sé ina threoir do na Coistí uile chun a gcuirfear Billí go mbeidh sé de chumhacht acu cibé leasuithe is cuí leo a dhéanamh iontu ach baint a bheith ag na leasuithe sin le hábhar an Bhille; ach, má bhíonn aon leasuithe den sórt sin taobh amuigh de theideal an Bhille, go mbeidh orthu an teideal a leasú dá réir agus tuairisc speisialta air sin a thabhairt don Seanad: Ach ní thairgfear aon leasú a bheidh bunoscionn le bunbhrí an Bhille mar a léadh é an dara huair.

Roghchoistí nó Coistí Speisialta do Chlóbhualadh Billí agus Ordú Bille a bhreithniú ar Thuarascáil.

155. Tar éis réamhrá (más ann) agus teideal Bille a bhreithniú i gCoiste den Seanad uile nó i Roghchoiste nó i gCoiste Speisialta:

(*a*) clóbhuailfear an Bille, má leasaítear é; agus

(*b*) déanfaidh an Seanad ordú chun é a bhreithniú ar Thuarascáil. [*Féach freisin B.O. 75 agus 77(2)*].

An Ceathrú Céim (Tuarascáil)

Céim na Tuarascála: Athchúrsa i gCoiste.

156. Tar éis an tOrdú chun Bille a bhreithniú ar Thuarascáil a bheith léite, cromfaidh an Seanad ar an mBille a bhreithniú mura dtairgfear an Bille, ina iomláine nó maidir le hailt nó leasuithe áirithe, a chur faoi athchúrsa i gCoiste: Ach aon uair le linn Bille a bheith á bhreithniú ar Thuarascáil féadfar a thairiscint go gcuirfear faoi athchúrsa i gCoiste é.

Cur i gcoinne athchúrsa i gCoiste.

157. Má chuirtear i gcoinne tairisceana chun Bille a chur faoi athchúrsa i gCoiste, féadfaidh an Cathaoirleach, más oiriúnach leis nó léi é, an cheist uirthi a chur tar éis ráiteas mínitheach ar na cúiseanna chun é a chur faoi athchúrsa i gCoiste a cheadú ón Seanadóir a rinne an tairiscint, agus ráiteas a cheadú ó Sheanadóir atá ag cur i gcoinne na tairisceana.

sections until another section, other sections or schedules have been disposed of. Any section of a Bill may be amended in Committee and new sections may be inserted.

New section. Disposal of amendments. Preamble and title.

153. (1) In Committee an amendment to insert a new section in a Bill may be moved when the number of the section before which it is proposed to insert the new section is called by the Chair, and the question on such amendment shall be first decided.

(2) When the amendments (if any) offered to a section have been disposed of, the question shall be proposed, "That such section (or such section as amended) stand part of the Bill", or, as appropriate, "That such section be deleted from the Bill".

(3) The consideration of the preamble (if any) and the title of a Bill shall be deferred until the sections and schedules (if any) have been considered.

Restriction on amendments. Amendment of title, if required.

154. It shall be an instruction to all Committees to which Bills may be committed that they have power to make such amendments therein as they shall think fit, provided such amendments be relevant to the subject matter of the Bill; but that, if any such amendments shall not be within the title of the Bill, they shall amend the title accordingly and report the same specially to the Seanad: Provided that no amendment shall be proposed which is in conflict with the principle of the Bill as read a second time.

Printing of Bills by Select or Special Committees and Order for Report.

155. When the preamble (if any), and the title of a Bill shall have been considered in Committee of the whole Seanad or in Select or Special Committee:

(*a*) the Bill, if amended, shall be printed; and

(*b*) an order shall be made by the Seanad for its consideration on Report. [*See also S.O.s 75 and 77(2)*].

Fourth (Report) Stage

Report: Recommittal.

156. On the Order being read for the consideration of a Bill on Report, the Seanad shall proceed to consider the same unless a motion is made to recommit the Bill either wholly or in respect of certain sections or amendments: Provided, however, that a motion to recommit may be made at any time during the consideration of a Bill on Report.

Recommittal opposed.

157. If a motion to recommit a Bill be opposed, the Cathaoirleach, after permitting an explanatory statement of the reasons for such recommittal from the Senator who moves, and a statement from a Senator who opposes the motion may, if he or she thinks fit, put the question thereon.

Bille a tuairiscíodh ó Roghchoiste.

158. Déanfar Bille a tuairiscíodh ó Roghchoiste a chur faoi athchúrsa i gCoiste den Seanad uile.

Leasuithe ar Chéim na Tuarascála.

159. I gcás Bille a tuairiscíodh ó Choiste den Seanad uile, ní cead ach na leasuithe sin a éireoidh as imeachtaí i gCoiste a thairiscint ar an gCeathrú Céim. Ní bheidh leasú in ord má diúltaíodh dó roimhe sin i gCoiste den Seanad uile.

Céim na Tuarascála: leasuithe a bhunódh muirir.

160. Ar an gCeathrú Céim ní cead aon alt nua ná aon leasú eile a thairiscint a bhunódh muirear ar an ioncam poiblí nó ar an bpobal, ach féadfar an Bille a chur faoi athchúrsa i gCoiste maidir le haon alt nó leasú den sórt sin.

Fógra maidir le leasuithe agus ord na leasuithe ar Chéim na Tuarascála.

161. Nuair a bheidh Bille le breithniú ar Thuarascáil, tabharfar fógra i dtráth cuí i dtaobh leasuithe a bheidh le tairiscint [*B.O. 26*] agus cuirfear in ord ceart iad.

An cheist ar Chéim na Tuarascála. Ordú don Chúigiú Céim.

162. Nuair a bheifear réidh leis na leasuithe agus nuair a bheidh freagra aontach tugtha ar an gceist: — "Go nglacfar an Bille (nó an Bille arna leasú) chun an breithniú deiridh a dhéanamh air", déanfar Ordú ag ceapadh lá don Chúigiú Céim.

An Cúigiú Céim

Tairiscint ar an gCúigiú Céim: leasuithe focal.

163. (1) Tar éis an tOrdú don Chúigiú Céim de Bhille, nach Bille Airgid deimhnithe, a bheith léite, tairgfear: — "Go rithfear an Bille anois". I gcás Bille Airgid deimhnithe is í an tairiscint a dhéanfar: — "Go gcuirfear an Bille ar ais chun na Dála".

(2) Ní dhéanfar aon leasú ar aon Bhille ar an gCúigiú Céim ach amháin leasú focal, ach féadfar leasuithe focal a dhéanamh gan fógra.

LEASUITHE NACH N-AONTAÍONN AN DÁIL LEO

Leasuithe ag an Seanad nach n-aontaíonn an Dáil leo.

164. Nuair a gheofar, i gcás Bille a fuarthas ón Dáil agus a leasaíodh sa Seanad, Teachtaireacht ón Dáil ag easaontú le gach ceann nó le haon cheann de na leasuithe a cuireadh isteach sa Bhille ag an Seanad nó ag leasú gach ceann nó aon cheann díobh, cuirfear an Teachtaireacht sin ar an gcéad Riar na hOibre a ullmhófar ina dhiaidh sin. Breithneofar gach leasú acu sin agus féadfaidh Seanadóir ar bith a thairiscint gan fógra: — "Go seasfaidh an Seanad ar an leasú" (i dteannta nó d'éagmais leasú breise), nó: "Nach seasfaidh an Seanad ar an leasú" nó: "Go n-aontóidh an Seanad leis an leasú a rinne an Dáil ar an leasú ón Seanad". Nuair a bheidh breithniú déanta ar gach leasú den sórt sin, cuirfidh an Cléireach teachtaireacht go dtí Cléireach na Dála ag deimhniú chinneadh an tSeanaid.

Bill reported from Select Committee.

158. A Bill reported from a Select Committee shall be recommitted to a Committee of the whole Seanad.

Amendments on Report.

159. In the case of a Bill reported from a Committee of the whole Seanad only such amendments as arise out of proceedings in Committee may be moved on Fourth Stage. Amendments previously rejected in Committee of the whole Seanad shall not be in order.

Report: amendments creating charges.

160. On the Fourth Stage, no new section or other amendment may be proposed which creates a charge on the public revenue or upon the people, but the Bill may be recommitted in respect of any such section or amendment.

Notice and arrangement of amendments on Report.

161. When a Bill is to be considered on Report, proposed amendments shall be notified in due time [*S.O. 26*] and shall be arranged in proper order.

Question on Report. Order for Fifth Stage.

162. When the amendments have been disposed of and the question: — "That the Bill (or the Bill as amended) be received for final consideration" has been affirmed, an Order appointing a day for the Fifth Stage shall be made.

Fifth Stage

Motion on Fifth Stage: verbal amendments.

163. (1) On the Order being read for the Fifth Stage of a Bill, other than a certified Money Bill, it shall be moved: — "That the Bill do now pass". The motion to be made in the case of a certified Money Bill shall be "That the Bill be returned to the Dáil".

(2) No amendment, not being merely verbal, shall be made to any Bill on the Fifth Stage, but verbal amendments, may be made without notice.

AMENDMENTS NOT AGREED TO BY THE DÁIL

Amendments by the Seanad not agreed to by Dáil.

164. When in the case of a Bill which has been received from the Dáil and amended in the Seanad a Message has been received from the Dáil disagreeing with or amending all or any of the amendments inserted in the Bill by the Seanad, such Message shall be placed on the Order Paper next thereafter prepared. Each such amendment shall be considered and any Senator may move without notice: — "That the Seanad do insist on the amendment" (with or without further amendment), or "That the Seanad do not insist on the amendment" or "That the Seanad do agree to the amendment made by the Dáil to the Seanad amendment". When all such amendments have been considered, the Clerk shall send a message to the Clerk of the Dáil certifying the determination of the Seanad.

Buan-Orduithe

Moltaí le Billí Airgid Deimhnithe

Moltaí le Billí Airgid.

165. Nuair a úsáidtear an focal "leasú" nó "leasuithe" sna Buan-Orduithe a bhaineann le céimeanna Billí forléireofar na hOrduithe sin, i gcás Billí Airgid deimhnithe agus nuair a cheadaíonn an comhthéacs é, amhail is dá gcuirfí an leagan cuí gramadaí den fhocal "moladh" nó "moltaí", de réir mar a bheidh, ina ionad.

Ceartuithe i mBillí

Ceartuithe ar Bhillí ag an gCléireach.

166. Le linn Bille a bheith ag dul ar aghaidh féadfaidh an Cléireach ceartuithe focal nó ceartuithe foirmiúla a dhéanamh air tráth ar bith faoi threorú an Chathaoirligh.

Meabhrán Míniúcháin Athbhreithnithe a Sholáthar i ndáil le Billí.

167. I gcás go mbeidh leasú substainteach le déanamh ar Bhillí ag Céim an Choiste nó Céim na Tuarascála, beidh de rogha ag an gCathaoirleach a ordú go gcaithfidh an comhalta a bheidh i mbun an Bhille meabhrán míniúcháin athbhreithnithe a sholáthar chun cuidiú le comhaltaí na leasuithe a bhreithniú [*Féach freisin B.O. 146*].

Tuarascáil Iar-Achtacháin

Tuarascáil iar-achtacháin.

168. Dhá mhí dhéag tar éis Bille a achtú, ach amháin i gcás an Bhille Airgeadais agus an Bhille Leithreasa, déanfaidh an comhalta den Rialtas nó an tAire Stáit atá freagrach go hoifigiúil san Acht a chur i ngníomh tuarascáil a sholáthar ina ndéanfar athbhreithniú ar fheidhmiú an Achta agus a leagfar i Leabharlann an Oireachtais.

Billí a Thit ar Lár a chur ar Ais ar Riar na Hoibre.

Billí a thit ar lár a chur ar ais.

169. (1) Bille ar bith a thitfidh ar lár mar gheall ar olltoghchán don Seanad féadfar dul ar aghaidh leis tar éis an olltoghcháin ar an gcéim a bhí sroichte aige roimh an olltoghchán má ritear Rún á chur ar ais ar Riar na hOibre.

(2) Mura n-ordaítear a mhalairt leis an Rún trína gcuirfear an Bille ar ais ar Riar na hOibre, rachfar ar aghaidh leis an mBille ó thosach na céime áirithe a bhí sroichte aige roimh an olltoghchán.

Billí Croschineálacha

Billí Croschineálacha.

170. Bille poiblí (nach Bille chun Ordú Sealadach a dhaingniú) a bhaineann le leasanna príobháideacha i slí, dá mba Bhille Príobháideach é, gur ghá, faoi na Buan-Orduithe i dtaobh Gnó Phríobháidigh,

Standing Orders

Recommendations to Certified Money Bills

Recommendations to Money Bills.

165. Where, in the Standing Orders relating to the stages of Bills the word "amendment" or "amendments" is used, such Orders shall, in the case of certified Money Bills and where the context so permits, be construed as if the word "recommendation" or "recommendations" as the case may be, had been inserted in lieu thereof.

Corrections in Bills

Corrections to Bills by Clerk.

166. During the progress of a Bill corrections of a verbal or formal nature may at any time be made in the Bill by the Clerk under the direction of the Cathaoirleach.

Provision of Revised Explanatory Memorandum in relation to Bills.

167. Where Bills are to be substantially amended at Committee or Report Stage the Cathaoirleach shall have discretion to direct that the member in charge of the Bill must provide a revised explanatory memorandum to assist members in considering the amendments [*See also S.O. 146*].

Post-Enactment Report

Post-enactment report.

168. Twelve months following the enactment of a Bill, save in the case of the Finance Bill and the Appropriation Bill, the member of the Government or Minister of State who is officially responsible for implementation of the Act shall provide a report which shall review the functioning of the Act and which shall be laid in the Parliamentary Library.

Restoration of Lapsed Bills to Order Paper

Restoration of lapsed Bills.

169. (1) Any Bill which lapses by reason of a general election for the Seanad may be proceeded with after the general election at the stage it had reached prior to the general election upon a Resolution restoring it to the Order Paper.

(2) Unless the Resolution restoring the Bill to the Order Paper directs otherwise, the Bill shall be proceeded with at the commencement of the particular stage which it had reached prior to the general election.

Hybrid Bills

Hybrid Bills.

170. A public Bill (not being a Bill to confirm a Provisional Order) affecting private interests in such a way that, if it were a Private Bill, it would under the Standing Orders relative to Private Business require

réamhfhógraí ina thaobh a thabhairt sula dtabharfaí isteach é, gairfear Bille Croschineálach de agus beidh sé faoi réir fhorálacha na mBuan-Orduithe i dtaobh Gnó Phríobháidigh.

Billí Comhdhlúite

Bille Comhdhlúite: míniú, tabhairt isteach, Ordú don Dara Céim.

171. (1) Bille a mbeidh sé ráite sa teideal fada gurb é is cuspóir dó an Dlí Reachtúil láithreach maidir le hábhar áirithe a chomhdhlúthú, agus a mbeidh sin deimhnithe ina thaobh ag an Ard-Aighne i nDeimhniú a bheidh ag gabháil leis an mBille ar é a thabhairt isteach, gairfear Bille Comhdhlúite de.

(2) Déanfar an Deimhniú dá bhforáiltear sa mhír roimhe seo den Bhuan-Ordú seo a chlóbhualadh ar Riar na hOibre ar a dtabharfar fógra go bhfuiltear chun an Bille sin a thabhairt isteach.

(3) I dtosach gach Bille Chomhdhlúite beidh Meabhrán arna ullmhú ag an Ard-Aighne ina sonrófar na hachtacháin a aisghairtear leis an mBille, na hailt den Bhille ina bhfuil macasamhail na n-achtachán a aisghairtear, mar aon le nótaí an Ard-Aighne ar aon leasuithe a rinneadh sa téacs.

(4) Má thugtar cead Bille Comhdhlúite a thabhairt isteach, déanfar Ordú don Dara Céim le haghaidh dáta nach luaithe ná ocht lá is fiche tar éis é a thabhairt isteach agus clóbhuailfear an Bille agus an Meabhrán.

An nós imeachta ar an Dara Céim de Bhille Comhdhlúite.

172. (1) Ar an Dara Céim de Bhille Comhdhlúite ní ghlacfar le haon leasú a thairgfear a dhéanamh ar an tairiscint: — "Go léifear an Bille an dara huair anois", ach amháin leasú á thairiscint go ndéanfar na focail go léir i ndiaidh an fhocail "Go" a fhágáil ar lár d'fhonn focail a chur ina n-ionad ag lua cúis nó cúiseanna in aghaidh Dheimhniú an Ard-Aighne.

(2) Más rud é i gcás an leasaithe ar an gceist: — "Go léifear an Bille an dara huair anois", go gcinnfear go bhfanfaidh mar chuid den cheist na focail a tairgeadh a ligean ar lár, faisnéisfear láithreach an Bille a bheith léite an dara huair.

Bille Comhdhlúite a chur faoi bhráid Buan-Chomhchoiste.

173. Ar an Dara Céim de Bhille Comhdhlúite a bheith rite déanfar, le comhthoil an dá Theach, é a chur faoi bhráid Buan-Chomhchoiste a bheidh comhdhéanta de Choistí ón dá Theach arna gcomhcheangal chun Billí den sórt sin a bhreithniú [*S.O. 176*]. Mura gcomhthoileofar amhlaidh féadfar an Bille a chur faoi bhráid Buan-Choiste den Seanad.

Tairiscint chun comhthoiliú leis an Dáil Bille Comhdhlúite a chur faoi bhráid Buan-Chomhchoiste.

174. Ar thairiscint a dhéanamh sa Seanad, i gcás Bille Chomhdhlúite a tionscnaíodh sa Dáil, chun comhthoiliú leis an Dáil i dtaobh é a bheith oiriúnach an Bille a chur faoi bhráid an Bhuan-Chomhchoiste ní fhéadfar aon leasú a thairiscint ach amháin leasú ag lua cúis nó cúiseanna in aghaidh Dheimhniú an Ard-Aighne.

preliminary notices before its introduction, shall be known as a Hybrid Bill and shall be subject to the provisions of the Standing Orders relative to Private Business.

CONSOLIDATION BILLS

Consolidation Bill: definition, introduction, Order for Second Stage.

171. (1) A Bill the purpose of which as expressed in the long title is to consolidate existing Statute Law on a particular subject matter, and is so certified by the Attorney General in a Certificate which shall accompany the Bill on introduction, shall be known as a Consolidation Bill.

(2) The Certificate provided for in the preceding paragraph of this Standing Order shall be printed on the Order Paper on which notice is given of intention to introduce such Bill.

(3) Every Consolidation Bill shall have prefixed to it a Memorandum prepared by the Attorney General in which shall be specified the enactments repealed by the Bill, the sections of the Bill in which the repealed enactments are reproduced, together with the remarks of the Attorney General on any textual amendments made.

(4) If leave to introduce a Consolidation Bill be given, an Order for its Second Stage shall be made for a date not earlier than twenty-eight days after its introduction and the Bill and the Memorandum shall be printed.

Procedure on Second Stage of Consolidation Bill.

172. (1) On the Second Stage of a Consolidation Bill the only amendment which may be moved to the motion:— "That the Bill be now read a second time" is one proposing the omission of all words after the word "That" in order to substitute words stating a reason or reasons in challenge of the Certificate of the Attorney General.

(2) If on the amendment to the question: — "That the Bill be now read a second time" it is decided that the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question the Bill shall forthwith be declared to be read a second time.

Consolidation Bill to be referred to Standing Joint Committee.

173. Every Consolidation Bill after having passed its Second Stage shall, with the concurrence of both Houses, be referred to a Standing Joint Committee consisting of Committees of each House joined together for the purpose of consideration of such Bills [*S.O. 176*]. In the absence of such concurrence the Bill may be referred to a Standing Committee of the Seanad.

Motion to concur with Dáil in referring Consolidation Bill to Standing Joint Committee.

174. On motion made in the Seanad, in the case of a Consolidation Bill originating in the Dáil, to concur with the Dáil as to the expediency of referring the Bill to the Standing Joint Committee, the only amendment which may be moved is one stating a reason or reasons in challenge of the Certificate of the Attorney General.

Ordú Bille Comhdhlúite a chur chun Coiste.

175. Ar Bhille Comhdhlúite a bheith léite an dara huair sa Teach tionscnaimh agus ar Rún ag comhthoiliú leis an mBille a chur faoi bhráid an Bhuan-Chomhchoiste a bheith rite ag an Teach eile, déanfaidh an dá Theach Orduithe chun an Bille a chur faoi bhráid an Bhuan-Chomhchoiste ar dháta nach luaithe ná ceithre lá dhéag tar éis an Rún comhthoilithe a rith.

An Buan-Chomhchoiste um Billí Comhdhlúite.

176. (1) Beidh arna bhunú, i dtosach gach Seanaid, Buan-Choiste a bheidh le comhcheangal lena shamhail de Choiste den Dáil chun an Buan-Chomhchoiste um Billí Comhdhlúite a chomhdhéanamh. Faoi réir fhorálacha mhír (3), triúr comhalta a bheidh ar an mBuan-Choiste ar córam beirt díobh. Ceathrar is córam don Bhuan-Chomhchoiste ar comhalta de Dháil Éireann duine amháin ar a laghad díobh agus ar comhalta de Sheanad Éireann duine amháin ar a laghad díobh.

(2) An comhalta den Rialtas atá i mbun na Roinne lena mbaineann an dlí reachtúil a bheidh i dtrácht i mBille a bheidh curtha faoi bhráid an Bhuan-Chomhchoiste, beidh sé nó sí ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta *ex officio* den Bhuan-Chomhchoiste chun an Bille a bhreithniú: Ar choinníoll go bhféadfaidh an comhalta sin den Rialtas comhalta eile den Rialtas nó Aire Stáit a ainmniú chun gníomhú ina ionad nó ina hionad chun na críche sin.

(3) Féadfar cibé líon comhaltaí, nach mó ná triúr, a chur leis an mBuan-Choiste um Bille Comhdhlúite chun aon Bhille áirithe a bhreithniú a bheidh curtha chun an Bhuan-Chomhchoiste.

(4) Beidh na cumhachtaí seo a leanas ag an mBuan-Chomhchoiste: —

(*a*) an chumhacht chun fios a chur ar dhaoine, ar pháipéir agus ar thaifid mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 76;

(*b*) an chumhacht chun fianaise béil agus fianaise scríofa a ghlacadh mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 72(1); agus

(*c*) an chumhacht chun tuarascálacha mar a mhínítear i mBuan-Ordú 77(1) a chlóbhualadh agus a fhoilsiú.

(5) Déanfaidh an Buan-Chomhchoiste, ó am go ham, de réir mar is cuí leis an mBuan-Chomhchoiste, miontuairiscí ar a chuid imeachtaí a leagan faoi bhráid gach Tí.

Leasuithe a cheadaítear sa Choiste.

177. Sa Bhuan-Chomhchoiste um Bille Comhdhlúite ní cead aon leasuithe ach amháin leasuithe chun athbhríonna agus neamhréireachtaí a dhíchur, chun sásra nua a chur in ionad seansásra nó sásra neamhchaoithiúil nó chun comhréireacht cainte a áirithiú nó nithe a chur in oiriúint don dlí agus don chleachtas mar atá. Ní bheidh aon leasuithe in ordú más cinn iad de shaghas a leasódh substaint an Dlí Reachtúil.

Order for committal of Consolidation Bill.

175. When a Consolidation Bill has been read a second time in the originating House and a Resolution of concurrence in the reference of the Bill to the Standing Joint Committee has been passed by the other House, Orders for the committal of the Bill to the Standing Joint Committee shall be made by both Houses for a date not earlier than fourteen days after the passage of the Resolution of concurrence.

Standing Joint Committee on Consolidation Bills.

176. (1) There shall stand established at the commencement of every Seanad, a Standing Committee which shall be joined with a similar Committee of the Dáil to constitute the Standing Joint Committee on Consolidation Bills. The Standing Committee shall, subject to the provisions of paragraph (3), consist of three members, two of whom shall constitute a quorum. The quorum of the Standing Joint Committee shall be four, of whom at least one shall be a member of Dáil Éireann and one a member of Seanad Éireann.

(2) The member of the Government in charge of the Department the statute law of which is dealt with in a Bill which has been referred to the Standing Joint Committee shall be an *ex officio* member of the Standing Joint Committee for the purpose of consideration of the Bill: Provided that such member of the Government may nominate another member of the Government or a Minister of State to act in his or her stead for that purpose.

(3) Such number of members, not exceeding three, may be added to the Standing Committee on a Consolidation Bill for the purpose of considering any particular Bill committed to the Standing Joint Committee.

(4) The Standing Joint Committee shall have the following powers: —

(*a*) power to send for persons, papers and records as defined in Standing Order 76;

(*b*) power to take oral and written evidence as defined in Standing Order 72(1); and

(*c*) power to print and publish reports as defined in Standing Order 77(1).

(5) The Standing Joint Committee shall, from time to time as the Standing Joint Committee sees fit, lay minutes of its proceedings before each House.

Permissible amendments in the Committee.

177. In the Standing Joint Committee on a Consolidation Bill the only permissible amendments shall be amendments designed to be for the removal of ambiguities and inconsistencies, the substitution of modern for obsolete or inconvenient machinery or the achievement of uniformity of expression or adaptation to existing law and practice. Amendments of the nature of substantive amendment of the Statute Law shall not be in order.

Teachtaireachtaí ón mBuan-Chomhchoiste um Billí Comhdhlúite. Bille a chur síos do Chéim na Tuarascála.

178. Nuair a bheidh breithniú déanta ar réamhrá (más ann) agus teideal Bille Chomhdhlúite sa Bhuan-Chomhchoiste:

(*a*) cuirfidh an Buan-Chomhchoiste Teachtaireacht chuig gach Teach ar an modh dá bhforáiltear i mBuan-Ordú 75. D'ainneoin ghinearáltacht Bhuan-Ordú 176(4), measfar gurb ionann Cléireach an tSeanaid d'fháil Teachtaireachta den sórt sin agus an Buan-Chomhchoiste do thabhairt tuarascála ar an mBille;

(*b*) clóbhuailfear an Bille, má leasaítear é; agus

(*c*) cuirfear an Bille síos do Chéim na Tuarascála sa Teach tionscnaimh ar dháta nach luaithe ná ocht lá is fiche ina dhiaidh sin.

Leasuithe ar Chéim na Tuarascála de Bhille Comhdhlúite. Dáta don Chúigiú Céim.

179. Ar Chéim na Tuarascála, beidh srian le leasuithe amhail mar atá sa Bhuan-Chomhchoiste [*B.O. 177*] agus socrófar an Cúigiú Céim do dháta nach luaithe ná ceithre lá dhéag ina dhiaidh sin.

Gabháil thar Céimeanna i gcás Billí Comhdhlúite.

180. I gcás Bille Chomhdhlúite a tionscnaíodh sa Dáil déanfar, ar an mBille a fháil sa Seanad tar éis a rite ag an Dáil, é a chur síos do Chéim na Tuarascála agus gabhfar thar an gCéad, an Dara, agus an Tríú Céim.

CUMARSÁID IDIR AN SEANAD AGUS AN DÁIL

Teachtaireachtaí

Teachtaireachtaí chun na Dála.

181. Is i scríbhinn, faoi láimh an Chléirigh, a chuirfear Teachtaireachtaí ón Seanad chun na Dála agus is chun Cléireach na Dála a dhíreofar iad.

Teachtaireachtaí ón Dáil, beart orthu.

182. (1) Is é nó is í an Cléireach a ghlacfaidh Teachtaireachtaí ón Dáil. Cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach aon Teachtaireacht den sórt sin in iúl don Seanad a luaithe a bheidh caoi aige nó aici air: Ach i gcás práinne féadfar briseadh isteach ar aon ghnó a bheidh ar siúl nuair a gheofar an Teachtaireacht sin chun go gcloisfear í.

(2) Más gá i gcás Teachtaireachta ón Dáil go ndéanfadh an Seanad beart ar bith, cuirfear an Teachtaireacht ar an gcéad Riar na hOibre a ullmhófar ina dhiaidh sin agus breithneofar í dá réir sin: Ach i gcás práinne féadfaidh an Seanad an Teachtaireacht sin a bhreithniú níos luaithe ná sin.

Messages from Standing Joint Committee on Consolidation Bills. Bill to be set down for Report.

178. When the preamble (if any) and the title of a Consolidation Bill shall have been considered in the Standing Joint Committee:

(*a*) the Standing Joint Committee shall send a Message to each House in the manner provided for in Standing Order 75. Notwithstanding the generality of Standing Order 176(4), the receipt by the Clerk of the Seanad of such a Message shall be deemed to be the report of the Standing Joint Committee on the Bill;

(*b*) the Bill, if amended, shall be printed; and

(*c*) the Bill shall be set down for Report Stage in the originating House on a date not earlier than twenty-eight days thereafter.

Amendments on Report Stage of Consolidation Bill. Date for Fifth Stage.

179. On the Report Stage, amendments shall be restricted similarly as in the Standing Joint Committee [*S.O. 177*] and the Fifth Stage shall be fixed for a date not earlier than fourteen days thereafter.

Waiver of Stages of Consolidation Bills.

180. In the case of a Consolidation Bill originating in the Dáil, the Bill shall on its receipt in the Seanad after being passed by the Dáil be set down for Report Stage, the First, Second and Third Stages being waived.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE SEANAD AND THE DÁIL

Messages

Messages to the Dáil.

181. Messages from the Seanad to the Dáil shall be in writing, signed by the Clerk and shall be addressed to the Clerk of the Dáil.

Messages from Dáil, action on.

182. (1) Messages from the Dáil shall be received by the Clerk. The Cathaoirleach shall at the first convenient opportunity communicate any such Message to the Seanad: Provided that in case of urgency any business in progress upon the receipt of such Message may be interrupted to hear the same.

(2) If a Message from the Dáil requires any action to be taken by the Seanad, it shall be set down on the Order Paper next thereafter prepared and shall be considered accordingly: Provided that in case of urgency the Seanad may give earlier consideration to such Message.

Buan-Orduithe

Billí

Billí a ritheadh ag an Seanad a dheimhniú.

183. Tar éis Bille a tionscnaíodh sa Seanad a ghabháil trí gach céim sa Seanad, déanfaidh an Cléireach, nó cuirfidh sé nó sí faoi deara go ndéanfar, cóip bheacht de, agus deimhneoidh sé nó sí gur cóip dhílis chruinn an chóip sin trína dheimhniú sin ar bharr an chéad leathanaigh agus trína inisealacha nó a hinisealacha agus uimhir a chur ar gach leathanach ina dhiaidh sin. Luafar sa deimhniú faoi láimh an Chléirigh an dáta a ritheadh an Bille ag an Seanad agus an dáta a cuireadh é chun na Dála.

Billí a chur chun na Dála.

184. Déanfar an chóip dhílis sin de Bhille a ritheadh mar a dúradh, arna deimhniú go cuí mar a fhoráiltear anseo roimhe seo, a chur chun na Dála, mar aon le Teachtaireacht ag tagairt don Bhille sin. Déarfar sa Teachtaireacht gur mian leis an Seanad go gcomhaontódh an Dáil le dlí a dhéanamh den Bhille.

Billí a chur ar ais chun na Dála.

185. (1) Nuair a bheidh Bille Airgid deimhnithe a fuarthas ón Dáil tar éis gabháil tríd an gCúigiú Céim sa Seanad, cuirfidh an Cléireach an Bille ar ais go dtí Cléireach na Dála á dheimhniú gur ghlac an Seanad leis an mBille le moltaí nó gan mholtaí mar aon le Teachtaireacht sa chéill sin ina sonrófar na moltaí a rinne an Seanad, má rinne.

(2) Nuair a gheofar Bille nach Bille Airgid deimhnithe ón Dáil agus nuair a rithfidh an Seanad é le leasuithe nó gan leasuithe, cuirfidh an Cléireach an Bille ar ais go dtí Cléireach na Dála, á dheimhniú gur ritheadh an Bille ag an Seanad le leasuithe nó gan leasuithe mar aon le Teachtaireacht sa chéill sin ina sonrófar na leasuithe a rinne an Seanad, má rinne.

(3) Nuair a bheidh an Seanad tar éis diúltú do Bhille a fuarthas ón Dáil, cuirfidh an Cléireach an Bille ar ais go dtí Cléireach na Dála á dheimhniú gur dhiúltaigh an Seanad dó, mar aon le Teachtaireacht sa chéill sin.

Billí a Shíniú Níos Luaithe

Tairiscint ag comhthoiliú leis an Uachtarán do chur a láimhe le Bille níos luaithe.

186. Féadfar tairiscint go gcomhthoileoidh an Seanad leis an Uachtarán do chur a láimhe le Bille níos luaithe faoi fho-alt 2° d'alt 2 d'Airteagal 25 den Bhunreacht a dhéanamh gan fógra.

Seanadóirí D'éirí as

Seanadóir d'éirí as.

187. Féadfaidh aon chomhalta den Seanad éirí as bheith ina chomhalta nó ina comhalta de, dá dheoin nó dá deoin féin, trí fhógra i scríbhinn don Chathaoirleach, agus beidh éifeacht ag an éirí as sin láithreach ar an gCathaoirleach á fhógairt don Seanad.

Bills

Vouching of Bills passed by Seanad.

183. When a Bill initiated in the Seanad has passed through all its stages in the Seanad, the Clerk shall make, or cause to be made, an exact copy thereof, and shall vouch such copy to be a true and correct copy by certifying the same at the head of the first page and by initialling and numbering each succeeding page. The signed certificate of the Clerk shall state the date of the passing of the Bill by the Seanad and the date of its transmission to the Dáil.

Transmission of Bills to Dáil.

184. Such true copy of a Bill passed as aforesaid and duly certified in the manner hereinbefore provided, together with a Message referring to such Bill, shall be transmitted to the Dáil. The Message shall state that the Seanad desires the agreement of the Dáil to the passing of the Bill into law.

Return of Bills to Dáil.

185. (1) When a certified Money Bill received from the Dáil has completed its Fifth Stage in the Seanad, the Clerk shall return the Bill to the Clerk of the Dáil, certifying that the Bill has been accepted by the Seanad with or without recommendations and accompanied by a Message to that effect and specifying the recommendations, if any, made by the Seanad.

(2) When a Bill other than a certified Money Bill has been received from the Dáil and has been passed by the Seanad with or without amendments, the Clerk shall return the Bill to the Clerk of the Dáil, certifying that the Bill has been passed by the Seanad with or without amendments and accompanied by a Message to that effect and specifying the amendments, if any, made by the Seanad.

(3) When a Bill, received from the Dáil, has been rejected by the Seanad, the Clerk shall return the Bill to the Clerk of the Dáil certifying that the Bill has been rejected by the Seanad and accompanied by a Message to that effect.

EARLIER SIGNATURE OF BILLS

Motion of concurrence with earlier signature of Bill by President.

186. A motion of concurrence by the Seanad with the earlier signature of a Bill by the President under subsection 2° of section 2 of Article 25 of the Constitution may be moved without notice.

RESIGNATION OF SENATORS

Resignation of Senator.

187. Any member of the Seanad may voluntarily resign his or her membership thereof by notice in writing to the Cathaoirleach, and such resignation shall take effect immediately upon the announcement thereof to the Seanad by the Cathaoirleach.

Buan-Orduithe

Corrfholúntais

Corrfholúntais.

188. (1) Aon uair a tharlóidh corrfholúntas i gcomhaltas an tSeanaid, fógróidh an Cathaoirleach é sin don Seanad ag an gcéad tionól ina dhiaidh sin.

(2) Más i líon na gcomhaltaí a ainmníodh chun an tSeanaid a tharlóidh an folúntas, cuirfidh an Cathaoirleach fógra i scríbhinn i dtaobh an fholúntais sin go dtí an Taoiseach.

(3) Más i líon na gcomhaltaí a toghadh chun an tSeanaid a tharlóidh an folúntas, cuirfidh an Cléireach, ar ordachán ón Seanad, fógra i scríbhinn i dtaobh an fholúntais sin go dtí an tAire Comhshaoil.

(4) Cuirfidh an Cléireach in iúl do Sheanadóir nua-ainmnithe nó nuathofa nach foláir dó nó di a bheith i láthair in áit a cheapfaidh sé nó sí, agus lá nó laethanta a ainmneoidh sé nó sí chun forálacha mhír (1) de Bhuan- Ordú 1 a chomhlíonadh.

(5) Fógróidh an Cathaoirleach ainm comhalta a ainmníodh nó a toghadh chun corrfholúntas a líonadh ag an gcéad tionól ina dhiaidh sin den Seanad.

Doiciméid a leagfar faoi bhráid an Tseanaid

An modh ar a leagfar doiciméid faoi bhráid an tSeanaid.

189. (1) Nuair is gá doiciméad a leagan faoi bhráid an tSeanaid measfar é a bheith leagtha faoi bhráid an tSeanaid má dhéantar cóip den doiciméad, a bhféadfaidh gur cóip leictreonach i bhfoirm cheadaithe í, a sheachadadh chun na críche sin ar Leabharlann an Oireachtais.

(2) Gach doiciméad a leagfar faoi bhráid an tSeanaid, measfar é a bheith infhoilsithe.

Buan-Orduithe a chur ar Fionraí

Buan-Orduithe a chur ar fionraí.

190. (1) Féadfar aon cheann nó cinn de Bhuan-Orduithe an tSeanaid a chur ar fionraí ar feadh shuí an lae, agus chun críche áirithe, má thairgtear sin tar éis fógra a thabhairt.

(2) Ach má bhíonn práinn leis, agus is é nó is í an Cathaoirleach a bheidh ina bhreitheamh nó ina breitheamh air sin, féadfar aon Bhuan-Ordú nó Buan-Orduithe a chur ar fionraí ar thairiscint a dhéanamh gan fógra. Má chuirtear i gcoinne tairisceana den sórt sin ceadóidh an Cathaoirleach ráiteas mínitheach ón gcomhalta a rinne an tairiscint, agus ráiteas ó chomhalta atá ag cur i gcoinne na tairisceana, sula gcuirfidh sé nó sí an cheist uirthi.

Ré na mBuan-oRduIthe

Ré na mBuan-Orduithe seo.

191. Leanfaidh na Buan-Orduithe sin roimhe seo i bhfeidhm go dtí go leasófar nó go n-aisghairfear iad.

Standing Orders

Casual Vacancies

Casual vacancies.

188. (1) Whenever a casual vacancy occurs in the membership of the Seanad, the Cathaoirleach shall at the first meeting thereafter announce the occurrence of such vacancy to the Seanad.

(2) When the vacancy occurs in the number of nominated members of the Seanad, the Cathaoirleach shall send to the Taoiseach notice in writing of such vacancy.

(3) When the vacancy occurs among the members elected to the Seanad the Clerk shall, on the direction of the Seanad, send notice in writing of such vacancy to the Minister for the Environment.

(4) The Clerk shall notify a newly-nominated or a newly-elected Senator that his or her attendance is required at a place appointed, and on a day or days named by him or her, for the purpose of complying with the provisions of paragraph (1) of Standing Order 1.

(5) The name of a member nominated or elected to fill a casual vacancy shall be announced by the Cathaoirleach at the next ensuing meeting of the Seanad.

Documents laid before the Seanad

Method of laying documents before the Seanad.

189. (1) Where a document is required to be laid before the Seanad the delivery of a copy of the document, which may be an electronic copy in an approved format, to the Parliamentary Library for that purpose shall be deemed to be the laying of it before the Seanad.

(2) All documents laid before the Seanad shall be considered public.

Suspension of Standing Orders

Suspension of Standing Orders.

190. (1) Any Standing Order or Orders of the Seanad may be suspended for the day's sitting, and for a particular purpose, upon motion made after notice.

(2) Provided that in cases of necessity, of which the Cathaoirleach shall be the judge, any Standing Order or Orders may be suspended upon motion made without notice. If such motion be opposed the Cathaoirleach shall permit an explanatory statement from the member who moves it and a statement from a member who opposes it before he or she puts the question thereon.

Duration of Standing Orders

Duration of these Standing Orders.

191. The foregoing Standing Orders shall continue in force until amended or repealed.

AN SCEIDEAL

NA HEARNÁLACHA DOICIMÉID (SCRÍBHINNE) A AINMNÍTEAR LEIS NA BUAN-ORDUITHE SEO CHUN CRÍOCHA BHUAN-ORDÚ 134(2)(*a*) AGUS (*b*):

(*a*) Imeachtaí Sheanad Éireann ("bileoga an chléirigh").

(*b*) Mionteagaisc maidir le reachtaíocht nó maidir le himeachtaí eile atá faoi bhráid an tSeanaid.

(*c*) Páipéir oibre de chuid an tSeanaid nó de chuid aon cheann dá Choistí.

(*d*) Na doiciméid seo a leanas maidir le cruinnithe de chuid Coistí Seanaid:

(i) cláir oibre,

(ii) mionteagaisc,

(iii) miontuairiscí, agus

(iv) athscríbhinní.

(*e*) Páipéir thaighde arna n-ullmhú ag an tSeirbhís Leabharlainne agus Taighde, nó ag aon saoráid a chuirfear in ionad na saoráide sin, ar iarratas ón Seanad nó ó Choiste den Seanad.

(*f*) Comhairle do chomhaltaí ó oifigigh don Seanad nó ó chomhaltaí den chomhfhoireann.

(*g*) Tuairimí, comhairle, moltaí, nó torthaí comhchomhairliúchán, arna mbreithniú nó arna breithniú ag an Seanad nó ag Coiste den Seanad, nó arna n-ullmhú nó arna hullmhú le haghaidh an bhreithnithe sin.

(*h*) Doiciméid arb éard iad cumarsáidí idir comhaltaí agus oifigigh don Seanad nó cumarsáidí idir oifigigh don Seanad, nó doiciméid is fianaise ar chumarsáidí den sórt sin.

(*i*) Doiciméid arb éard iad cumarsáidí idir oifigigh don Seanad nó comhaltaí den chomhfhoireann, de pháirt, agus aon sealbhóir oifige nó a Roinn nó a Oifig nó a hOifig, agus aon oifigigh, comhaltaí foirne, nó gníomhaireachtaí de chuid an Rialtais, den pháirt eile, a bhaineann go díreach le haon chuid den ghnó dá dtagraítear i mBuan-Ordú 134(2)(*a*), nó doiciméid is fianaise ar chumarsáidí den sórt sin.

(*j*) Doiciméid arb éard iad cumarsáidí ó Choiste den Seanad lena n-iarrtar faisnéis chun críocha gnó Coiste agus aon fhreagra (nach freagra ar dhiúltaigh an Coiste é a ghlacadh, ná freagra arb éard é doiciméid a scoir, le breith ón gCoiste de réir reachta, de bheith ina ndoiciméid de chuid an Choiste) a cuireadh ar aghaidh chuig an gCoiste agus ar ghlac an Coiste leis, nó doiciméid is fianaise ar an gcéanna.

(*k*) Doiciméid arna gcruthú i ndáil leis an gcaoi a rialáiltear an gnó parlaiminteach idir páirtithe nó grúpaí de réir mar a fhoráiltear sna Buan-Orduithe seo, lena n-áirítear doiciméid maidir le comhaltaí a cheapadh chun Coiste.

SCHEDULE

CATEGORIES OF DOCUMENT DESIGNATED BY THESE STANDING ORDERS FOR THE PURPOSES OF STANDING ORDER 134(2)(*a*) AND (*b*):

(*a*) Imeachtaí Sheanad Éireann ("clerk sheets").

(*b*) Briefings regarding legislation or other proceedings before the Seanad.

(*c*) Working papers of the Seanad or any of its Committees.

(*d*) The following documents in respect of Seanad Committee meetings:

(i) agendas,

(ii) briefings,

(iii) minutes, and

(iv) transcripts.

(*e*) Research papers prepared by the Library and Research Service, or any replacement for that facility, at the instance of the Seanad or a Committee of the Seanad.

(*f*) Advices to members from officers of the Seanad or members of the joint staff.

(*g*) Opinions, advice, recommendations, or the results of consultations, considered by the Seanad or a Committee of the Seanad, or prepared for that consideration.

(*h*) Documents constituting or evidencing communications between members and officers of the Seanad, or communications between officers of the Seanad.

(*i*) Documents constituting or evidencing communications between officers of the Seanad or members of the joint staff, on the one hand, and any office-holder or his or her Department or Office, and any officers, staff, or agencies of the Government, on the other, in direct relation to any of the business referred to in Standing Order 134(2)(*a*).

(*j*) Documents constituting or evidencing communications from a Committee of the Seanad that solicit information for the purposes of Committee business and any response (not being one the Committee has declined to receive, or one the documents constituting which have ceased by decision of the Committee in accordance with statute to be documents of the Committee) forwarded to and accepted by the Committee.

(*k*) Documents created in relation to how parliamentary business is regulated between parties or groups as provided for in these Standing Orders including with regard to the appointment of members to a Committee.

(*l*) Doiciméid a bhaineann le saincheisteanna araíonachta atá iomchuí maidir leis an Seanad nó lena Choistí.

(*m*) Gan an earnáil is neasa roimhe seo a theorannú, doiciméid arb éard iad cumarsáidí de bhun reachta idir oifigeach don Seanad nó comhalta de cheachtar Teach den Oireachtas, de pháirt, agus Coiste den Seanad, den pháirt eile, i ndáil le hiompar nó le hiompar líomhnaithe comhalta den Seanad, nó doiciméid is fianaise ar an gcéanna.

(*n*) Dréachtaí de dhoiciméid oifigiúla is dréachtaí nach mbeartaítear a fhoilsiú.

(*o*) Maidir le doiciméad nach dtagann faoi réim Bhuan-Ordú 134(2) ar an gcúis go bhfuil sé sa réimse poiblí nó gur leagadh faoi bhráid an tSeanaid é nó go bhfuil sé le foilsiú nó le leagan faoina bhráid amhlaidh ar ball, agus ar an gcúis sin amháin, dréachtaí nach mbeartaítear a fhoilsiú nó nach mbeartaítear a leagan faoina bhráid amhlaidh.

(*p*) Doiciméid (Scríbhinní) a bhaineann le toiliú dá dtagraítear in Airteagal 15.8.2° den Bhunreacht agus le haon suí den Seanad de bhun an toilithe sin.

(*l*) Documents concerning disciplinary issues relevant to the Seanad or its Committees.

(*m*) Without limiting the next preceding category, documents constituting or evidencing communications pursuant to statute between an officer of the Seanad or a member of either House of the Oireachtas, on the one hand, and a Committee of the Seanad, on the other, in relation to the conduct or alleged conduct of a member of the Seanad.

(*n*) Drafts not intended for publication of official documents.

(*o*) In respect of a document falling outside Standing Order 134(2) solely because it is in the public domain or has been laid before the Seanad or is presently to be published or so laid, drafts not intended for publication or not intended to be so laid.

(*p*) Documents relating to an assent referred to in Article 15.8.2° of the Constitution and to any sitting of the Seanad pursuant to that assent.

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Le ceannach díreach ó
FOILSEACHÁIN RIALTAIS,
52 FAICHE STIABHNA, BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2.
(Teil: 0761106834 nó 1890 213434; Fax: 0761106843)
nó trí aon dioltóir leabhar.

To be purchased from
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS,
52 ST. STEPHEN'S GREEN, DUBLIN 2.
(Tel: 0761106834 or 1890 213434; Fax: 0761106843)
or through any bookseller.

€10.00

ISBN 978-1-4468-8041-8

9 781446 880418