



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 6th day of February, 2024, at 10.00 o'clock a.m. pursuant to Standing Order 6. 9

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. Miss M. A. Mottley, S.C., LL.B. (<i>Prime Minister; Minister of Finance, Economic Affairs, Culture, Security, Public Service, CARICOM and the Development Commissions</i>) | Hon. W. A. Abrahams, S.C., LL.B. (<i>Minister of Home Affairs and Information</i>) |
| 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>) | Mr. R. A. Thorne, Q.C., LL.B., L.E.C., Dip. Theology |
| Mr. T. A. Prescod, J.P., B.A. | Hon. A. R. Forde, Rph. (<i>Minister of Environment and National Beautification and the Green and Blue Economy</i>) |
| Hon. K. D. Symmonds, B.A., LL.B. (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade</i>) | 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>) |
| Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (<i>Deputy Prime Minister</i>) (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Transport and Works</i>) (<i>Leader of Government Business</i>) | Dr. S. E. Browne, M.B.B.S. |
| 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>) | Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.P.A. (<i>Minister of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs</i>) |
| | Hon. R. R. Straughn, B.Sc., M.Sc. (<i>Minister in the Ministry of Finance</i>) |
| | Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle, B.A., M.Sc. (<i>Minister of Industry, Innovation, Science and Technology</i>) |
| | Mr. N. G. H. Rowe, J.P. |
| | Ms. T. N. S-A. Moore, J.P., M.B.A. |
| | 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>) |
| | Mr. C. D. L. Gibbs |

ABSENT

Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands, B.A. (Hons.), M.Sc. (*Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training*), 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*) and Hon. C. A. Lane, J.P. (*Minister of State in the Office of the Attorney General*).

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by Rev. Father Mark Harewood.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, 30th January, 2024 were deferred on the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Her Honour Miss C. Y. Forde.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER

Mr. Speaker read the letter following and indicated that he gave his approval to the request therein contained:



Hon. Santia Bradshaw, M.P.
Minister of Transport and Works
and Leader of Government Business
Pine East/West Boulevard
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BARBADOS
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February 2nd, 2024

His Honour Arthur E. Holder, S.C., M.P.
 Speaker of the House of Assembly
 Parliament Buildings
 Trafalgar Street
 BRIDGETOWN

Your Honour,

The House now stands adjourned until Tuesday, 13th February, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Pursuant to Standing Order No. 6.9 of the Standing Orders of the Honourable the House of Assembly, I hereby submit that the public interest requires that the House should meet on an earlier day than that to which the House stands adjourned in order to debate the Law Revision and Law Reform (Amendment) Bill, 2024, Transport Authority (Amendment) Bill 2024 and the Labour Clauses (Concessions) Bill 2024 and to continue debate on the Cybercrime Bill, 2023 and the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (Amendment) Bill, 2023.

Should you be satisfied that the public interest so requires, Government requests that the House should be summoned to meet Tuesday, February 6th, 2024 at 10:00 am.

Government proposes that the business of the House should be that mentioned above.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Santia J. O. Bradshaw, M.P.
 Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of Government Business

cc: The Clerk of Parliament

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the following Bills were read a first time:

1. Transport Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2024; and
2. Labour Clauses (Concessions) Bill, 2024.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the motion of Hon. Miss. S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds Standing Orders 6, 16, 18, 20, 42(5), 43 and 44 were suspended for the remainder of the Sitting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER (recommitted)

Mr. Speaker recognised the presence of and welcomed Dr. Morris Scantlebury, M.D., Honorary Consul of Barbados in Calgary, Canada.

He also recognised the presence of and welcomed Mr. Christian Briggs, Ms. Mandy Gunasekara, Ms. Camilla Green and Mr. Patrick Tannis.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

ORDER NO. 1

CYBERCRIME BILL, 2023

On the Order being called for Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle to resume the debate on the second reading of the Cybercrime Bill, 2023.

Hon. D. D. Marshall spoke.

Mr. E. G. Hinkson spoke.

Hon. R. R. Straughn spoke.

Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey the House went into Committee, Mr. P. R. Phillips in the Chair.

Part 1 Clauses 1 to 3 were called and passed as amended on the motion of Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey.

Part 2 Clauses 4 to 22 were called and passed on the motion of Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey.

Part 3 Clauses 23 to 33 and the Schedule were called and passed on the motion of Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams.

On the motion of Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Chairman reported the passing of the Bill in Committee as amended to Mr. Speaker who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

ORDER NO. 2

MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2023

On the Order being called for Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to amend the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act, Cap. 140A to make provision for mutual assistance in the matters relating to computer-related crimes and for related matters, the Hon. Member moved, seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey that the Bill be read a second time.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey the House went into Committee, Mr. P. R. Phillips in the Chair.

Clause 1 (as amended) was called and passed on the motion of Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey.

Clauses 2 to 6 were called and passed on the separate motion of Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams.

On the motion of Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey the Chairman reported the passing of the Bill in Committee as amended to Mr. Speaker who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

MESSAGES FROM HER EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT (recommitted)

STATE HOUSE
BARBADOSRef. No. PB: 2/S. 1A5th February, 2024*Dear Mr. Speaker,**I shall be away from the island on duty leave during the period 6th to 8th February, 2024.**In accordance with the provisions of Section 33 of the Constitution, the Very Reverend Dr. Jeffrey Douglas Gibson, will perform the functions of the Office of the President during my absence.**As The Honourable The House of Assembly will not be meeting prior to my departure, it will not be possible for the usual formal Message to be sent to your Chamber. Will you, therefore, please bring my absence formally to the attention of The Honourable The House of Assembly when next it meets.**Yours faithfully,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Douglas Gibson'.

PRESIDENT**His Honour
The Speaker of The House of Assembly
Parliament Buildings
BRIDGETOWN**

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Mr. E. G. Hinkson, the Sitting was suspended until 3.00 p.m.

At 1.42 p.m. Mr. Speaker suspended the Sitting.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

ORDER NO. 3

LAW REVISION AND LAW REFORM (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

On the order being called for Hon. D. D. Marshall to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to amend the Law Revision and Law Reform Act, 2019 (Act 2019-6) to give greater independence to the Law Reform Commission in its operations and for matters related thereto, the Hon. Member spoke and moved, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams that the Bill be read a second time.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke.

Mr. E. G. Hinkson spoke.

Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey spoke.

The motion was passed.

On the motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the House went into Committee, Mr. P. R. Phillips in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 7 and the Schedule were called and passed on the separate motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams.

On the motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Chairman reported the passing of the Bill in Committee to Mr. Speaker who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

ORDER NO. 4

TRANSPORT AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

On the order being called for Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to amend the Transport Authority Act, Cap. 295A to make provision for the Transport Authority to cancel or suspend any licence issued in respect of authorising a person to drive or act as a conductor on a public service vehicle, motor omnibus, minibus or route-taxi, the Hon. Member spoke and moved, seconded by Dr. R. O. Springer that the Bill be read a second time.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke.

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the House went into Committee, Mr. P. R. Phillips in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 4 were called and passed on the separate motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams.

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Chairman reported the passing of the Bill in Committee to Mr. Speaker who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES (recommitted)

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw gave notice of the following:

Financial Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Financial Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2024 was read a first time.

ORDER NO. 6
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

On the order being called for Hon. R. R. Straughn to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to amend the Financial Institutions Act, Cap. 324A, the Hon. Member spoke and moved, seconded by Dr. R. O. Springer that the Bill be read a second time.

Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle spoke.

Hon. R. R. Straughn spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

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

Clauses 1 to 5 were called and passed on the separate motion of Hon. R. R. Straughn seconded by Hon. C. E. Jordan.

On the motion of Hon. R. R. Straughn seconded by Hon. C. E. Jordan the Chairman reported the passing of the Bill in Committee to Mr. Speaker who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Hon. R. R. Straughn seconded by Hon. C. E. Jordan the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey the House was adjourned until Tuesday, 13th February, 2024 at 10.00 a.m.

At 6.07 p.m. Mr. Speaker adjourned the Sitting.

BEVERLEY S. GIBBONS, J.P.
Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the _____ day of _____, 2024.

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027

MINUTES

Tuesday, 6th February, 2024.

Government Printing Department.