



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Honourable The Senate

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Parliament at the Parliament Buildings on Wednesday, the 20th day of August, 2025, at 11.00 o'clock a.m.

PRESENT

His Honour Senator the Most Honourable R. R. Farley, FB, J.P., B.Sc., C.P.A., C.M.A. (*President*)
Her Honour Senator the Most Honourable Ms. H. E. Thompson, FB, LL.B., L.E.C., M.B.A. (Dist.), LL.M. (*Deputy President*)

Senator the Most Honourable Mr. J. X. Walcott, FB, M.B.B.S., F.R.C.S., (Edin.), J.P. (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Health and Wellness*)

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins, B.Sc., M.Sc. (*Minister of Energy and Business Development*) (*Leader of the Senate*)

Senator the Hon. J. W. D. Reid, B.A. (Hons.) (*Minister of Innovation, Industry, Science and Technology*)

Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight, Ph.D. (*Minister in the Prime Minister's Office*)

Senator J. A. King, B.S.S., J.P.

Senator Miss P. E. Parris, J.P.

Senator A. A. O. Boyce, B.Sc., M.Sc., LL.B.

Senator G. P. B. Nicholls, B.Sc. (Hons.), LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M., MCI Arb.

Senator Rev. C. M. Morris, B.A. (Theology), B.A. (Hist. & Sociology), Dip. Ed., M.A.

Senator Miss R. W. Trim, B.Sc.

Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse, F.C.A., F.C.C.A.

Senator Mr. C. A. Maynard, M.B.B.S., F.R.C.S. (ENT)

Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt, Q.C., LL.B. (Hons.), M.B.A.

Senator K. J. Boyce, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C.

Senator Dr. C. N. Drakes, B.Sc. (Econ. & Mgmt), M.Phil Econ., Ph.D.

Senator Rev. Canon Dr. J. A. Rogers, B.Sc., B.A. (Hons.), M.Phil., Ph.D.

Senator A. W. Mallalieu, C.P.A., F.R.I.C.S.

Senator R. O. Walters, M. B. A.

Senator A. R. Worrell, J.P., B.A. (Hons.)

PRAYERS

Prayers were led by Rev. Father Wayne Kirton.

MESSAGES FROM HER EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT

Mr. President read the following:



**STATE HOUSE
BARBADOS**

Ref. No. PB: 2/S.1 A

8th August, 2025

Dear Mr. President,

I wish to inform that I shall be away from Office during the period 10th to 31st August, 2025 on vacation leave.

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 President during my absence.

As The Honourable The Senate will not be meeting prior to the start of my vacation leave, 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 Senate when next it meets.

Yours faithfully,

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

PRESIDENT

***His Honour
President of the Senate
The Senate
Parliament Buildings
BRIDGETOWN***

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT MINUTES

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the following Minutes were taken as read and confirmed:

- Minutes of the meeting of 23rd April, 2025.
- Minutes of the meeting of 30th April, 2025.
- Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, 4th June, 2025.
- Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, 11th June, 2025; and
- Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, 25th June, 2025.

Mr. President announced that he was in receipt of excuses for lateness from Senators Her Honour Senator the Most Honourable Ms. H. E. Thompson and Dr. C. N. Drakes.

Mr. President welcome back Senator A. W. Mallalieu, after a period of absence from the Senate.

Senator A. W. Mallalieu spoke.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins by command laid the following:

1. Amendatory Contract No.5908/OC-BA, Amendment No. 1 “ Barbados Climate Resilient South Coast Water Reclamation Project”.
2. Loan Contract No. 5985/GN-BA “Barbados Climate Resilient South Coast Water Reclamation Project”.
3. Nonreimbursable Investment Financing Agreement No. GRT/GN-21498 “Barbados Climate Resilient South Coast Water Reclamation Project”.

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins, Standing Order 45(2) was suspended for the remainder of the Sitting.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Bills following were read a first time:

- The Firearms (Amendment) Bill, 2025.
- The Criminal Proceedings (Witness Anonymity) Bill, 2025.
- The Police (Amendment) Bill, 2025.
- The Interception of Communications Bill, 2025.
- The Juries Bill, 2025; and
- The Family Leave Bill, 2025.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

ORDER NO. 14

INTERCEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS BILL, 2025

On the Order being called Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to make provision for the interception of communications, the acquisition and disclosure of data relating to communications and the acquisition of the means by which the protected communications may be accessed and placed in an intelligible form and for connected purposes,

the Hon. Member spoke moved that the Bill be read a second time.

Senator A. R. Worrell began to speak.

Senator G. P. B. Nicholls spoke on a point of order.

Senator A. R. Worrell resumed his speech.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator G. P. B. Nicholls spoke on a point of order.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator A. R. Worrell resumed his speech.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke on a point of order.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator A. R. Worrell concluded his speech.

Senator A. W. Mallalieu spoke.

Senator Miss R. W. Trim spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Sitting was suspended at 1.50 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 14 (resumed)

Senator Rev. Canon Dr. J. A. Rogers spoke.

Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse spoke.

Her Honour Senator the Most Honourable Ms. H. E. Thompson spoke.

Senator K. J. Boyce spoke.

Senator Dr. C. N. Drakes began to speak.

Her Honour Senator the Most Honourable Ms. H. E. Thompson spoke on a point of order.

Senator Dr. C. N. Drakes concluded her speech.

Senator R. O. Walters began to speak.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator R. O. Walters concluded his speech.

Senator Mr. C. A. Maynard spoke.

Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt spoke.

Senator G. P. B. Nicholls spoke.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Honourable the Senate resolved itself into Committee on the Bill, Her Honour the Deputy President in the Chair.

Part 1 (Clauses 1 to 4); Part 2 (Clauses 5 - 14) (as amended); Part 3 (Clauses 15 - 24) (as amended); Part 4 (Clauses 24 to 31) (as amended); Part 5 (Clauses 32 - 37) and the First and Second (as amended) Schedules were called and passed.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Chairman of Committees reported the passing of the Bill in Committee to the President who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Bill was read a third time.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Bill was passed and the title read and agreed to, the Senate voting as follows:

Ayes: 15

Absentions: 3

Noes: 2

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Sitting was suspended at 6.45 p.m. to 6.55 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

PUBLIC BUSINESS (resumed)

ORDER NO. 12

CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS (WITNESS ANONYMITY) BILL, 2025

On the Order being called for Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to make provision for the securing the anonymity of witnesses in criminal proceedings and for related matters,

the Hon. Member spoke moved that the Bill be read a second time.

Senator A. R. Worrell spoke.

Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Sitting was suspended at 7.35 p.m. to 7.50 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 12 (resumed)

Senator G. P. B. Nicholls spoke.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse was appointed temporary Chairman of Committees for the remainder of the Sitting.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Honourable the Senate resolved itself into Committee on the Bill, Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 27 were called in parts and passed on the separate motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins. Part 4 (Clauses 28 to 29) was called.

Senator K. J. Boyce spoke.

Senator G. P. B. Nicholls spoke.

Senator K. J. Boyce spoke.

Senator G. P. B. Nicholls spoke.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke and moved an amendment thereto.

Part 4 (Clauses 28 to 30) (as amended) were passed.

The Schedule was called and passed.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the acting Chairman of Committees reported the passing of the Bill in Committee to the President who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

ORDER NO. 11

FIREARMS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

On the Order being called Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to amend the *Firearms Act, Cap. 179*,

the Hon. Member spoke moved that the Bill be read a second time.

Senator Mr. C. A. Maynard spoke.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Honourable the Senate resolved itself into Committee on the Bill, Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse in the Chair.

Clause 1 was called and passed on the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

Clause 2 was called.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke and moved an amendment thereto.

Clause 2 (as amended) was passed.

Clause 3 (as amended) was called and passed on the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins who spoke.

Amended new Clause 4 was called and passed on the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the acting Chairman of Committees reported the passing of the Bill in Committee to the President who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

ORDER NO. 15

JURIES BILL, 2025

On the Order being called for Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to revise the law relating to juries and to provide for related matters,

the Hon. Member spoke moved that the Bill be read a second time.

Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt spoke.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Honourable the Senate resolved itself into Committee on the Bill, Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse in the Chair.

Part 1 (Clauses 1 to 2); Part 2 (Clauses 3 to 6); Part 3 (Clauses 7 to 11); Part 4 (Clauses 12 to 16); Part 5 (Clauses 17 to 23); Part 6 (Clauses 24 to 28); Part 7 (Clauses 29 to 36); Part 8 (Clauses 37 to 45); and the Schedules were called and passed on the separate motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the acting Chairman of Committees reported the passing of the Bill in Committee to the President who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

ORDER NO. 13**POLICE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025**

On the Order being called for Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to amend the *Police Act, Cap. 167* to:

- (a) provide for special constables to become public officers and to allow for them to enlist in the Police Service in certain additional circumstances;
- (b) bring the language of the Act into conformity with the *Constitution*;
- (c) provide for matters related to paragraphs (a) and (b)

the Hon. Member spoke moved that the Bill be read a second time.

Senator R. O. Walters spoke.

Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt spoke.

Senator Rev. C. M. Morris spoke.

Senator K. J. Boyce spoke.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Honourable the Senate resolved itself into Committee on the Bill, Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 32 were called in parts and passed on the separate motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

The First and Second Schedules were called and passed on the separate motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the acting Chairman of Committees reported the passing of the Bill in Committee to the President who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES (recommitted)

Mr. President read the following Report of the Standing Orders Committee.

REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

The Committee comprising:

His Honour Senator the Most Honourable R. R. Farley, FB, J.P. (*Chairman*)

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins

Senator Miss P. E. Parris, J.P.

Senator K.J. Boyce

Senator A. R. Worrell

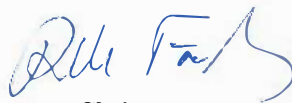
met on Wednesday, August 20th, 2025 to consider an amendment to Standing Order 60A.(3) to increase the membership of the Senate on the Joint Select Committees (Standing), from three (3) to four (4), consequent on the amendment by the Honourable The House of Assembly with respect to the composition to the membership of the Committees.

The Committee agreed to the proposed amendment to the Standing Orders of the Senate and Standing Order 60A.(3) reads as follows:

60A. Joint Select Committees (Standing)

- (3) Each Committee should consist of nine (9) members, from both Houses of Parliament, of whom four (4) shall be from the Honourable the Senate. Four members shall constitute a quorum.

The Committee is therefore pleased to present the amendment as that of worthy commendation and supports the adoption by the Honourable The Senate.



Chairman

Dated this 20th day of August, 2025

The Report was adopted.

Mr. President read the following Report of the Committee of Selection.

**Parliament
BARBADOS**

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF SELECTION
OF THE HONOURABLE THE SENATE**

The Committee of Selection met on the 20th day of August, 2025.

Present were:

His Honour Senator the Most Honourable R. R. Farley, FB J.P. (*Chairman*)

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins

Senator K.J. Boyce

Senator A. R. Worrell

Also in attendance:

Mr. N.R. Jones, Q.C., J.P. Deputy Clerk of Parliament

Ms. B.S. Gibbons, J.P., Deputy Clerk of Parliament

The Committee met to consider nominations for membership and for the proper constitution of the Committees of the Senate and the Joint Select Committees (Standing) due to vacancies therein.

The Committee considered and made the following nominations for appointment to the Committees set out hereunder.

○ **COMMITTEE OF SELECTION**

Senator Mr. the Most Hon. Jerome X. Walcott, FB, J.P.

○ **HOUSE COMMITTEE**

Senator Miss P. E. Parris, J.P.

○ **COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

Senator Dr. the Hon. Shantal M. Munro-Knight, PhD.

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEES (STANDING)

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE AND POLICY MATTERS

Senator A.O. Boyce

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND PRODUCTIVE SECTORS

Senator the Hon. J. W. D. Reid

Senator Miss R. W. Trim

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECTOR AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Senator Miss R. W. Trim

The Committee of Selection hereby submits its report accordingly.



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Chairman

Dated this 20th day of August, 2025

The Report was adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Senate was adjourned *sine die*.
At 10.40 p.m. Mr. President adjourned the Sitting.

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

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the _____ day of _____, 2025.

President.

SENATE CHAMBERS
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

SENATE

FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027

MINUTES

Wednesday, 20th August, 2025.

Government Printing Department