



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 7th day of February, 2025, 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. 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. 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>) |
| Hon. K. D. Symmonds, B.A., LL.B. (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade</i>) | Mr. P. R. Phillips, J.P. (<i>Chairman of Committees</i>) |
| Mr. E. G. Hinkson, S.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C., LL.M. | Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill (<i>Minister of Tourism and International Transport</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>) | Dr. S. E. Browne, M.B.B.S. |
| Hon. W. A. Abrahams, S.C., LL.B. (<i>Minister of Home Affairs and Information</i>) (<i>acting Attorney General</i> <i>wef 2nd February, 2025</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>) | Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle, B.A., M.Sc. (<i>Minister of Industry, Innovation, Science and Technology</i>) |
| Hon. I. A. Weir, M.B.A. (<i>Minister of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security</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>) |

ABSENT

His Honour A. E. Holder, S.C., B.Sc. (Hons.), MSW, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Speaker*), Hon. D. D. Marshall, S.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs*) (*Senior Minister*), 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*), Ms. T. N. S-A. Moore, J.P., M.B.A. and Mr. C. D. L. Gibbs.

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by Rev. Father Mark Harewood.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 28th January, 2025 were deferred on the motion of Hon. W. A. Abrahams, seconded by Hon. C. A. Lane.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HER HONOUR THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Madam Deputy Speaker recognized the presence of and welcomed Sixth Form Students of the Christ Church Foundation School accompanied by their teachers Mr. Angelo Lascelles and Ms. Tawana Cummins.

Madam Deputy Speaker also welcomed other visitors to Parliament.

PAPERS

Hon. W. A. Abrahams by command laid the following:

1. The Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Caves of Barbados Ltd., for the year ended March 31, 2024.
2. The Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2023 of Barbados Aircraft and Aviation Services Company Ltd.
3. The Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements of Hotels and Resorts Limited for the year ended March 31, 2024.
4. The Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements of the National Cultural Foundation for the year ended March 31, 2020.
5. 2023 Barbados Economic and Social Report.
6. The Barbados Health Report (BHR) 2022.
7. The Barbados Health Report (BHR) 2023.
8. Barbados National Oil Company Limited – Annual Report 2023.
9. Enterprise Growth Fund Limited – Annual Report 2024.
10. Financial Statements of the Transport Authority for the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2023.

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

On the motion of Hon. W. A. Abrahams, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the Bill following was read a first time:

- Rural and Urban Development Commission Bill, 2025.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the motion of Hon. W. A. Abrahams, 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.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

ORDER NO. 5

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT BILL, 2024

On the Order being called for Hon. A. R. Forde to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to establish the enabling conditions for the sustainable utilization of fisheries, aquaculture and mariculture resources, strategic development of the fisheries sector, the responsible management of fisheries activities and provide for related matters,

the Hon. Member sought and obtained leave to introduce the Bill in a cognate debate with the Sustainable Fisheries Management and Development (Seafood Markets and Businesses) Bill, 2024, Order No. 6.

Hon. A. R. Forde spoke and moved, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams that the Bill be read a second time.

Mr. R. A. Thorne began to speak.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke on a point of order and asked that remarks by Mr. Thorne be struck from the record.

Madam Deputy Speaker spoke and directed that the remarks be struck from the record.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Madam Deputy Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Madam Deputy Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Hon. A. R. Forde spoke on a point of order.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech and gave way.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. W. A. Abrahams, seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey the Sitting was suspended at 1.24 p.m. to 2.45 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Madam Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 5 (resumed)

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Hon. A. R. Forde spoke on a point of order.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke on a point of order.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke on a point of order.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Hon. A. R. Forde spoke on a point of order.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Madam Deputy Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Hon. A. R. Forde spoke on a point of elucidation.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Hon. A. R. Forde spoke on a point of order.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Madam Deputy Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke on a point of order.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke on a point of order.

Mr. R. A. Thorne concluded his speech.

Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey spoke.

Mr. P. R. Phillips spoke.

Hon. K. D. Symmonds spoke.

Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. W. A. Abrahams, seconded by Hon. D. I. Ishmael at 6.40 p.m. the Sitting was suspended to 6.45 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Madam Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 5 (resumed)

Hon. A. R. Forde spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

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

Part 1 (Clauses 1 to 4) (as amended) was called and passed on the motion of Hon. A. R. Forde, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds.

Clauses 5 to 440 were called in parts and passed on the separate motion of Hon. A. R. Forde, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds.

The Third to the Fourth Schedules were called and passed on the separate motion of Hon. A. R. Forde, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds.

On the motion of Hon. A. R. Forde, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds, 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 Hon. A. R. Forde, seconded, by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

ORDER NO. 6

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (SEAFOOD MARKETS AND BUSINESSES) BILL, 2024.

On the Order being called for Hon. A. R. Forde to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to provide for:

- (a) a regulatory regime for the management and operation of seafood markets and seafood businesses;
- (b) a regulatory system for the management of the seafood supply chain sector and;
- (c) related matters,

the Hon. Member moved, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds that the Bill be read a second time.

The motion was passed.

On the motion of Hon. A. R. Forde, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the House went into Committee, Mr. P. R. Phillips in the Chair.

Clause 1 (as amended) to 45 were called in parts and passed on the separate motion of Hon. A. R. Forde, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds.

The First to the Third Schedules were called and passed on the separate motion of Hon. A. R. Forde, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds.

On the motion of Hon. A. R. Forde, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds 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 Hon. A. R. Forde, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Hon. W. A. Abrahams who spoke, seconded by Hon. K. D. Symmonds the House was adjourned to Tuesday, 11th February, 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

At 7.20 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 _____ day of _____, 2025.

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027

MINUTES

Friday, 7th February, 2025.

Government Printing Department.