



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Honourable The Senate

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Parliament at the Parliament Buildings on Friday the 29th day of November, 2024, at 11.00 o'clock a.m.

PRESENT

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

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 Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight, Ph.D. (<i>Minister in the Prime Minister's Office</i>)	Senator G. P. B. Nicholls, B.Sc. (Hons.), LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M., MCI Arb.
Senator the Hon. C. J. Blackman, LL.B., LL.M., ACI Arb. (<i>Minister – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Investment</i>)	Senator Rev. C. M. Morris, B.A. (Theology), B.A. (Hist. & Sociology), Dip. Ed., M.A.
Senator Dr. C. K. M. Haynes, M.B.B.S.	Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse, F.C.A., F.C.C.A.
Senator J. A. King, B.S.S., J.P.	Senator Rev. Canon Dr. J. A. Rogers, B.Sc., B.A. (Hons.), M.Phil., Ph.D.
Senator Miss P. E. Parris, J.P.	Senator R. O. Walters, M.B.A.
	Senator A. R. Worrell, J.P., B.A. (Hons.)

ABSENT

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. (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Health and Wellness*), 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 Dr. C. N. Drakes, B.Sc. (Econ. & Mgmt), M.Phil. Econ., Ph.D and Senator A. W. Mallalieu, C.P.A., F.R.I.C.S.

PRAYERS

Prayers were led by Senator Rev. Canon Dr. J. A. Rogers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT

Mr. President announced that he was in receipt of excuses for absence from Senators A. W. Mallalieu, Ms. M. C. Taitt, K. J. Boyce, Mr. C. A. Maynard and Dr. C. N. Drakes.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 22nd November 2024 were deferred on the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

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

- Government of Barbados Mid-year Review Report for the period April–September 2024.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

ORDER NO. 9

On the Order being called, Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins began to speak 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 National Housing Corporation of the parcels of land situate at Holders Hill in the parish of Saint James in this Island and more particularly described in the *Schedule* hereto for residential purposes.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly this 26th day of November, Two thousand and twenty-four.

SCHEDULE

FIRSTLY ALL THAT land the property of the State (being part of a larger area of 46765.6 square metres on the Key Plan of Holders Hill situate in the parish of Saint James in this Island) being Lot B containing by admeasurement 12054.4 square metres of land (including 2242.8 square metres in road reserve) or thereabouts abutting and bounding on lands now or late of Cephas Welch on a concrete road on three sides or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a plan certified on the 11th day of November, 2024 by Samuel N. Taylor, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 18th November, 2024 as Plan No. 1843/2024; **SECONDLY ALL THAT** land the property of the State (being part of a larger area of 46765.6 square metres on the Key Plan of Holders Hill situate in the parish of Saint James in this Island) being Lot C containing by admeasurement 2815.0 square metres of land (including 378.5 square metres in road reserve) or thereabouts abutting and bounding on other lands now or formerly of the State (Lot A) on a concrete road on other lands now or formerly of the State (Lot E) on lands now or late of Winfield Parris (Lots 1 & 2) on lands now or late of Stanley Payne (Lot 2) on a road 1.83 metres wide and on lands now or late of Hugh Belgrave or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a plan certified on the 11th day of November, 2024 by Samuel N. Taylor, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 18th November, 2024 as Plan No. 1843/2024;

SCHEDULE - (Concl'd)

THIRDLY ALL THAT land the property of the State (being part of a larger area of 46765.6 square metres on the Key Plan of Holders Hill situate in the parish of Saint James in this Island) being Lot D containing by admeasurement 5391.5 square metres of land (including 269.5 square metres in road reserve) or thereabouts abutting and bounding on lands now or late of Cephas Welch on lands now or formerly Morlais Estates Services Ltd. (Lot 1) on lands now or formerly Antares Inc. (Lots 2 & 3) on lands now or formerly Melody Ltd. (Lot 4) on lands now or formerly Larade Property Holdings Ltd. (Lot 5) on other lands now or formerly of the State (Open Space) and on a concrete road or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a plan certified on the 11th day of November, 2024 by Samuel N. Taylor, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 18th November, 2024 as Plan No. 1843/2024; and **FOURTHLY ALL THAT** land the property of the State (being part of a larger area of 46765.6 square metres on the Key Plan of Holders Hill situate in the parish of Saint James in this Island) being Open Space containing by admeasurement 5482.6 square metres of land (including 520.6 square metres in road reserve) or thereabouts abutting and bounding on a concrete road on other lands now or formerly the State (Lot D) on lands now or late of Christopher Towner (Lots 16 & 19) on other lands now or formerly of the State (Lot F) and on a concrete road on two sides or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a plan certified on the 11th day of November, 2024 by Samuel N. Taylor, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 18th November, 2024 as Plan No. 1843/2024.

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

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins concluded her speech and moved that the Resolution be passed.

Senator R. O. Walters began his speech.

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 his speech.

Senator the Hon. C. J. Blackman spoke on a point of order.

Mr. President spoke.

Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight spoke on a point of order.

Senator R. O. Walters concluded his speech.

Senator the Hon. C. J. Blackman began his speech.

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

Mr. President spoke.

Senator R. O. Walters spoke.

Senator the Hon. C. J. Blackman resumed his speech.

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

Mr. President spoke.

Senator the Hon. C. J. Blackman resumed his speech.

Senator Rev. Canon Dr. J. A. Rogers spoke on a point of order.

Senator the Hon. C. J. Blackman concluded his speech.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Sitting was suspended at 1.26 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 9 (resumed)

Senator A. R. Worrell began to speak.
 Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight spoke on a point of order.
 Senator A. R. Worrell resumed his speech.
 Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight spoke on a point of order.
 Mr. President spoke.
 Senator A. R. Worrell resumed his speech.
 Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight spoke on a point of order.
 Mr. President spoke.
 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.
 Senator A. R. Worrell concluded his speech.
 Senator Rev. C. M. Morris spoke.
 Senator Rev. Canon Dr. J. A. Rogers spoke.
 Senator J. A. King spoke.
 Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse began to speak.
 Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight spoke on a point of order.
 Mr. President spoke.
 Senator Rev. C. M. Morris spoke on a point of elucidation.
 Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse resumed his speech.
 Senator Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight spoke on a point of order.
 Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse concluded his speech.
 Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke in reply.
 The Resolution was passed.

ORDER NO. 3

**RESOLUTION THAT THE PARLIAMENT OF BARBADOS TAKE NOTE
 OF THE BARBADOS POPULATION POLICY 2023**

On the Order being called, Senator the Hon. C. J. Blackman spoke on the following Resolution:

WHEREAS the Government recognizes certain critical population trends over the last 40 years, inclusive of: consistent fertility rates below the replacement rate of 2.1 children per woman; growth in the proportion of the elderly population; declining percentage of persons of working age; and higher dependency ratios due to a reducing number of persons of working age and greater proportion of elderly persons;

AND WHEREAS the Government recognizes these current population trends can negatively affect economic growth and impede the capacity of the state to leverage the full productivity of the country's resources and meet the social care and security needs of its population;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Barbados established a National Population Commission to advise on population issues, and this Commission has engaged in extensive consultations with stakeholders, inclusive of representatives in the public sector, the private sector, the labour movement and the general public;

AND WHEREAS the Population Commission highlighted the need for a Barbados Population Policy to address the potential impediments and opportunities related to the projections in population structure and size;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Barbados has accepted that a Barbados Population Policy should be developed based around a set of population goals and targeted interventions and strategies to achieve the Government's medium and long-term economic and social objectives;

AND WHEREAS the Cabinet has approved the Barbados Population Policy 2023;

AND WHEREAS the Barbados Population Policy outlines three policy goals and related sub-goals; namely:

- i. Policy Goal 1: Ensure a Population size Sufficient to Grow and Sustain Adequate Levels of Social Care, Productivity, Labour Force Participation and Revenue for Inclusive Development.
 - a. Sub-Goal 1.1: Increase the Population of Persons of working age.
 - b. Sub-Goal 1.2: Enhance Family Wellbeing to Support Reproductive Decision Making.
- ii. Policy Goal 2: Provide Barbadians and Non-Nationals Now and in the Future with Opportunities for Personal Development.
 - a. Sub-Goal 2.1: Promote and Strengthen the Care Economy across the Lifecycle and for the Vulnerable Populations.
 - b. Sub-Goal 2.2: Expand Access to Quality Health Care and Wellness Service Interventions.
 - c. Sub-Goal 2.3: Improve Capacity and Proficiency of the Labour Force with Access to Expanded Opportunities.
- iii. Policy Goal 3: Promote Integrated, Settlement Development and Safeguard the Ecological Balance.
 - a. Sub-Goal 3.1: Reconcile Population Redistribution, Land Use and Settlement Patterns.
 - b. Sub-Goal 3.2: Ensure the Efficient Management of Natural Resources and the Environment.
 - c. Sub-Goal 3.3: Strengthen Collective Resilience to the Impacts of a Changing Climate.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Parliament of Barbados take note of the Barbados Population Policy 2023.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly the 16th day of July 2024,

and moved that the Resolution be passed.
Senator R. O. Walters spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Sitting was suspended at 6.08 p.m. to 6.20 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. President resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 3 (resumed)

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

Senator A. A. O. Boyce spoke.

Senator the Hon. C. J. Blackman spoke in reply.

The Resolution was passed.

ORDER NO. 7**SEXUAL OFFENCES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024**

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 *Sexual Offences Act*, Cap. 154 in order to create new sexual offences, the Hon. Member spoke and moved that the Bill be read a second time.

Senator A. R. Worrell spoke.

Senator G. P. B. Nicholls spoke.

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

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

The Bill was read a second time.

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY DEPUTY PRESIDENT

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse was appointed acting Deputy President for the remainder of the Sitting.

On the motion of Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins the Honourable the Senate resolved itself into Committee on the Bill, Senator the Hon. L. E. Nurse in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 23 were called in parts 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.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator the Hon. Ms. L. R. Cummins spoke and moved the adjournment of the Senate *sine die*.

Senator A. R. Worrell spoke.

Mr. President spoke.

The motion was passed.

At 8.29 p.m. Mr. President adjourned the Sitting.

N. R. JONES

Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the
, 2025.

day of

President.

SENATE CHAMBERS
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

SENATE

FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027

MINUTES

Friday, 29th November, 2024.
