

That Dáil Éireann:

Notes:

- That the Government's mismanagement of the health budget has led to a disastrous embargo on recruitment into frontline posts; and
- The memorandums sent by the Chief Executive Officer of the Health Service Executive which directed a severe escalation in the recruitment embargo across the health service, which note that the embargo "will create difficulties" in the face of "an enormous increase in demand;" and

Further notes the disastrous decision of this Government to underfund the health service has:

- Resulted in the loss of more than 7,000 essential posts from the HSE workforce;
- Caused the removal of vital frontline vacant posts which were needed for the winter ahead;
- Caused the withdrawal of job offers from prospective health service workers;
- Sent a message to Irish workers abroad not to come home;
- Sent a message to workers frustrated with the health service in Ireland to emigrate;
- Sent a message to foreign health services to come and take our healthcare workers; and
- Seriously impacted the ability of the health service to deliver safe, quality care and expand provision to meet rising demand across almost all services including mental health, older people, home care, community services, and acute hospitals; and

Condemns this Government for throwing in the towel on health and causing significant reputational damage to the health service through their disastrous recruitment embargo as a result of the underfunding of the health service

Calls on the Government to:

- Immediately end the recruitment embargo on essential HSE posts;
- Urgently bring forward revised estimates for 2023 to properly fund the health service to year end; and
- Reverse its disastrous decision to deliberately underfund the health service in 2024.