



# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

## The Honourable The Senate

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The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Parliament at the Parliament Buildings on Wednesday the 1st day of June, 2022, at 11.00 o'clock a.m.

### PRESENT

His Honour Senator R. R. Farley, J.P., B.Sc., C.P.A., C.M.A. (*President*)

Her Honour Senator Ms. H. E. Thompson, LL.B. (*Deputy President*)

Senator Dr. the Most Honourable J. X. Walcott, FB, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), J.P. (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade*)

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins, B.Sc., M.Sc. (*Minister of Tourism and International Transport*) (*Leader of the Senate*)

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

Senator Dr. C. K. M. Haynes, M.B.B.S.

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

Senator L. R. Harewood, J.P., BSM, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A.

Senator Mrs. S. C. S. Roberts-Odle, B.Sc., M.Sc.

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 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 Miss C. N. Drakes, B.Sc. (Econ. & Mgmt), M.Phil Econ.

Senator Rev. 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 Dr. the Hon. C. W. DaC. Brathwaite, CHB, Ph.D.

and

Senator Dr. K. G. Hinds, Ph.D.

### ABSENT

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

Prayers were taken by Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight.

**MESSAGES FROM HER EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT**

Mr. President read the following:



Ref. No. GG: 2/S. 1A Vol. II

27<sup>th</sup> May, 2022

Dear Mr. President,

*I wish to inform The Honourable The Senate that, with the approval of The Honourable Prime Minister, I shall be on vacation leave from 27<sup>th</sup> May to 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2022.*

*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 the 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,*



**PRESIDENT**

*His Honour The President  
The Honourable The Senate  
Parliament Buildings  
Trafalgar Street  
Bridgetown*

### **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, May 4th, 2022 were taken as read and were confirmed on the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

### **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

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

1. Fair Trading Commission Annual Report 2020;
2. Annual Reports and Audited Financial Statements of the National Petroleum Corporation (NPC) for the years ending as follows:-
  - (i) March 31, 2015
  - (ii) March 31, 2016
  - (iii) March 31, 2017
  - (iv) March 31, 2018
  - (v) March 31, 2019.

### **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**

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

1. Caves (Amendment) Bill, 2022;
2. Airport Service Charge Bill, 2022; and
3. Animals (Diseases and Importation) (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

Senator Dr. the Hon. C. W. DaC. Brathwaite gave notice of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS the global spread of the Corona virus pandemic, Covid 19, and the war between Russia and Ukraine have created an unstable global economic situation in this the twenty second year of the 21st Century;

AND WHEREAS these events have exposed the vulnerability of small island developing states like Barbados to the lack of indigenous energy and food supplies which threatens the viability of our model of development;

AND WHEREAS the Pandemic, the war between Russia and Ukraine and diverse adverse weather events in the last two years have resulted in significant reduction in global food supplies;

AND WHEREAS one third of the world's wheat supplies, two thirds of the world sunflower oil production and a significant part of the world fertilizers are supplied by Russia and Ukraine;

AND WHEREAS there is a general view that the health crisis has already evolved into an economic crisis and the combination of the pandemic and the war signal the real possibility of a food crisis;

AND WHEREAS the World Food Program and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN have already predicted in the near future the occurrence of famines of biblical proportions;

AND WHEREAS historically many Caribbean countries including Barbados grew by narrowly focusing on tourism and have neglected the agricultural sector which has resulted in massive dependency on imports of food and a food import bill of some 4 billion dollars in the CARICOM;

AND WHEREAS the Governments of 35 countries around the world have adopted export controls to secure their domestic food supplies in the last two years and some have banned the exports of wheat, soya, corn and fertilizers;

AND WHEREAS the Caribbean food supply is heavily reliant on imports from the United States where data from the International Trade Centre (ITC) indicates that the 15 nations of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) source up to 94 per cent of their food imports from the US market (2018). 94 per cent of all CARICOM imports of cereals, 90 per cent of edible fruits and nut imports, 90 per cent of imports of edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers and 91 per cent of sugars and sugar confectionary imports originate from the United States (2018);

AND WHEREAS the consumption of imported processed foods high in trans fats, saturated fats, sugars and salt have been associated with the high incidence of chronic non communicable diseases in the region;

AND WHEREAS in 2011, a high-level meeting was held at the United Nations in New York to discuss the need for a global attack on the incidences of chronic non-communicable diseases concluded that cardiovascular disease, cancer, chronic lung diseases, and diabetes are responsible for 60% of all deaths in the world today and one of the risk factors that contribute to the incidence of these diseases is the increased consumption of processed foods and ready-to-serve meals that are rich in trans-fats, saturated fats, salts and sugars;

AND WHEREAS the meeting indicated that chronic non-communicable diseases are a threat to development as these diseases contribute to high health care costs and low productivity;

BE IT RESOLVED therefore that in light of the global food crisis that Barbados develop an integrated food security plan which will:

- I. Reposition the agricultural sector and recognise farmers as important contributors to our economic development and decree that all vacant arable land be used to produce food.
- II. Strengthen the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security.
- III. Allocate more resources to the sector especially for investment in new technologies and market information systems.
- IV. Focus our research and development efforts on agricultural technologies for production and processing of locally produced products.
- V. Promote a change in the consumption patterns of the population from a focus on imported food to a focus on consumption of local foods by promoting nutrition education and implementing appropriate policy measures.
- VI. Review our policies on importation of food items and provide incentives to produce food locally and regionally.
- VII. Review our land use policies, strengthen agricultural extension services, make agriculture and food security a compulsory subject on the curriculum in our schools, strengthen the fisheries subsector and promote Climate Smart Agriculture by the incorporation of climate smart technologies in production.
- VIII. Promote Private sector/Public sector partnerships in Food Production and Processing and the development of an agricultural insurance system to support this initiative.

- IX. Develop a regional agricultural information system that would inform on the availability of food supplies in various countries of the region during the year thereby strengthening initiatives to promote regional trade and creating the enabling environment to move food from countries and areas with excess to countries and areas with deficits.
- X. Develop a system of payments for regional food trade in local currencies.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the integrated food security plan informed by the agricultural development vision of 2012 be reduced to a development document and made available to the Senate.

#### **PUBLIC BUSINESS**

#### **ORDER NO. 3**

#### **CAVES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022**

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 Caves Act, Cap. 389,

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

Her Honour Senator Ms. H. E. Thompson spoke.

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

Senator Dr. the Hon. C. W. DaC. Brathwaite spoke.

Senator G. P. B. Nicholls spoke.

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, Her Honour the Deputy President in the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 2 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 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.

#### **SUSPENSION**

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Sitting was suspended to 2.35 p.m.

At 1.35 p.m. Mr. President suspended the Sitting.

#### **RESUMPTION**

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

#### **ORDER NO. 4**

#### **AIRPORT SERVICE CHARGE BILL, 2022**

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 provide for the imposition of an airport service charge,

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

Senator A. W. Mallalieu spoke.

Her Honour Senator Ms. H. E. Thompson spoke.

Senator Dr. K. G. Hinds spoke.

Senator Mrs. S. C. S. Roberts-Odle 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.

Clauses 1 to 11 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 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. 5**

**ANIMALS (DISEASES AND IMPORTATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022**

On the Order being called for Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to amend the Animals (Diseases and Importation) Act, the Hon. Member spoke and moved that the Bill be read a second time.

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

Senator Dr. the Hon. C. W. DaC. Brathwaite spoke.

Senator Mr. C. A. Maynard spoke.

Senator A. A. O. Boyce spoke.

Senator Mrs. S. C. S. Roberts-Odle spoke.

Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse spoke.

Senator Dr. C. K. M. Haynes spoke.

Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight the Honourable the Senate resolved itself into Committee on the Bill, Her Honour the Deputy President in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 4 and the Schedule were called and passed on the separate motion of Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight.

On the motion of Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight the 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 Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

**ORDER NO. 2**

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke on the following Resolution:

RESOLVED that Parliament in accordance with section 5 of the *Crown Lands (Vesting and Disposal) Act*, Cap. 225 approve the vesting in a commercial Special Purpose Vehicle in which the Government of Barbados will hold 25% of the shares and The University of the West Indies at Cave Hill will hold 75% of the shares, of the parcel of land, the property of the State, formerly known as the St. Joseph Hospital situate at Ashton Hall in the parish of Saint Peter in this Island and more particularly described in the *Schedule* for a joint venture between the Government and The University of the West Indies.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 17th day of May, Two thousand and twenty-two.

SCHEDULE

All THAT land the property of the State, namely Lot A (formerly known as the St. Joseph Hospital) situate at Ashton Hall in the parish of Saint Peter in this Island containing by admeasurement 8.698 hectares (86982.2 square metres) inclusive of 0.50 hectares (503.2 square metres) in road or thereabouts abutting and bounding on lands now or late of Monique Robinson (Lot 18A), Ancil and Merlyn Scott (Lot 208), Clarence Fergusson and P. Sobers (Lot 207), and Judith Bowen (Lot 206), on lands now or formerly of A.G.C.G. Holdings Ltd. (Lot 138), on lands now or late of Simon Brathwaite and Cynthia Balfour (Lot 137), on lands now or formerly of The New Village Retirement Home Ltd. (Lot 110A), on lands now or late of W. Oneale, Clovis Boyce, and Andrew Boyce and on a public road known as Highway 1 which leads to Mile & A Quarter in one direction and to Speightstown

in the other direction or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a Plan certified on the 15th day of July, 2014 by Samuel N. Taylor, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 16th day of July, 2014 as Plan No. 620/2014.

and moved that the Resolution be passed.

Senator K. J. Boyce spoke.

Senator Miss C. N. Drakes spoke.

Senator A. W. Mallalieu spoke.

Senator Dr. K. G. Hinds spoke.

Senator Dr. the Hon. C. W. DaC. Brathwaite spoke.

Her Honour Senator Ms. H. E. Thompson spoke.

Senator L. R. Harewood spoke.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins began to speak and gave way.

Senator Mr. C. A. Maynard spoke.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins concluded her speech in reply.

The Resolution was passed.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke and moved that the Senate be adjourned *sine die*.

Mr. President spoke.

The motion was passed

At 8.25 p.m. Mr. President adjourned the Sitting.

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

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the  
, 2022.

day of

President.

SENATE CHAMBERS  
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS  
BRIDGETOWN.

**SENATE**

**FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027**

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**MINUTES**

Wednesday, 1st June, 2022.

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