

BARBADOS



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Honourable The Senate

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Parliament at the Parliament Buildings on Friday, the 14th day of March, 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. (<i>Senior Minister</i>)(<i>Minister of Health and Wellness</i>)	Senator Miss P. E. Parris, J.P.
Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins, B.Sc., M.Sc. (<i>Minister of Energy and Business Development</i>) (<i>Leader of the Senate</i>)	Senator A. A. O. Boyce, B.Sc., M.Sc., LL.B.
Senator the Hon. C. J. Blackman, LL.B., LL.M., ACI Arb. (<i>Minister of Educational Transformation</i>)	Senator G. P. B. Nicholls, B.Sc. (Hons.), LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M., MCI Arb.
Senator the Hon. J. W. D. Reid, B.A. (Hons.), (<i>Minister of Innovation, Industry, Science and Technology</i>)	Senator Rev. C. M. Morris, B.A. (Theology), B.A. (Hist. & Sociology), Dip. Ed., M.A.
Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight, Ph.D. (<i>Minister, Prime Minister's Office</i>)	Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse, F.C.A., F.C.C.A.
Senator J. A. King, B.S.S., J.P.	Senator Mr. C. A. Maynard, M.B.B.S., F.R.C.S. (ENT)
	Senator K. J. Boyce, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C.
	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.)

ABSENT

Senator Ms. M. C. Taitt, Q.C., LL.B. (Hons.), M.B.A. and Senator Dr. C. N. Drakes, B.Sc. (Econ. & Mgmt), M.Phil. Econ., Ph.D.

PRAYERS

Prayers were led by Her Honour Senator the Most Honourable Ms. H. E. Thompson.

MESSAGES FROM HER EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT

Mr. President read the following:



**STATE HOUSE
BARBADOS**

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

7th March, 2025

Dear Mr. President,

I shall be away from the island on duty leave for the period 9th to 17th March, 2025.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 33 of the Constitution, the Very Reverend Dr. Jeffery 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 my departure, 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 'S. n.'.

PRESIDENT

***His Honour
Senator the Most Honourable Reginald Farley, FB, JP
President of the Senate
The Senate
Parliament Buildings
BRIDGETOWN***

Mr. President read the following:



**STATE HOUSE
BARBADOS**

Ref. No. PB: 8 Vol. I

26th February, 2025

Dear Sir,

I wish to inform that in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister under Section 39 (1) (f) of the Constitution, the seat in the Senate held by Dr. Crystal Kathy Melissa Haynes was declared vacant, with effect from 26th February, 2025.

I am further to inform that in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister, Mr. Jonathan Warren David Reid has been appointed under Section 36 (2) of the Constitution as a Senator, with effect from 26th February, 2025.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Reid'.

***His Honour
Senator the Most Honourable Reginald Farley, FB, JP
President of the Senate
The Senate
Parliament Buildings
BRIDGETOWN***

Mr. President spoke, thanking former Senator Dr. Crystal K. M. Haynes for her contributions made in the Senate.

Senator Jonathan W. D. Reid who was waiting outwith was summoned to take his seat in the Senate.

Mr. President congratulated and welcomed Senator Jonathan W. D. Reid to the Senate.

Senator Jonathan W. D. Reid spoke, responding his thanks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT

Mr. President announced that he was in receipt of excuses for absence from Senators the Most Honourable Mr. J. X. Walcott, Dr. C. N. Drakes, K. J. Boyce, Mr. C. A. Maynard, Ms. M. C. Taitt, R. O. Walters and A. W. Mallalieu; and also excuses for lateness from Senator the Hon. C. J. Blackman.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 18th December, 2024 were confirmed on the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 5th February, 2025 were deferred on the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

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

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins gave notice of:

1. Appropriation Bill, 2025.
2. Resolution to approve in accordance with section 5 of the *Crown Lands (Vesting and Disposal) Act*, Cap. 225 the vesting in the African Export-Import Bank of a parcel of land, situate at Jemmotts Lane in the parish of Saint Michael in the Island, the site of the old Barbados General Hospital for the construction of the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) African Trade Centre.

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

1. The Sustainable Fisheries Management and Development Bill, 2025;
2. The Sustainable Fisheries Management and Development (Seafood Markets and Business) Bill, 2025;
3. The Rural and Urban Development Commission Bill, 2025;
4. The Social Empowerment Agency Bill, 2025; and
5. The Appropriation Bill, 2025.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

ORDER NO. 11

SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT AGENCY 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 establish the Social Empowerment Agency in order to deliver the highest quality of social services to vulnerable persons and to empower them to live dignified and respectable lives, the Hon. Member spoke and moved that the Bill be read a second time.

Senator A. R. Worrell began to speak.

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

Senator A. R. Worrell resumed his speech.

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

Mr. President spoke.

Her Honour Senator the Most Honourable Ms. H. E. Thompson 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 resumed his speech and gave way.

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

Senator A. R. Worrell resumed and concluded his speech.

Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse spoke.

Senator Rev. C. M. Morris spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Sitting was suspended at 1.46 p.m. to 2.50 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 11 (resumed)

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

Senator A. A. O. 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, Her Honour the Deputy President in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 45 were called in parts and passed on the separate motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

The First to the Fourth 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 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. 10**RURAL AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BILL, 2025**

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 make provision for the establishment of the Rural and Urban Development Commission and matters related thereto,

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

Senator J. A. King 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 42 were called in parts and passed on the separate motion of Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight.

The First and Second Schedules 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.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS (recommitted)

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

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

11. Judges Remuneration and Pensions (Salaries) Order, 2024.
12. Judges (Remuneration and Pensions) (Conditions of Service and Allowances) (Amendment) Regulations, 2024.
13. Senate and House of Assembly (Remuneration and Allowances of Members) Order, 2024.
14. Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (Conditions of Service) Order, 2024.
15. Public Service (Part-Time Officers) Order, 2024.
16. Supreme Court (Master of the High Court) (Salary) Order, 2024.
17. Proposal for the Acquisition of a Data Centre.
18. National Insurance and Social Security (Benefit) (Amendment) Regulations, 2025.
19. 2023 Barbados Economic and Social Report.
20. Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure 2025-2026.
21. Schedule of Personal Emoluments for the years 2025-2026.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins who spoke the Sitting was suspended to Monday, 17th March, 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

At 4.42 p.m. Mr. President suspended the Sitting.

RESUMPTION (Monday, 17th March, 2025)

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

PUBLIC BUSINESS (resumed)

ORDER NO. 12

APPROPRIATION 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 grant a sum of money out of the Consolidated Fund and to appropriate the same for the service of Barbados for the Year ending 31st March, 2026,

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

Senator R. O. Walters began to speak.

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

Senator R. O. Walters resumed his speech.

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

Senator R. O. Walters resumed and concluded his speech.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins, the Sitting was suspended at 2.12 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 12 (resumed)

Senator K. J. Boyce spoke.

Senator J. A. King spoke.

Senator A. A. O. Boyce spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Sitting was suspended at 6.03 p.m. to Tuesday, 18th March, 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

RESUMPTION (Tuesday, 18th March, 2025)

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS (resumed)

ORDER NO. 12 (resumed)

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

Senator the Hon. J. W. D. Reid spoke.

Senator Miss P. E. Parris spoke.

Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse began to speak.

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

Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse resumed and concluded his speech.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Sitting was suspended at 1.18 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 12 (resumed)

Senator Rev. C. M. Morris spoke.

Senator the Hon. C. J. Blackman spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins, the Sitting was suspended at 4.38 p.m. to Wednesday, 19th March, 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

RESUMPTION (Wednesday, 19th March, 2025)

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

PUBLIC BUSINESS (resumed)**ORDER NO. 12 (resumed)**

Senator A. W. Mallalieu began to speak.

Senator the Hon. J. W. D. Reid spoke on a point of elucidation.

Senator A. W. Mallalieu resumed and concluded his speech.

Senator A. R. Worrell began to speak.

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

Mr. President spoke.

Senator A. R. Worrell withdrew certain remarks and resumed his speech.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator A. R. Worrell resumed his speech.

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

Mr. President spoke.

Senator A. R. Worrell withdrew certain remarks and resumed his speech.

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

Mr. President spoke.

Senator A. R. Worrell withdrew certain remarks which were struck from the record, and resumed his speech.

Senator the Most Honourable Mr. J. X. Walcott spoke on a point of order.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator A. R. Worrell resumed his speech.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator A. R. Worrell withdraw certain remarks which were struck from the record, and resumed his speech.

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

Senator A. R. Worrell resumed his speech.

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

Senator A. R. Worrell resumed his speech.

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

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

Senator A. R. Worrell resumed his speech.

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

Senator A. R. Worrell resumed and concluded his speech.

Senator G. P. B. Nicholls began his speech.

Senator A. R. Worrell spoke on a point of order.

Senator G. P. B. Nicholls resumed and concluded his speech.

Mr. President vacated the Chair in favour of the Deputy President.

Senator Mr. C. A. Maynard began to speak.

Mr. President resumed the Chair.

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 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 at 2.00 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 13

On the Order being called, Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke on the Resolution following and moved that the Resolution be passed:-

RESOLVED that Parliament in accordance with section 5 of the *Crown Lands (Vesting and Disposal) Act*, Cap. 225, approve the vesting in African Export-Import Bank of a parcel of land situate at Jemmotts Lane in the parish of Saint Michael in this Island and more particularly described in the *Schedule* hereto for construction of the African Export-Import Bank African Trade Centre.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 13th day of March, Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT land the property of the State situate at Jemmotts Lane in the parish of Saint Michael in this Island containing by admeasurement 2.037 hectares or thereabouts (inclusive of 0.072 hectares in pavement) ABUTTING AND BOUNDING on a public road known as Lyons Street on lands now or formerly of the Barbados Government (St. Ambrose Primary School) on other lands now or formerly of the Barbados Government (University of the West Indies) on a public road known as River Road leading to Bridgetown in one direction on a public road known as Jemmotts Lane on a public road known as Bay Street leading to Bridgetown in one direction on lands now or late of Russell Arrindell on two sides and on a public road known as Combermere Street or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a plan certified on the 21st day of August, 2011 by Andrew R. Bourne, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 22nd day of August, 2011 as Plan No. 820/2011.

Senator A. R. Worrell began to speak.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator A. R. Worrell withdrew certain remarks and resumed his speech.

Mr. President spoke.

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

Senator A. R. Worrell resumed and concluded his speech.

Senator A. W. Mallalieu spoke.

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

Senator R. O. Walters spoke.

Senator Rev. C. M. Morris spoke.

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

The Resolution was passed.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins who spoke the Senate was adjourned *sine die*.
At. 4.45 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

Friday, 14th March, 2025.

Government Printing Department