

### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**OF** 

## The Honourable The Senate

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings on Wednesday, the 15th day of August, 2018 at 11.00 o'clock a.m.

#### **PRESENT**

His Honour Senator Dr. Sir Richard L. Cheltenham, KA, Q.C., Ph.D., J.P., B.Sc. (Econ.) (*President*) His Honour Senator R. N. Greenidge, LL.B. (*Deputy President*)

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), J.P. (Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade) (Leader of the Senate)

Senator the Hon. Miss L. C. Moe (Minister of Information, Broadcasting and Public Affairs)

Senator the Hon. Miss K. S. McConney (Minister of Innovation, Science and Smart Technology)

Senator Dr. R. O. Springer, B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training)

Senator R. W. Grant, J.P., B.A., (Econ.), LL.B., PG Dip. MA.

Senator Miss L. P. Holder, M.B.A., M.Sc.

Senator Ms. L. R. Cummins, B.Sc., M.Sc.

Senator Dr. C. K. M. Haynes, M.B.B.S.

Senator D. R. Sands, LL.B. (Hons.)

Senator R. J. H. Adams, B.Sc. (Econ.), M.Sc. (Political Sociology)

Senator C. A. Franklyn, J.P.

Senator Miss C. N. Drakes, B.Sc. (Econ. & Mgmt.), M.Phil Econ.

Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse, F.C.A., F.C.C.A.

Senator Dr. C. A. Maynard, M.B.B.S., FRCS (ENT)

Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt, Q.C., LL.B. (Hons.) M.B.A.

Senator Rev. M. B. St. J. Maxwell, B.Sc., B.A., M.A.A.T.

and

Senator K. J. Boyce, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C.

**ABSENT** 

Senator Miss T. N. S-A. Moore, M.B.A.

**EXCUSES** 

Senator Miss T. N. S-A. Moore, M.B.A.

Prayers were led by Rev. Canon Errington Massiah.

#### **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of Monday, 30th July, 2018 were confirmed.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT

The President announced that he was in receipt of a letter from Senator Miss. T. N. S-A. Moore informing of her absence from the Senate from 7th August, 2018 to 17th August, 2018.

#### **PAPERS**

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott laid the following:

- 1. Public Service (General) Order, 2018.
- 2. Public Service (Teachers) Order, 2018.
- 3. Public Service (Part-Time Officers) Order, 2018.
- 4. Senate and House of Assembly (Remuneration and Allowances of Members) Order, 2018.
- 5. Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (Remuneration and Allowances) Order, 2018.
- 6. Parliament (Administration) (Salary) Order, 2018.
- 7. Judges Remuneration and Pensions (Salaries) Order, 2018.
- 8. Supreme Court (Master of the High Court) (Salary) Order, 2018.
- 9. Ombudsman (Salary) Order, 2018.
- 10. Financial Services Commission Annual Report 2016-2017.

#### MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott Standing Order 22(1) was suspended for the remainder of the day's Sitting.

#### INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott introduced the Fiscal Incentives (Repeal) Bill, 2018, and moved that the said Bill be read a first time.

The motion was carried.

#### RESOLUTIONS

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott gave notice of the following Resolutions:

Resolution to approve the Public Service (General) Order, 2018.

Resolution to approve the Public Service (Teachers) Order, 2018.

Resolution to approve the Public Service (Part-time Officers) Order, 2018.

Resolution to approve the Senate and House of Assembly (Remuneration and Allowances of Members) Order, 2018.

Resolution to approve the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (Remuneration and Allowances) Order, 2018.

Resolution to approve in accordance with section 3(2) of the Governor-General (Conditions of Service) Act, Cap. 6 the amendment of the Schedule to that Act by deleting paragraph 1 thereof and substituting paragraph 1 as contained in the Schedule to this Resolution.

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 payment of an increased Cost of Living Allowance to Government Pensioners.

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.

#### **PUBLIC BUSINESS**

#### **ORDER NO. 2**

On the Order being called for Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Public Service (General) Order, 2018,

the Honourable Senator move that Orders 2 to 9 inclusive of the Supplement to the Order Paper be debated as a Cognate Debate.

The motion was carried.

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott spoke and moved that the following Resolution do now pass:

RESOLVED that the *Public Service (General) Order, 2018* made by the Minister responsible for the Civil Service on the 9th day of August, 2018 under sections 13(1) and 14(3) of the *Public Service Act*, Cap. 29 be approved.

RESOLVED that Her Excellency the Governor-General be asked to assent and take the necessary steps given to effect this Resolution.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 14th day of August, 2018.

Senator C. A. Franklyn began to speak.

Senator Miss. L. C. Moe spoke on a point of order.

Senator C. A. Franklyn resumed his speech.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator C. A. Franklyn resumed his speech.

The President vacated the Chair in favour of the Deputy President.

Senator C. A. Franklyn resumed his speech.

The President resumed the Chair.

Senator C. A. Franklyn concluded his speech.

Senator Dr. C. A. Maynard spoke.

Senator Dr. C. K. M. Haynes spoke.

Senator Miss L. R. Cummins spoke.

#### **SUSPENSION**

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott moved the suspension of the Senate to 2.15 p.m.

At 1.05 p.m. the President suspended the Senate.

#### RESUMPTION

On resumption, Mr. President in the Chair.

#### **ORDER NO. 2 (resumed)**

Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt spoke.

Senator Miss C. N. Drakes spoke.

Senator the Hon. Miss L. C. Moe began to speak.

Senator C. A. Franklyn spoke on a point of order.

Senator the Hon. Miss L. C. Moe concluded her speech.

His Honour Senator R. N. Greenidge began to speak.

Senator C. A. Franklyn spoke on a point of elucidation.

His Honour Senator R. N. Greenidge concluded his speech.

Senator R. W. Grant spoke.

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott spoke in reply and moved that the Resolution do now pass.

The Resolution was passed.

#### **ORDER NO. 3**

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott moved the passing of the following:

RESOLVED that the *Public Service (Teachers) Order, 2018* made by the Minister responsible for the Civil Service on the 9th day of August, 2018 under sections 13(1) and 14(3) of the *Public Service Act*, Cap. 29 be approved.

RESOLVED that Her Excellency the Governor-General be asked to assent and take the necessary steps given to effect this Resolution.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 14th day of August, 2018.

The Resolution was passed.

#### ORDER NO. 4

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott moved the passing of the following:

RESOLVED that the *Public Service (Part-time Officers) Order, 2018* made by the Minister responsible for the Civil Service on the 9th day of August, 2018 under sections 13(1) and 14(3) of the *Public Service Act*, Cap. 29 be approved.

RESOLVED that Her Excellency the Governor-General be asked to assent and take the necessary steps given to effect this Resolution.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 14th day of August, 2018.

The Resolution was passed.

#### **ORDER NO. 5**

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott moved the passing of the following:

RESOLVED that Parliament approve the Senate and House of Assembly (Remuneration and Allowances of Members) Order, 2018 made by the Minister responsible for Finance on the 9th day of August, 2018 under section 8 of the Senate and House of Assembly (Remuneration and Allowances of Members) Act, Cap. 13A.

RESOLVED that Her Excellency the Governor-General be asked to assent and take the necessary steps to give effect to this Resolution.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 14th day of August, 2018.

The Resolution was passed.

#### **ORDER NO. 6**

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott moved the passing of the following:

RESOLVED that Parliament approve the *Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (Remuneration and Allowances) Order, 2018* made by the Minister responsible for Finance on the 9th day of August, 2018 under section 5 of the *Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (Remuneration and Allowances) Act,* Cap. 8.

RESOLVED that Her Excellency the Governor-General be asked to assent and take the necessary steps to give effect to this Resolution.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 14th day of August, 2018.

The Resolution was passed.

#### ORDER NO. 7

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott moved the passing of the following:

RESOLVED that Parliament approve the rates of salaries and allowances, applicable to the posts of Personal Assistants to Ministers, as set out in the Schedule with effect from the date shown in the *Schedule*.

RESOLVED that the Senate be invited to concur on the contents herein.

RESOLVED that Her Excellency the Governor-General be asked to assent and take the necessary steps to give effect to this Resolution.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 14th day of August, 2018.

#### **SCHEDULE**

Rate of Salary and Allowance with effect from 1st April, 2018

Posts	Salary Scale Per Annum	Travelling Allowance Per Annum	
	\$	\$	
26 Posts of Personal Assistants to Ministers	(Code Z3) 67,068.03	4,974.60	

The Resolution was passed.

#### ORDER NO. 8

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott moved the following:

RESOLVED that Parliament approve the payment of an increased Cost of Living Allowance at the rate of 3.3% per annum to government pensioners with effect from 1st April, 2018 subject to the conditions set out in the *Schedule* hereto.

RESOLVED that an additional Cost of Living Allowance of \$5.00 per month be granted to those pensioners who retired prior to 1st April, 1976.

RESOLVED that Her Excellency the Governor-General be asked to assent and take the necessary steps to give effect to this Resolution.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 14th day of August, 2018.

#### **SCHEDULE**

Terms and Conditions for Grant of Cost of Living Allowance

An increase of 3.3% per annum of the cumulative sum of pension and Cost of Living Allowance as at 31st March, 2018 or \$20 per month whichever is greater, is payable as a Cost of Living Allowance to all government pensioners.

Effective 1st April, 2018 an additional sum of \$5.00 per month is payable to each government pensioner who retired prior to 1st April, 1976.

The increased Cost of Living Allowance, which takes effect from 1st April, 2018 does not apply to a person whose pension is computed on the revised salaries or wages that take effect from 1st April, 2018 unless the computation of pension on the revised salary or wage, results in an increase of less than \$20.00 a month, in which case the amount by which the increase is less than \$20.00 shall be payable as a Cost of Living Allowance.

The Resolution was passed.

#### ORDER NO. 9

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott moved the following:

RESOLVED that Parliament approve the rates of salaries and allowances, applicable to the posts of Personal Assistant to the Prime Minister, Executive Assistant to the Prime Minister, the Press Secretary and Executive Personal Secretary as set out in the *Schedule* with effect from the date shown in the *Schedule*.

RESOLVED that Her Excellency the Governor-General be asked to assent and take the necessary steps to give effect to this Resolution.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 14th day of August, 2018.

SCHEDULE

Rate of Salaries and Allowances with effect from 1st April, 2018.

Post	Salary Scale Per Annum	Entertainment Allowance Per Annum	Travelling Allowance Per Annum
1 Personal Assistant to the Prime Minister	\$ 102,991.39 (Code S5)	\$ 3,846.84	\$ 9,817.08
1 Executive Assistant to the Prime Minister	74,577.00 (Code S9)	3,846.84	7,478.16
1 Press Secretary	74,577.00 (Code S9)	3,846.84	7,478.16
1 Executive Personal Secretary	54,989.55 x 1,558.24- 59,664.28 x 1,850.94- 67,068.03 (Code Z10-3)		
1 Clerical Officer	24,404.81 x 912.11- 31,701.72 x 935.80- 36,380.73 x 1,048.07- 37,428.80 (Code Z38-24)		

The Resolution was passed.

#### **SUSPENSION**

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott moved the suspension of the Sitting to 4.45 p.m.

The motion was passed.

Mr. President suspended the Sitting.

#### RESUMPTION

On resumption the President in the Chair.

#### **ORDER NO. 1**

#### AIRPORT SERVICE CHARGE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2018

On the Order being called for Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an act to amend the *Airport Service Charge Act*, Cap. 59 to provide for an increase of the airport service charge,

the Hon. Member spoke and moved that the Bill be read a second time.

Senator C. A. Franklyn spoke.

Senator Rev. M. B. St. J. Maxwell spoke.

Senator Dr. R. O. Springer spoke.

Senator K. J. Boyce spoke.

Senator the Hon. Miss K. S. McConney spoke.

Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt spoke.

Senator R. W. Grant began to speak.

The President gave way in favour of the Deputy President.

Senator R. W. Grant resumed his speech.

The President resumed the Chair.

Senator R. W. Grant resumed his speech.

Senator C. A. Franklyn spoke on a point of order.

Senator R. W. Grant concluded his speech.

His Honour Senator R. N. Greenidge began to speak.

Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt spoke on a point of order.

His Honour Senator R. N. Greenidge concluded his speech.

Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott spoke in reply.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott the Senate resolved itself into Committee, His Honour R. N. Greenidge in the Chair.

Clause 1 was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called.

Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt spoke.

Clause 2 was passed.

Clauses 3, 4, 5 and 6 were called and passed.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott the Deputy President reported the passing of the Bill in Committee to the President who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Mr. J. X. Walcott the Senate was adjourned to Wednesday, 29th August, 2018 at 11.00 a.m.

At 7.45 p.m. the President adjourned the Senate.

#### RICHARD P. BYER Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the , 2018.

day of

President.

SENATE CHAMBERS PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS BRIDGETOWN.

## SENATE

# FIRST SESSION OF 2018 - 2023

# MINUTES

Wednesday, 15th August, 2018.

Government Printing Department