



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 29th day of October, 2024, at 10.00 o'clock a.m. pursuant to the adjournment.

PRESENT

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. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands, B.A. (Hons.), M.Sc.
(<i>Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training</i>) |
| Mr. T. A. Prescod, J.P., B.A. | Mr. R. A. Thorne, K.C., LL.B., L.E.C., Dip.
Theology (<i>Leader of the Opposition</i>) |
| Hon. K. D. Symmonds, B.A., LL.B. (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade</i>) | Hon. I. A. Weir, M.B.A. (<i>Minister of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security</i>) |
| Mr. E. G. Hinkson, S.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C., LL.M. | Hon. C. McD. Griffith, B.Sc. (<i>Minister of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment</i>) |
| Hon. D. G. Sutherland, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A. (Dist.) (<i>Minister of Housing, Lands and Maintenance</i>) | Mr. P. R. Phillips, J.P. (<i>Chairman of Committees</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>) (<i>Acting Prime Minister</i> <i>wef</i> 27th October, 2024 to 31st October, 2024) | 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. W. A. Abrahams, S.C., LL.B. (<i>Minister of Home Affairs and Information</i>) | Hon. R. R. Straughn, B.Sc., M.Sc. (<i>Minister in the Ministry of Finance</i>) |
| | Mr. N. G. H. Rowe, J.P. |
| | 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

His Honour A. E. Holder, S.C., B.Sc. (Hons.), MSW, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Speaker*), 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. A. R. Forde, Rph. (*Minister of Environment and National Beautification and the Green and Blue Economy*), Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill (*Minister of Tourism and International Transport*), Hon. C. E. Jordan, B.Sc. (Hons.) (*Minister of Labour, Social Security and Third Sector*), Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle, B.A., M.Sc. (*Minister of Industry, Innovation, Science and Technology*), Ms. T. N. S-A. Moore, J.P., M.B.A. and Hon. Miss K. S. McConney (*Minister of Education, Technological and Vocational Training*).

The Deputy Clerk announced the absence of His Honour The Speaker.

Madam Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by Rev. Father Mark Harewood.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, 22nd October, 2024 were deferred on the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HER HONOUR THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Madam Deputy Speaker recognized the presence of and extended a warm welcome to representatives of the Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs, the National Disability Unit and the Barbados Council for the Disabled and its affiliate bodies.

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

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw spoke, sought and obtained leave to withdraw Orders Nos 3 and 12 on the Order Paper namely, the Human Tissue Transplant Bill, 2023; and the Business Barbados Bill, 2024.

ORDER NO. 11

**RESOLUTION THAT PARLIAMENT OF BARBADOS APPROVE
THE NATIONAL POLICY FOR IMPROVING THE LIVES
OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

On the Order being called Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw sought and obtained leave to withdraw the Resolution and to substitute the following:

**RESOLUTION ON NATIONAL POLICY FOR IMPROVING THE LIVES OF
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND 2023 REPORT OF THE NATIONAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO GUIDE THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A COMMISSION FOR IMPROVING THE LIVES OF
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

WHEREAS the Government of Barbados has signaled its intention to improve the lives of Persons with Disabilities and to protect their rights and freedoms through the creation of a comprehensive and inclusive national policy;

AND WHEREAS the policy was significantly informed by the 2023 Report of the National Advisory Committee to Guide the Establishment of a Commission for Improving the Lives of Persons with Disabilities;

AND WHEREAS the Commission was established under the chairmanship of Mr. Edmund Hinkson M.P. to highlight problems faced by the disabled community with a view to developing practical solutions to improve the lives of persons with disabilities;

AND WHEREAS the report presented a detailed synopsis of the issues and challenges faced by persons with disabilities and a comprehensive set of recommendations for the improvement in their lives which are reflected in the policy;

AND WHEREAS the policy aims to foster greater inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in all areas of national life and to eliminate the stigma and discrimination that they face on a daily basis;

AND WHEREAS the policy recognises the significant role that Persons with Disabilities can play in national development if they are given more opportunities to contribute in various ways according to the nature of their disability;

AND WHEREAS the Government has engaged in extensive consultations with stakeholders within the social policy space on the National Policy for Improving the Lives of Persons with Disabilities and the 2023 Report of the National Advisory Committee to Guide the Establishment of a Commission for Improving the Lives of Persons with Disabilities;

AND WHEREAS the Cabinet at its meeting held September 21, 2023 approved the National Policy for Improving the Lives of Persons with Disabilities and noted the 2023 Report of the National Advisory Committee to Guide the Establishment of a Commission for Improving the Lives of Persons with Disabilities at its meeting held on April 19, 2024.

AND WHEREAS the National Policy for Improving the Lives of Persons with Disabilities and the 2023 Report of the National Advisory Committee to Guide the Establishment of a Commission for Improving the Lives of Persons with Disabilities have been laid in Parliament to foster debate on these documents;

AND WHEREAS the National Policy recognizes the following thematic areas which are fundamental to advancing the full rights and freedoms of Persons with Disabilities:

- i) Accessibility;
- ii) Adequate standard of living and social protection;
- iii) Awareness building;
- iv) Education, training and lifelong learning;
- v) Employment, work and economic participation;
- vi) Health, habitation and rehabilitation;
- vii) Legal recognition and access to justice;
- viii) Participation in society;
- ix) Protection in disasters and emergencies;
- x) Protection of right to life, integrity, freedoms and liberties;
- xi) Regional and international cooperation;
- xii) Respect for privacy, home and family life;
- xiii) Statistics and data collection on disabilities; and
- xiv) Women and children with disabilities.

BE IT RESOLVED therefore that Parliament approve the National Policy for Improving the Lives of Persons with Disabilities and the 2023 National Report of the National Advisory Committee to Guide the Establishment of a Commission for Improving the Lives of Persons with Disabilities.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. D. I. Ishmael, the Sitting was suspended at 10.40 a.m. to 10.55 a.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Madam Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS (resumed)**ORDER NO. 11 (resumed)**

Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey spoke and moved seconded by Mr. E. G. Hinkson, who reserved his right to speak, that the Resolution be passed.

Mr. R. A. Thorne spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid the Sitting was suspended at 1.23 p.m. to 2.35 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Madam Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 11 (resumed)

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw spoke, sought and obtained leave for the time limited for speeches under Standing Order 30.1 be suspended with respect to the speech of Mr. E. G. Hinkson.

Mr. E. G. Hinkson spoke.

Hon. R. R. Straughn spoke.

Dr. S. E. Browne spoke.

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

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey, further consideration of the Resolution was postponed.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey, the House was adjourned to Tuesday, 5th November, 2024 at 10.00 a.m.

At 6.00 p.m. Madam Deputy Speaker adjourned the Sitting.

N. R. JONES, Q.C.

Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the
, 2024.

day of

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027

MINUTES

Tuesday, 29th October, 2024.

Government Printing Department.