



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 August, 2026, at 10.00 o'clock a.m. pursuant to the adjournment.

PRESENT

- His Honour A. E. Holder, S.C., B.Sc. (Hons.), MSW, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Speaker*)
His Honour N. G. H. Rowe, J.P. (*Deputy Speaker*)
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| Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley, S.C., LL.B. (<i>Prime Minister; Minister of Economic Affairs and Development, Minister of National Security</i>) | Hon. C. McD. Griffith, B.Sc. (<i>Minister of Sports and Community Empowerment</i>) |
| Hon. T. A. Prescod, J.P., B.A. (<i>Minister in the Prime Minister's Office – Pan African Affairs and Heritage</i>) | Mr. P. R. Phillips, J.P. (<i>Chairman of Committees</i>) |
| Hon. K. D. Symmonds, B.A., LL.B. (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Energy, Business Development and Commerce</i>) | Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill, J.P. (<i>Minister of Tourism and International Transport</i>) |
| Mr. D. G. Sutherland, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A. (Dist.) | Hon. C. E. Jordan, B.Sc. (Hons.) (<i>Minister of Labour, Social Security and the Third Sector</i>) |
| Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (<i>Deputy Prime Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Environment, National Beautification and Fisheries</i>) (<i>Leader of Government Business</i>) | Hon. R. R. Straughn, B.Sc., M.Sc. (<i>Minister of Finance</i>) |
| Dr. W. F. Duguid, J.P., B.D.S., F.D.S., F.D.R.C.S., M. Min. | Hon. Ms. M. K.-A. Caddle, B.A., M.Sc. (<i>Minister in the Prime Minister's Office – Economic Affairs and Planning</i>) |
| Hon. W. A. Abrahams, S.C., LL.B., L.E.C. (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Attorney General</i>) | Ms. T. N. S.-A. Moore, J.P., M.B.A. |
| Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands, B.A. (Hons.), M.Sc. (<i>Minister of Technological and Vocational Training</i>) | Hon. Miss K. S. McConney (<i>Minister of the Public Service and Talent Development</i>) |
| Hon. I. A. Weir, M.B.A. (<i>Minister of Public and Private Investment</i>) | Dr. the Hon. R. O. Springer, J.P., Ph.D. (<i>Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Works</i>) |
| Hon. A. R. Forde, Rph. (<i>Minister of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs</i>) | Dr. the Hon. D. I. Ishmael, M.B.A., M.Sc., D.B.A., (<i>Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Wellness</i>) |
| | Hon. C. D. L. Gibbs (<i>Minister of Housing, Lands and Maintenance</i>) |
| | Hon. C. J. Blackman, J.P., LL.B., LL.M., ACI Arb. (<i>Minister of Education Transformation</i>) |
| | Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight, Ph.D. (<i>Minister of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security</i>) |
| | Hon. G. P. B. Nicholls, B.Sc. (Hons.), LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M., MCI Arb. (<i>Minister of Home Affairs and Information</i>) |
| | Mr. R. R. Brathwaite, J.P., B.Sc. |

ABSENT

Dr. S. E. Browne, M.B.B.S., Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.P.A. (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Transport and Works*), Hon. M. A. Lashley, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Minister of Legal Affairs and Criminal Justice*) and Ms. T. Trotman, LL.B., L.E.C.

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by Rev. Canon Mark Harewood.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 28th July, 2026 were taken as read and were confirmed on the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Dr. the Hon. D. I. Ishmael.

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Dr. the Hon. D. I. Ishmael, the Barbados Diamond Anniversary Honour Bill, 2026 was read a first time.

OBITUARY SPEECHES

**TRIBUTES TO THE LATE RIGHT EXCELLENT
SIR GARFIELD ST. AUBURN SOBERS, K.B., O.A, O.C.C.
NATIONAL HERO OF BARBADOS**

Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley spoke and moved seconded by the Hon. K. D. Symmonds the following Resolution:

WHEREAS The Right Excellent Sir Garfield St. Auburn Sobers, Knight Bachelor, National Hero of Barbados, Officer of the Order of Australia and Member of the Order of the Caribbean Community, passed this life on the 17th day of July, 2026, eleven days shy of his ninetieth birthday;

AND WHEREAS this distinguished son of the soil, born in the City of Bridgetown on the 28th day of July, 1936, the fifth of six children of Shamont and Thelma Sobers, rose from the humblest of origins to become, by universal acclaim, the greatest all-round cricketer the game has ever known;

AND WHEREAS he first represented the West Indies in March, 1954, at the age of seventeen years, and in a Test career spanning twenty years amassed 8,032 runs at an average of 57.78 and took 235 wickets in 93 Test matches, and in first-class cricket scored in excess of 28,000 runs and captured more than 1,000 wickets;

AND WHEREAS at Kingston, Jamaica, in 1958, at the age of twenty-one years, he made 365 not out against Pakistan, then the highest individual score in the history of Test cricket, a record which stood for thirty-six years before it was surpassed by another son of the Caribbean, Brian Charles Lara;

AND WHEREAS at Swansea, in Wales, on the 31st day of August, 1968, playing for Nottinghamshire against Glamorgan, he struck six sixes in a single over, a feat of audacity and mastery which endures among the most celebrated moments in the annals of the game;

AND WHEREAS he captained the West Indies from 1965 to 1972 and was chosen to lead the Rest of the World XI in 1970, and by his conduct both on and off the field of play carried the name of Barbados and of the Caribbean with honour into every cricketing country of the world;

AND WHEREAS at the Melbourne Cricket Ground in January, 1972, leading the Rest of the World against Australia, he scored 254 runs in an innings which Sir Donald Bradman described as the best innings he had ever seen;

AND WHEREAS he was created a Knight Bachelor by Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at the Garrison Savannah in February, 1975, and was named a National Hero of Barbados in 1998 and accorded the style and title of “The Right Excellent”;

AND WHEREAS he was adjudged the Cricketer of the Century by Wisden Cricketers’ Almanack in the year 2000 and was inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame in 2009;

AND WHEREAS his name is borne in perpetuity by the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy, awarded annually since 2004 to the ICC Men’s Cricketer of the Year, and by the Sir Garfield Sobers Sports Complex in this Island;

AND WHEREAS in the years when this country moved from colony to independent nation, his genius gave to a young people the priceless gift of belief, standing as living proof that excellence of the highest order could come from these shores;

AND WHEREAS for all the magnitude of his achievement he remained a man of singular humility, courtesy and generosity, who greeted the Head of State and the taxi driver, the celebrated and the child seeking an autograph, with the same smile and the same respect, and who gave freely of his time to the encouragement of young sportsmen and sportswomen;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House pay the accolade of its highest tribute to the late The Right Excellent Sir Garfield St. Auburn Sobers, National Hero of Barbados, as an exemplar of excellence, dignity, humility and grace, and record its profound gratitude for a life which brought unmeasured honour and joy to this Nation and to the people of the Caribbean;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honourable House share the sorrow felt by a grateful Nation and extend its deepest sympathies to his children Matthew, Daniel and Genevieve, to his brother Cecil, grandchildren, and to his other relatives and friends, and express its wish that they be comforted by the memory of a life lived selflessly and in the service of his Nation and his people.

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

Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands spoke.

Mr. D. G. Sutherland spoke.

Hon. C. McD. Griffith spoke.

Hon. G. P. B. Nicholls spoke.

Hon. C. E. Jordan spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams, the Sitting was suspended at 1.24 p.m. to 3.00 p.m..

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

OBITUARY SPEECHES (resumed)

Dr. the Hon. D. I. Ishmael spoke.

Hon. T. A. Prescod spoke.

Mr. R. R. Brathwaite spoke.

Mr. P. R. Phillips spoke.

Ms. T. N. S.-A. Moore spoke.

Hon. C. J. Blackman spoke.

Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight spoke.

Hon. C. D. L. Gibbs spoke.

Hon. R. R. Straughn spoke.

Hon. A. R. Forde spoke.

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

Mr. Speaker spoke.

The Resolution was passed.

The House observed a moment of silence.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams, the Sitting was suspended at 6.39 p.m. to 6.45 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

PAPERS (recommitted)

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw by command laid:

- Loan Contract No. 6097/OC-BA: IDB CLIMA-First Individual Operation Main Replacement and Non-Revenue Water Reduction Program in Barbados.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw gave notice of the Domestic Terrorism Bill, 2026.

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams, the Domestic Terrorism Bill, 2026 was read a first time.

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

ORDER NO. 9

BARBADOS DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY HONOUR BILL, 2026

On the Order being called for Hon. W. A. Abrahams to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to provide for the conferment a special commemorative honour, the Barbados Diamond Anniversary Honour, on 120 persons including 60 members of the Protective Services, the Barbados Defence Force, the Anti-Corruption and Anti-Terrorism Agency and the Financial Intelligence Unit, whose exceptional service and achievements have contributed to the development of the nation of Barbados since attaining Independence and becoming a Republic, the Hon. Member spoke and moved, seconded by Hon. C. McD. Griffith that the Bill be read a second time.

The motion was passed.

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

Clauses 1 to 10 were called in two parts and passed on the separate motion of Hon. W. A. Abrahams, seconded by Hon. C. McD. Griffith.

On the motion of Hon. W. A. Abrahams, seconded by Hon. C. McD. Griffith 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. W. A. Abrahams, seconded by Hon. C. McD. Griffith 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. W. A. Abrahams, the House was adjourned to Tuesday, 11th August, 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

At 7.12 p.m. Mr. Speaker adjourned the Sitting.

N. R. JONES, K.C.
Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF 2026 – 2031

MINUTES

Friday, 7th August, 2026.
