



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Honourable the House of Assembly

At a meeting of the House of Assembly at the Parliament Buildings on Tuesday the 19th day of December, 2023, 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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| Miss C. Y. Forde, J.P., L.C.P. | Hon. C. McD. Griffith, B.Sc. (<i>Minister of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment</i>) |
| Mr. T. A. Prescod, J.P., B.A. | 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 Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade</i>) | Hon. C. E. Jordan, B.Sc. (Hons.) (<i>Minister of Labour, Social Security and the Third Sector</i>) |
| Hon. D. G. Sutherland, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A. (Dist.) (<i>Minister of Housing, Lands and Maintenance</i>) | Dr. the Hon. S. E. Browne, M.B.B.S. (<i>Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Wellness</i>) |
| Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (<i>Deputy Prime Minister</i>) (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Transport, Works and Water Resources</i>) | Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.P.A. (<i>Minister of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs</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 in the Prime Minister's Office</i>) | Hon. R. R. Straughn, B.Sc., M.Sc. (<i>Minister in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs</i>) |
| Hon. W. A. Abrahams, S.C., LL.B. (<i>Minister of Home Affairs and Information</i>) | Ms. M. K-A. Caddle, B.A., M.Sc. |
| Mr. R. A. Thorne, Q.C., LL.B., L.E.C., Dip.Theology, | Ms. T. N. S-A. Moore, J.P., M.B.A. |
| Hon. I. A. Weir, M.B.A. (<i>Minister of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security</i>) | 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, Works and Water Resources</i>) |
| | Hon. D. I. Ishmael, M.B.A., M.Sc. (<i>Minister of Industry, Innovation, Science and Technology</i>) |
| | Mr. C. D. L. Gibbs |

ABSENT

Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley, S.C., LL.B. (*Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Economic Affairs, Culture, Security, Public Service, CARICOM and the Development Commissions*), Hon. D. D. Marshall, S.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs*), Mr. E. G. Hinkson, S.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C., LL.M., Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands, B.A. (Hons.), M.Sc. (*Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Business Development*), Hon. A. R. Forde, Rph. (*Minister of Environment and National Beautification*), Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill (*Minister of Tourism and International Transport*) and Hon. C. A. Lane, J.P. (*Minister of State in the Office of the Attorney General*).

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by Hon. C. E. Jordan.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, 12th December, 2023 were taken as read and were confirmed on the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams.

PAPERS

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

- Loan Contract No. 5827/OC-BA between the Government of Barbados and the Inter-American Development Bank: Program to Strengthen Social Services in Barbados.

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Utilities Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2023 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. D. I. Ishmael Standing Orders 6, 16, 18, 20, 42(5), 43 and 44 were suspended for the remainder of the Sitting.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**ORDER NO. 11****UTILITIES REGULATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2023**

On the Order being called for Hon. K. D. Symmonds to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to make provision for the exemption of the supply of electricity from renewable energy resources from all or any of the provisions of the *Utilities Regulation Act*, Cap. 282 where that exemption is required in the public interest,

the Hon. Member spoke and moved, seconded by Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid that the Bill be read a second time.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke.

Ms. M. K-A. Caddle spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne began to speak.

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. Symmonds spoke in reply.

The Bill was read a second time.

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

Clauses 1 to 2 were called and passed on the separate motion of Hon. K. D. Symmonds, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams.

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

MESSAGES FROM HER EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT (recommitted)
Mr. Speaker read the following:



**STATE HOUSE
BARBADOS**

MESSAGE No. /2023

***HER EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT
TO
THE HONOURABLE THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY***

Her Excellency the President wishes to inform The Honourable The House of Assembly that she will be absent from the country during the period 21st December, 2023 to 3rd January, 2024 on vacation leave.

Her Excellency further wishes to inform The Honourable The House of Assembly that, 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 for the period of Her Excellency's absence.

PRESIDENT

**STATE HOUSE
BARBADOS.**

19th December, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw spoke and moved, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams that the House be adjourned to Tuesday, 23rd January, 2024 at 10.00 a.m.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

The motion was passed.

At 2.15 p.m. Mr. Speaker adjourned the Sitting.

N. R. JONES, Q.C.

Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the
, 2024.

day of

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027

MINUTES

Tuesday, 19th December, 2023.

Government Printing Department.