



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Honourable The Senate

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Parliament at the Parliament Buildings on Friday, the 5th day of June, 2026, at 11.00 o'clock a.m.

PRESENT

His Honour Senator the Most Honourable R. R. Farley, FB, GA, 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, J.P., M.B.B.S., F.R.C.S. (Edin.) (*Senior Minister-Social and Environmental Policy*)

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins, B.Sc., M.Sc. (*Minister of Health and Wellness*) (*Leader of Public Business in the Senate*)

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

Senator the Hon. S. A. Archer, B.Sc. (*Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office – Youth and Culture*)

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

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

Senator Ms. K. N. Benjamin, J.P., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C.

Senator Miss J. C. A. Odle, LL.B. (Hons.) LL.M., L.E.C. (**On-line**)

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

Senator A. M. A. Niles, M.B.A.

Senator R. G. deB. Forde, B.B.S., M.Sc.

Senator J. A. A. Slocombe, B.A., F.R.S.A. (**On-line**)

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

Senator Ms. K. S. C. Goodridge, B.Sc., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C.

ABSENT

Senator the Hon. C. P. Sinckler, B.A., M.Sc. (*Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade*), Senator R. O. Alleyne, S.C., LL.B., M.B.A., Senator A. W. Mallalieu, C.P.A., F.R.I.C.S., Senator Dr. K. L. Connell, M.B.B.S., DM, Ph.D., F.A.C.C., F.A.C.P., F.R.C.P. and Senator Ms. M.-A. Redman, B.A., Dip. Ed (Hons.).

IN ATTENDANCE

Hon. Michael A. Lashley, S.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C., (*Minister of Legal Affairs and Criminal Justice*) and Hon. W. A. Abrahams, S.C., LL.B., L.E.C., (*Senior Minister*) (*Attorney General*).

PRAYERS

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

OBITUARY

The Senate observed a moment of solemn silence in memory of the late Reverend Canon F. Errington Massiah, former Chaplain of the Senate.

MESSAGES FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT

Mr. President read the following:



**STATE HOUSE
BARBADOS**

MESSAGE No. /2026

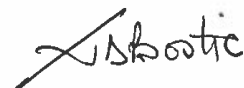
HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT

TO

THE HONOURABLE THE SENATE

His Excellency the President has the honour to inform The Honourable The Senate that, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, in accordance with Section 3(1) of the Ombudsman Act, CAP. 8A, he proposes to re-appoint Dr. Nigel Taylor, S.C.M., J.P., to the Office of the Ombudsman established by Section 2 of the said Act.

His Excellency further has the honour to seek the approval of The Honourable The Senate for the proposed appointment pursuant to Section 3(2) of the said Act.


PRESIDENT

**STATE HOUSE
BARBADOS.**

11th May, 2026

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of Monday, 23rd March, 2026 was taken as read and confirmed on the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

The Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, 6th May, 2026 was deferred on the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT

Mr. President announced that he was in receipt of excuses for absence from Senators A. W. Mallalieu, Dr. K. L. Connell and Ms. M.-A. Redman; and excuses for lateness from Senators R. G. deB. Forde and Miss J. C. A. Odle.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

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

1. Corporation Top-Up Tax (Designation of Competent Authority and Globe Information Returns) Regulations, 2026.
2. Barbados Health Report (BHR) 2024.
3. Annual Reports and Audited Financial Statements Needham's Point Development Inc. and Needham's Point Holdings Limited for the years ending March 31, 2024 and 2025.
4. Barbados Civil Aviation Authority Annual Report, 2025.
5. ILO Convention 191 Safe and Healthy Working Environment (Consequential Amendments) Convention, 2023.
6. ILO Convention 192 – Biological Hazards in the Working Environment Convention, 2025 (No. 192) and related Recommendation 209 – Biological Hazards in the Working Environment Recommendation, 2025 (No. 209).

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. Maritime Areas (Jurisdiction and Rights) Bill, 2026.
2. Seafarers Bill, 2026.
3. Civil Aviation Bill, 2026.
4. Criminal Gangs (Prevention and Control) Bill, 2026.

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins gave notice of a Resolution that an Address be presented to His Excellency the President approving the proposed reappointment of Dr. Nigel Taylor, J.P., SCM, to the office of Ombudsman.

Mr. President spoke recognizing the presence of and welcomed Members of the Leadership Institute.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

The Clerk spoke concerning the attendance of the Honourables Michael A. Lashley and Wilfred A. Abrahams in accordance with Section 53A of the Constitution of Barbados by virtue of Section 3 of the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2025.

Mr. President spoke welcoming the Ministers.

ORDER NO. 5

CRIMINAL GANGS (PREVENTION AND CONTROL) BILL, 2026

On the Order being called for Hon. M. A. Lashley to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to provide for the prevention and control of criminal gangs and gang-related activities, the Hon. Minister spoke and moved that the Bill be read a second time.

Senator R. O. Walters began to speak.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator R. O. Walters resumed his speech.

Mr. President spoke and directed Senator Walters to withdraw certain remarks.

Senator R. O. Walters resumed his speech.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator Ms. K. N. Benjamin spoke on a point of order.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator R. O. Walters withdrew certain remarks and resumed his speech.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke on a point of order.

Senator R. O. Walters resumed his speech.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator R. O. Walters resumed his speech.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator R. O. Walters resumed his speech.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator R. O. Walters concluded his speech.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Sitting was suspended at 2.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 5 (resumed)

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

Senator Miss R. W. Trim spoke.

Senator Ms. K. S. C. Goodridge began to speak.

Senator Miss R. W. Trim spoke on a point of order.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator Ms. K. S. C. Goodridge resumed her speech.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator Ms. K. S. C. Goodridge resumed her speech.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator Ms. K. S. C. Goodridge concluded her speech.

Senator R. G. deB Forde spoke.

Senator Ms. K. N. Benjamin spoke.

Senator the Hon. S. A. Archer spoke.

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

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

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins resumed her speech.

Mr. President resumed the Chair.

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

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

Hon. M. A. Lashley began to speak.

Senator R. O. Walters spoke on a point of order.

Hon. M. A. Lashley concluded his speech.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Hon. M. A. Lashley 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 to 17); Part 3 (Clause 18); Part 4 (Clauses 19 to 27) and the First,
Second and Third Schedules were called and passed on the separate motion of Hon. M. A. Lashley
and without debate.

On the motion of Hon. M. A. Lashley 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 Hon. M. A. Lashley the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read
and agreed to.

Mr. President spoke.

ORDER NO. 6

Resolution that an Address be presented to His Excellency the President approving the proposed reappointment
of Dr. Nigel Taylor, JP, SCM, to the office of Ombudsman.

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

The motion was passed.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins who spoke the Senate was adjourned to Wednesday,
10th June, 2026 at 11.00 a.m.

At 7.17 p.m. Mr. President adjourned the Sitting.

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

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

President.

SENATE CHAMBERS
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

SENATE

FIRST SESSION OF 2026 – 2031

MINUTES

Friday, 5th June, 2026.

Government Printing Department.