



# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

## OF

# The Honourable the House of Assembly

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At a meeting of the House of Assembly at the Parliament Buildings on Tuesday, the 1st day of July, 2025, 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*)

Her Honour Miss C. Y. Forde, J.P., L.C.P. (*Deputy Speaker*)

Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley, S.C., LL.B. (*Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Economic Affairs, Culture, National 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*) (*Senior Minister*)

Mr. T. A. Prescod, J.P., B.A.

Hon. K. D. Symmonds, B.A., LL.B. (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade*)

Hon. D. G. Sutherland, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A. (Dist.) (*Minister of Housing, Lands and Maintenance*)

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Deputy Prime Minister*) (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Transport and Works*) (*Leader of Government Business*)

Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid, J.P., B.D.S., F.D.S., F.D.R.C.S., M. Min. (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Planning and Development in the Prime Minister's Office*)

Hon. W. A. Abrahams, S.C., LL.B. (*Minister of Home Affairs and Information*)

Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands, B.A. (Hons.), M.Sc. (*Minister of Training and Tertiary Education*)

Mr. R. A. Thorne, K.C., LL.B., L.E.C., Dip. Theology (*Leader of the Opposition*)

Hon. A. R. Forde, Rph. (*Minister of Environment and National Beautification, Green and Blue Economy*)

Hon. C. McD. Griffith, B.Sc. (*Minister of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment*)

Mr. P. R. Phillips, J.P. (*Chairman of Committees*)

Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill (*Minister of Tourism and International Transport*)

Hon. C. E. Jordan, B.Sc. (Hons.) (*Minister of Labour, Social Security and Third Sector*)

Dr. S. E. Browne, M.B.B.S.

Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.P.A. (*Minister of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs*)

Ms. M. K-A. Caddle, B.A., M.Sc.

Mr. N. G. H. Rowe, J.P.

Ms. T. N. S-A. Moore, J.P., M.B.A.

Hon. Miss K. S. McConney (*Minister of Economic Affairs and Investment*)

Hon. D. I. Ishmael, M.B.A., M.Sc. (*Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Wellness*)

Mr. C. A. Lane, J.P.

Hon. C. J. Blackman, J.P., LL.B., LL.M., ACI Arb. (*Minister of Educational Transformation*)

**ABSENT**

Hon. I. A. Weir, M.B.A. (*Minister of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security*), Hon. R. R. Straughn, B.Sc., M.Sc. (*Minister in the Ministry of Finance*), Dr. R. O. Springer, J.P., Ph.D. (*Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Transport and Works*) and Mr. C. D. L. Gibbs.

**PRAYERS**

Prayers were taken by Reverend Canon Mark Harewood.

**MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 24th June, 2025 were deferred on the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. D. I. Ishmael.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER**

Mr. Speaker acknowledged the presence and welcomed some of the members of the Parliamentary Reform Commission.

**PAPERS**

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw by command laid the following:-

- Duties, Taxes and Other Payments (Exemption) (J.P. Morgan Securities LLC and Standard Chartered Bank) Order, 2025.

**ORDERS OF THE DAY****SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

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

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS****ORDER NO. 8**

On the Order being call for, Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley to resume the debate on the passing of a Resolution that the Parliament of Barbados take note of the Report of the Parliamentary Reform Commission 2024 and its recommendations.

WHEREAS the Parliamentary Reform Commission was appointed on the 8th day of May 2023 to examine Barbados' Parliamentary system and make recommendations for the strengthening of Parliament and the country's system of democracy;

AND WHEREAS the Commission was empowered through its terms of Reference to deliberate on matters touching and concerning the Parliament and the Executive by:

- (a) empowering, examining, and inquiring into Barbados' Parliamentary system, process and procedure;
- (b) making recommendations to enlarge and strengthen Barbados' democracy;
- (c) transforming Parliament into a culturally relevant, inclusive and modern institution and that the recommended reform proposals would enhance good governance and create a Parliamentary architecture befitting the new Republic;

AND WHEREAS having consulted extensively the Barbadian public here and abroad, the political parties and civil society, presented its report to the President of Barbados on the 27th June, 2024 with a wide range of recommendations consistent with its remit;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Parliament of Barbados take note of the Report of the Parliamentary Reform Commission 2024 and its recommendations.

Hon. K. D. Symmonds spoke.  
Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey spoke.  
Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid spoke.  
Ms. M. K-A. Caddle spoke.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER (recommitted)**

Mr. Speaker announced that he was in receipt of a letter dated 1st July, 2025 from Her Honour Madam Deputy Speaker. He read the following:

**Her Hon Ms Cynthia Forde, JP, MP**  
**Peaks and Valleys**  
**#1 Vault Road**  
**Welchman Hall**  
**St Thomas**

1 July 2025

**His Honour Arthur Holder, SC., MP**  
Speaker of the House of Assembly  
Parliament Buildings  
Trafalgar Street  
Bridgetown

Dear Sir

I wish to inform you of my resignation from the position of Deputy Speaker of this Honourable Chamber.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to be given the privilege to serve in such a distinguished position.

I also wish to thank the Members of this Honourable Chamber for their patience, guidance and support for the past months. It was indeed an honour to serve.

I take this opportunity to inform you and this Chamber of my decision to resign with immediate effect from that position.

With sincere gratitude.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia Y. Forde J.P.".

**Cynthia Y. Forde, JP. MP**

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS (resumed)**  
**ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE**

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw spoke and moved seconded by Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley that pursuant to Standing Orders 3(2) and 21(1) that the Hon. Member for St. Michael North West be elected Deputy Speaker of the House.

The motion was passed.

**ORDER NO. 8 (resumed)**

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke.

**SUSPENSION**

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid the Sitting was suspended for lunch until 2.40 p.m.

At 1.25 p.m. Mr. Speaker suspended the Sitting.

**RESUMPTION**

On resumption Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

**ORDER NO. 8 (resumed)**

Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands spoke.

Ms. T. N. S-A. Moore spoke.

Hon. D. I. Ishmael spoke.

Dr. S. E. Browne spoke.

Hon. C. J. Blackman spoke.

Mr. T. A. Prescod spoke.

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw spoke.

Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley spoke in reply.

The Resolution was passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the House was adjourned to Tuesday, 15th July, 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

At 7.10 p.m. Mr. Speaker adjourned the Sitting.

BEVERLEY S. GIBBONS, JP.  
Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

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

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS  
BRIDGETOWN.

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY**

**FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027**

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**MINUTES**

Tuesday, 1st July, 2025.

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Government Printing Department.