



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Honourable the House of Assembly

At a meeting of the House of Assembly at the Parliament Buildings on Friday, the 20th day of February, 2026, at 4 o'clock p.m. pursuant to original writs from His Excellency the Most Honourable Jeffrey Bostic, FB, MVO President and Commander-in-Chief of the Island of Barbados, the members present on return of writs of election for the following constituencies were as follows:

Hon. Miss Mia Amor Mottley, S.C. – *St. Michael North East*
Hon. Kerrie Drurard Symmonds – *St. James Central*
Hon. Trevor Anthony Prescod, J.P. – *St. Michael East*
Mr. Dwight Gregory Sutherland – *St. George South*
Hon. Miss Santia Josette Omara Bradshaw – *St. Michael South East*
Dr. William Fondleroy Duguid, J.P. – *Christ Church West*
Hon. Ms. Cheryl Sandra Velda Husbands – *St. James South*
Hon. Wilfred Arthur Abrahams, S.C. – *Christ Church East*
Hon. Indar Anthony Weir – *St. Philip South*
Hon. Adrian Ryan Forde – *Christ Church West Central*
Hon. Charles McDonald Griffith – *St. John*
Mr. Peter Ricardo Phillips, J.P. – *St. Lucy*
Hon. George Patrick Ian Gooding-Edghill – *St. Michael West Central*
Hon. Colin Everett Jordan – *St. Peter*
Dr. Sonia Elaine Browne – *St. Philip North*
Hon. Kirk Duncan Matthew Humphrey – *St. Michael South*
Hon. Ryan Ricardo Straughn – *Christ Church East Central*
Hon. Ms. Marsha Kelly-Ann Caddle – *St. Michael South Central*
Mr. Neil Gabriel Hollis Rowe, J.P. – *St. Michael North West*
Ms. Toni Nicole Sherry-Ann Moore, J.P. – *St. George North*
Hon. Miss Kay Sharon McConney – *St. Philip West*
Dr. the Hon. Romel Orlanda Springer, J.P. – *St. Andrew*
Hon. Davidson Ian Ishmael – *St. Michael North*
Hon. Christopher Daniel Leron Gibbs – *St. Michael West*
Hon. Chad Jason Blackman, J.P. – *St. James North*
Hon. Michael Andrew Lashley, S.C. – *City of Bridgetown*
Dr. the Hon. Shantal Maxine Munro-Knight – *Christ Church South*
Hon. Gregory Paul Bertram Nicholls – *St. Thomas*
Mr. Ryan Renaldo Brathwaite – *St. Joseph*
Ms. Tyra Trotman – *St. Michael Central*

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by Reverend Canon Mark Harewood.

PROCLAMATION

The Presiding Clerk read the following:

S.I. 2026 No.



J. D. BOSTIC
President

By His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel
The Most Honourable Jeffrey Davidson
Bostic, Freedom of Barbados, Member
of the Royal Victorian Order, President of
Barbados.

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS it is provided by section 60(1) of the *Constitution* that each session of Parliament shall be held at such place and commence at such time as the President may appoint:

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that a session of Parliament shall be held at the Parliament Buildings, Bridgetown, commencing on the 20th day of February, 2026:

NOW THEREFORE by virtue and in exercise of the power and authority in me vested, I, Lieutenant Colonel The Most Honourable Jeffrey Davidson Bostic, Freedom of Barbados, Member of the Royal Victorian Order, President of Barbados, **DO HEREBY APPOINT** the Parliament Buildings, Bridgetown, as the place at which a session of Parliament shall be held and 4:00 hours in the afternoon on Friday, 20th day of February, 2026, as the time at which the said session shall commence.

Given under my hand and the
Public Seal of Barbados this 19th day of
February, 2026.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The Clerk of Parliament informed the House of Assembly that by letter dated the 20th day of February, 2026. His Excellency the President of Barbados desired the House to elect a Speaker.

The Clerk of Parliament also read in accordance with section 45A(2) of the Constitution (Amendment) Act (32-2025), that Mr. A. E. Holder be nominated to be elected as Speaker.

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw moved, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams that Mr. A. E. Holder be elected as Speaker of the House.

There being no other nomination he was declared elected. Mr. Clerk sought leave for Mr. A. E. Holder to take the Oath of Allegiance before His Honour Leslie F. Haynes, S.C., Chief Justice of Barbados. He took the Oath entered the Chamber and took the Chair.

Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley spoke and congratulated Mr. Speaker on being elected the first independent Speaker under the Republic of Barbados.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. D. I. Ishmael Mr. N. G. H. Rowe was elected Deputy Speaker.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. D. I. Ishmael, Mr. P. R. Phillips was elected Chairman of Committees.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the House was suspended to attend the summons of the President for the President's address and to resume immediately thereafter.

At 4.00 p.m. Mr. Speaker suspended the Sitting.

SUMMONS FROM THE PRESIDENT

The House received from the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate the summons of the President for its attendance on His Excellency in the Other Place.

The Honourable House of Assembly proceeded to the Honourable the Senate where the election of the Speaker was approved by His Excellency the President.

RESUMPTION

On resumption, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

Mr. Speaker announced that he had received a copy of the President's address from His Excellency, the President.

ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. D. I. Ishmael, the Standing Orders of the previous Parliament were adopted as the Standing Orders.

APPOINTMENT TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the following Members were appointed to serve on the Management Commission:

1. Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley;
2. Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw;
3. Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill;
4. Hon. C. E. Jordan;
5. Mr. P. R. Phillips; and
6. Ms. T. N. S-A. Moore.

APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the following were appointed Members of the Committee of Privileges:

1. Dr. the Hon. R. O. Springer;
2. Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey;
3. His Honour N. G. H. Rowe;
4. Hon. G. P. B. Nicholls;
5. Hon. W. A. Abrahams; and

6. Hon. C. D. L. Gibbs.

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the following were appointed to serve on the Standing Orders Committee:

1. Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw;
2. Hon. W. A. Abrahams;
3. Mr. R. R. Brathwaite;
4. Mr. P. R. Phillips;
5. Mr. D. G. Sutherland;
6. Dr. S. E. Browne; and
7. Ms. T. N. S-A. Moore.

APPOINTMENT TO THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

On the separate motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the following were appointed to serve on the Library Committee:

1. Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight;
2. Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle;
3. Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands;
4. Hon. R. R. Straughn;
5. Hon. T. A. Prescod; and
6. Hon. A. R. Forde.

**BUSINESS UNDER STANDING ORDER 10
GOVERNMENT NOTICES**

Hon. W. A. Abrahams gave notice of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

On the motion of Hon. W. A. Abrahams seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2026 was read a first time.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw who spoke and moved seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the House was adjourned until Tuesday, 24th February, 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

At 4.57 p.m. Mr. Speaker adjourned the Sitting.

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

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the
, 2026.

day of

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF 2026 – 2031

MINUTES

Friday, 20th February, 2026.
