



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Honourable the House of Assembly

At a meeting of the House of Assembly at the Parliament Buildings on Tuesday, the 11th day of February, 2025, at 10.00 o'clock a.m. pursuant to the adjournment.

PRESENT

- His Honour A. E. Holder, S.C., B.Sc. (Hons.), MSW, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Speaker*)
Her Honour Miss C. Y. Forde, J.P., L.C.P. (*Deputy Speaker*)
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| Hon. D. D. Marshall, S.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C.
(<i>Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs</i>) (<i>Senior Minister</i>) | Hon. A. R. Forde, Rph. (<i>Minister of Environment and National Beautification, Green and Blue Economy</i>) |
| Mr. T. A. Prescod, J.P., B.A. | Hon. C. McD. Griffith, B.Sc. (<i>Minister of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment</i>) |
| Mr. E. G. Hinkson, S.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C., LL.M. | Mr. P. R. Phillips, J.P. (<i>Chairman of Committees</i>) |
| Hon. D. G. Sutherland, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A. (Dist.) (<i>Minister of Housing, Lands and Maintenance</i>) | Hon. C. E. Jordan, B.Sc. (Hons.) (<i>Minister of Labour, Social Security and Third Sector</i>) |
| Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid, J.P., B.D.S., F.D.S., F.D.R.C.S., M. Min. (<i>Senior Minister</i>)
(<i>Minister of Planning and Development in the Prime Minister's Office</i>) (<i>Acting Prime Minister wef 7th February 2025 to 14th February 2025</i>) | Dr. S. E. Browne, M.B.B.S. |
| Hon. W. A. Abrahams, S.C., LL.B. (<i>Minister of Home Affairs and Information</i>) | Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.P.A. (<i>Minister of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs</i>) |
| Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands, B.A. (Hons.), M.Sc. (<i>Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training</i>) | Hon. R. R. Straughn, B.Sc., M.Sc. (<i>Minister in the Ministry of Finance</i>) |
| Mr. R. A. Thorne, K.C., LL.B., L.E.C., Dip. Theology (<i>Leader of the Opposition</i>) | Mr. N. G. H. Rowe, J.P. |
| | Hon. Miss K. S. McConney (<i>Minister of Education, Technological and Vocational Training</i>) |
| | Dr. R. O. Springer, J.P., Ph.D. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Transport and Works</i>) |
| | Hon. D. I. Ishmael, M.B.A., M.Sc. (<i>Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Wellness</i>) |
| | Hon. C. A. Lane, J.P. (<i>Minister of State in the Office of the Attorney General</i>) |
| | Mr. C. D. L. Gibbs |

ABSENT

Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley, S.C., LL.B. (*Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Economic Affairs, Culture, Security, Public Service, CARICOM and the Development Commissions*), Hon. K. D. Symmonds, B.A., LL.B. (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade*), Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Deputy Prime Minister*) (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Transport and Works*) (*Leader of Government Business*), Hon. I. A. Weir, M.B.A. (*Minister of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security*), Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill (*Minister of Tourism and International Transport*), Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle, B.A., M.Sc. (*Minister of Industry, Innovation, Science and Technology*) and Ms. T. N. S-A. Moore, J.P., M.B.A.

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by Rev. Father Mark Harewood.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 7th February, 2025 were deferred on the motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall seconded by Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid.

ORDERS OF THE DAY**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

On the motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall, seconded by Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid, Standing Orders 6, 16, 18, 20, 42(5), 43 and 44 were suspended for the remainder of the Sitting.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**ORDER NO. 7****RURAL AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BILL, 2025**

On the Order being called for Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to make provision for the establishment of the Rural and Urban Development Commission and matters related thereto,

the Hon. Member spoke and moved, seconded by Hon. D. G. Sutherland that the Bill be read a second time.

Mr. R. A. Thorne began to speak.

Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid spoke on a point of elucidation.

Mr. R. A. Thorne began to resume his speech and gave way.

Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid spoke on a point of order.

Mr. R. A. Thorne concluded his speech.

Hon. D. G. Sutherland began to speak.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Hon. D. G. Sutherland withdrew certain remarks and concluded his speech.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid, seconded by Hon. D. I. Ishmael the Sitting was suspended at 1.25 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 7 (resumed)

Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands spoke.

Her Honour Miss C. Y. Forde spoke.

Mr. P. R. Phillips spoke.

Mr. E. G. Hinkson spoke.

Hon. C. E. Jordan spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. W. A. Abrahams, seconded by Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid the Sitting was suspended at 5.25 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Madam Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 7 (resumed)

Mr. T. A. Prescod spoke.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke.

Hon. D. D. Marshall spoke.

Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid seconded by Hon. D. I. Ishmael the House went into Committee, Mr. P. R. Phillips in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 42 were called in parts and passed without amendment on the separate motion of Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams.

The First and Second Schedules were called and passed on the separate motion of Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams.

On the motion of Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Chairman reported the passing of the Bill in Committee to Madam Deputy Speaker who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall, seconded by Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid, the Sitting was suspended at 7.25 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

PAPERS (recommitted)

Hon. D. D. Marshall by command laid the following:

- Judges Remuneration and Pensions (Salaries) Order, 2025.
- Judges (Remuneration and Pensions) (Conditions of Service and Allowances)(Amendment) Regulations, 2025.
- Senate and House of Assembly (Remuneration and Allowances of Members) Order, 2025.
- Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (Conditions of Service) Order, 2025.
- Public Service (Part-Time Officers) Order, 2025.
- Supreme Court (Master of the High Court) (Salary) Order, 2025.
- Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure 2025-2026.
- Schedule of Personal Emoluments 2025-2026.
- Proposal for the Acquisition of a Data Centre.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES (recommitted)

Hon. D. D. Marshall gave notice of the following:

- Resolution to approve the rates of salaries and allowances, applicable to the posts of Personal Assistants to Ministers as set out in the Schedule.
- Resolution to approve the rates of salaries and allowances, applicable to the posts of Personal Assistant, Executive Assistant, Press Secretary, Executive Personal Secretary and Clerical Officer to the Prime Minister as set out in the Schedule.
- Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (Conditions of Service) Bill, 2025.
- Appropriation Bill, 2025.

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS (recommitted)

On the separate motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Bills following were read a first time:

- Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (Conditions of Service) Bill, 2025.
- Appropriation Bill, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams, the House was adjourned to Monday, 17th February, 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

At 8.45 p.m. Mr. Speaker adjourned the Sitting.

N. R. JONES, Q.C.
Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the _____ day of _____, 2025.

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027

MINUTES

Tuesday, 11th February, 2025.

Government Printing Department.