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BERMUDA SENATE
OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT**

14 March 2019

*Sitting number 7 of the 2018/19 Session
(pages 161–176)*

**Sen. The Hon. Joan E. Dillas-Wright, MBE, JP
President**

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BERMUDA SENATE**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT****14 MARCH 2019****10:02 AM***Sitting Number 7 of the 2018/19 Session*

[Sen. the Hon. Joan E. Dillas-Wright, President, presiding]

The President: Good morning, Senators. Good morning.

The Senate is now in session.
Shall we pray?

PRAYERS

[Prayers read by Sen. the Hon. Joan E. Dillas-Wright, President]

The President: Please be seated.

Welcome back from the recess. I hope you all enjoyed the recess, and the time that we had off.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

[Minutes of 19 December 2018]

The President: The second item is the Minutes of 19th of December 2018.

Senator Jardine, you have the floor.

Sen. James S. Jardine: Madam President, I move that the [Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, the 19th of December 2018](#), be taken as read.

The President: Is there any objection to that motion?
No objection. Carry on, Senator.

Sen. James S. Jardine: Madam President, I move that the Minutes [of the meeting] of Wednesday, the 19th of December 2018, be confirmed as the correct record of that meeting.

The President: Is there any objection to that motion?
No objection.

The Minutes for the 19th of December 2018 are confirmed.

Thank you, Senator Jardine.

[Motion carried: Minutes of 19th December 2018 confirmed.]

MESSAGES

The Clerk: No messages, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Clerk.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The President: There are none.

We have a number of announcements. The first one is the 2018/19 National Economic Report. Senator Campbell, you have the floor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**NATIONAL ECONOMIC REPORT 2018/19**

Sen. Vance Campbell: Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, I hereby present for the information of the Senate the [National Economic Report](#) of Bermuda for the year 2018 as produced by the Ministry of Finance.

The President: Thank you, Senator Campbell.

The second item is the Annual Report of the Bermuda Casino Gaming Commission for the period September 1, 2015 to March 31, 2017.

Senator Campbell, carry on.

BERMUDA CASINO GAMING COMMISSION REPORT SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 TO MARCH 31, 2017

Sen. Vance Campbell: Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, I hereby present for the information of the Senate [the Annual Report of the Bermuda Casino Gaming Commission](#) for the period from September 1, 2015 to March 31, 2017.

The President: Thank you, Senator Campbell.

The third announcement is the Bermuda Tourism Authority 2017 Year in Review.

BERMUDA TOURISM AUTHORITY 2017 YEAR IN REVIEW

Sen. Crystal Caesar: Good morning. Thank you, Madam President.

The President: Good morning.

Sen. Crystal Caesar: Madam President, I hereby present for the information of the Senate a report enti-

itled the [Bermuda Tourism Authority 2017 Year in Review](#).

The President: Thank you.

Sen. Crystal Caesar: I also have the next one, Madam President.

The President: Yes. Please carry on, Senator Caesar.

Sen. Crystal Caesar: Thank you, Madam President.

BERMUDA AIRPORT AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017/2018

Sen. Crystal Caesar: Thank you, Madam President.
Madam President, I hereby present for the information of the Senate the [Annual Report of the Bermuda Airport Authority](#) for the year ended 31 March 2018.

The President: Thank you, Senator Caesar. We have the Annual Report of the Bermuda Airport Authority 2017/18.

Sen. Crystal Caesar: I just did that.

The President: I beg your pardon. The next one is the 2018 Financial Statements of the Bermuda Housing Trust. Senator Campbell.

BERMUDA HOUSING TRUST FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2018

Sen. Vance Campbell: Madam President, I hereby present for the information of the Senate the [Financial Statements of the Bermuda Housing Trust](#) as at 31 March 2018.

The President: Thank you, Senator Campbell.
The next one is the Nursing Amendment Rules 2018.
Senator Hayward.

NURSING AMENDMENT RULES 2018

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I hereby present for the information of the Senate the draft rules entitled the Nursing Amendment Rules 2018, as made by the Minister of Health under the provision of section 9 of the Nursing and Midwifery Act 1997.

The President: Thank you.
And the Bermuda Educators Council (Exemption) (2018 to 2019 School Year) Amendment Order 2019.

BERMUDA EDUCATORS COUNCIL (EXEMPTION) (2018 TO 2019 SCHOOL YEAR) AMENDMENT ORDER 2019

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I hereby present for the information of the Senate the draft order entitled, the Bermuda Educators Council (Exemption) (2018 to 2019 School Year) Amendment Order 2019, as made by the Minister responsible for Education acting on the advice of the Exemption Committee and under the provision of section 5 and 20(3) of the Bermuda Educators Council Act 2002.

The President: Thank you, Senator Hayward.

BERMUDA DRUG INFORMATION NETWORK ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Madam President, I hereby present for the information of the Senate the [2018 Annual Report of the Bermuda Drug Information Network](#).

The President: Thank you, Senator Simmons, Attorney General.

We move now to Notices of Motion.

NOTICES OF MOTION

GOOD GOVERNANCE (PROTECTED DISCLOSURES) ORDER 2019

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Madam President, I hereby present for the consideration of the Senate the draft order entitled, the Good Governance (Protected Disclosures) Order 2019, proposed to be made by the Premier under the provisions of section 3(7) of the Good Governance Act 2012. And I give notice that at a later point in the meeting I will move that the said draft order be approved.

The President: Thank you, Senator Simmons, Attorney General.

EMPLOYMENT (PROTECTED DISCLOSURES) ORDER 2019

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I hereby present for the consideration of the Senate the draft order entitled the Employment (Protected Disclosures) Order 2019, proposed to be made by the Minister responsible for Labour Relations under the provisions of section 29A(5) of the Employment Act 2000. And I give notice that at a later point in the meeting I will move that the said draft order be approved.

The President: Thank you, Senator Hayward.

PETITIONS

The President: There are none.

STATEMENTS

The President: We have two Statements . . . oh, there is just one. I beg your pardon.

Senator Simmons, Attorney General, you have the floor.

BERMUDA DRUG INFORMATION NETWORK (BERDIN) ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Thank you, Madam President.

The [2018 Annual Report of the Bermuda Drug Information Network \(BerDIN\)](#) is the seventh major report of the network. The report documents and highlights a time series of drug-related data comparing information for the years 2016 and 2017. It provides a comprehensive tabular representation of the drug situation in Bermuda on the following themes:

- Criminal and Suspicious Activity;
- Imports, Exports and Licencing;
- Training for Intervention Procedures (and we call that TIPS);
- Substance Abuse Treatment and Counselling;
- Drug Screening Surveillance;
- Impaired Driving;
- Health;
- Drug Prevention Programmes;
- Certified Professionals;
- Survey Data; and
- Finance Drug Control.

Madam President, historically, drug use is a difficult and complex phenomenon to monitor. This report serves the purpose of providing a comprehensive overview of the current drug situation in Bermuda using multiple sources and indicators, with the intent of providing insight into the different aspects of the drug problem. By and large, the BerDIN Annual Report monitors and accounts for local drug-related information from approximately 18 agencies and departments that deal with drug-related data including treatment, prevention, interdiction and enforcement agencies.

Madam President, the BerDIN, which is made up of all institutions that collect drug-related information, has a major role in the drug demand and supply reduction efforts in Bermuda. In particular, the members of the BerDIN are:

- 1) Bermuda Hospitals Board (and under that umbrella comes)
 - i. King Edward VII Memorial Hospital
 - ii. Turning Point Substance Abuse Programme
- 2) Bermuda Police Service
- 3) Bermuda Sport Anti-Doping Authority

- 4) Counselling and Life Skills Services
- 5) CADA
- 6) Department of Corrections (and under that banner we have)
 - i. Westgate Correctional Facility
 - ii. Right Living House
- 7) Department of Court Services (and under that banner we have)
 - i. Bermuda Assessment and Referral Centre
 - ii. Drug Treatment Court
- 8) Department of Health (which has)
 - i. Central Government Laboratory
 - ii. Epidemiology and Surveillance
- 9) Department for National Drug Control
 - i. Men's Treatment
 - ii. Research and Policy Unit
 - iii. Women's Treatment Centre
- 10) Financial Intelligence Agency
- 11) HM Customs
- 12) Liquor Licence Authority
- 13) Supreme Court

Madam President, BerDIN is the central source of comprehensive information on drug consumption and drug abuse in Bermuda because of its multidisciplinary approach. In this regard, the Department for National Drug Control (DNDC) collects, analyses, and disseminates reliable, valid, and comparable information using well-established methodologies. By extension, this report provides audiences with an evidence-based picture of the drug phenomenon at the national level. A report such as this may be used as a catalyst for raising awareness of the drug situation, its associated problems, and should guide the development of education, prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation programmes, while improving existing systems.

Madam President, since the last report of the BerDIN in 2017, cannabis and alcohol remain the most widely used drugs on the Island. The good news is that crime continues to decline, notably there has been a decrease over the past year in alcohol and drug-related crimes. Poly drug use remains ever present, especially amongst persons involved in the criminal justice system, who reported using some combination of crack cocaine, opiates, and marijuana.

Madam President, assessments done by the Bermuda Assessment and Referral Centre [BARC] continue to show that opiates, alcohol, heroin, cocaine, and cannabis remained the primary substances of choice amongst the 530 persons who sought treatment services for the past two years. There was also a significant increase in the number of persons who sought treatment for cannabis, 16.3 per cent increase, and alcohol in 2017. Further, many of these persons have met the clinical criteria for dependence or abuse problems related to their use of such substances. When it came to clinical diagnosis, 56 of all clients in 2016 and 67 in 2017 were classified as having "substantial" to "severe" substance abuse dependence.

The majority of persons referred for substance abuse treatment in 2017 were male repeat cases identified themselves as “black,” and were between the age of 31 and 45 years.

Madam President, the drug market is still very much active in Bermuda as persons who sought drug treatment, or have been offenders of the law, have reported that their primary drug of choice remains available and accessible. For two consecutive years, there has been a decrease in criminal trials for offences such as cannabis possession and cocaine possession with intent to supply, as well as for increases in cultivating cannabis. There were less seizures of cash in 2017 from Financial Crimes, under section 50 of the Proceeds of Crime Act 1997, cash seizures and forfeiture being the main categories of seizure with a much less corresponding dollar value than seen in 2016. Other categories include civil recovery orders and confiscations.

Madam President, although there were fewer seizures of synthetic drugs in 2017, the Bermuda Police Service continued to interdict synthetics in addition to seizing a large amount of cannabis edibles and plants during 2017. There were two seizures of synthetic cathinone derivatives, which is a chemical stimulant found in products marketed as bath salts.

For the first time during 2017, the government lab reports that 778.8 grams of cannabis edibles were seized. Law enforcement and the criminal justice system are still, in many ways, not in a position to deal effectively with controlling the drug market, with factors, such as, outdated legislation and the lack of adequate resources to keep up with the ever-changing forms and types of substances and the ability to enforce current laws, continuing to make supply reduction more challenging.

Madam President, with regard to demand reduction activities, in 2017 there were 101 new clients that were evaluated for substance abuse, 82 of which entered one of 6 treatment programs on Island. Funding continues to affect the number of clients enrolled in treatment services and, by extension, a number of persons seeking care were unable to get into treatment, while others waited for longer periods than usual.

Demand and supply reduction agencies remained at level funding throughout 2017, whilst funding for transitional housing for FOCUS was restored. The balance between demand and supply reduction cannot occur unless interdiction agencies have sufficient funds to execute operations, secure necessary equipment, and have available the training and technical assistance for their officers.

Madam President, the year 2017 saw the continued existence of a treatment gap for persons seeking a substance abuse assessment. While a person may go through assessment he or she may not follow through with the recommended level of care, leaving a “treatment gap” between the persons needing and

receiving treatment. An understanding and knowledge of substance users and abusers who are not in care is limited. More information is required on how to assess this specific population to determine its needs.

Madam President, the Department for National Drug Control hosted a meeting on October 18th, 2018, to share the compiled data with all of the BerDIN Members and other relevant stakeholders.

Madam President, these are only a few of the highlights from the 2018 BerDIN Annual Report. I encourage you to review this report at your convenience for a more in-depth account. This annual publication is a principal source of information for a wide range of audiences including policymakers and their advisors, professionals and researchers working in drug-related fields, and, more broadly, the media and general public. This is an annual initiative, which presents a yearly overview and update of the drug phenomenon in Bermuda. This report can be considered an essential reference publication for those seeking the latest findings on drugs in Bermuda.

Madam President, as global experience has shown, neither supply reduction nor demand reduction on its own is able to solve the drug problem. For this reason, a more balanced approach in dealing with the pervasive drug problem is a necessity. This includes more serious prevention and treatment efforts, not only in terms of policy, but also in terms of funds dedicated to these purposes to ensure programming meets the needs of the community.

Madam President, drugs continue to jeopardize the health and welfare of people throughout the world, and Bermuda is no exception. Now, more than before, drug misuse and abuse represent a clear threat to the stability and security of Bermuda and to its economic and social development. Drugs have become a deeply ingrained part of our daily lives and prevention cannot occur unless there is change in our social attitudes toward alcohol and drug misuse.

This Government is committed to a healthier and safer Bermuda with an interconnected rebalancing of drug control efforts. With the renewal of the national drug policy, the National Drug Control Master Plan 2019–2023, government will be in a better position to impact the local drug situation.

Thank you, Madam President.

The President: We thank you, Senator Kathy Lynn Simmons, Attorney General and Government Leader in the Senate. Moving on to the next item.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The President: There are none.

FIRST READING OF PUBLIC BILLS

The President: The following Public Bills have been received from the Honourable House of Assembly and

are now read for the first time. The titles are, respectively:

- **Mental Health Amendment Act 2019;**
- **Proceeds of Crime Amendment Act 2019;**
- **Foreign Currency Purchase Tax Amendment Act 2019 (Governor's Recommendation Signified);**
- **Financial Services Tax Amendment Act 2019 (Governor's Recommendation Signified);**
- **Hotels (Temporary Customs Duty Relief) Amendment Act 2019 (Governor's Recommendation Signified);**
- **Restaurants (Temporary Customs Duty Relief) Amendment Act 2019 (Governor's Recommendation Signified);**
- **Municipalities Reform Act 2019.**

FIRST READING OF PRIVATE BILLS

The President: There are none.

QUESTION PERIOD

The President: Now we will entertain questions on the Ministerial Statement that was read by Senator Kathy Lynn Simmons. Would any Senator care to ask any questions on that?

No? It was a comprehensive report and Statement, and we do have the BerDIN report that we can refer to.

That brings us to the Orders of the Day.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The President: There are items to be taken up for consideration by the Senate today. Item 1 is the Second Reading of the Mental Health Amendment Act 2019.

Senator Kathy Lynn Simmons.

STANDING ORDER 25

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Madam President, I move that the provisions of Standing Order 25 be granted so that Senate may now proceed with the Second Reading of the Public Bill entitled Mental Health Amendment Act 2019 and the Proceeds of Crime Amendment Act 2019.

The President: Is there any objection to that motion?
No objection.

[Motion carried: Standing Order 25 grants leave for Bills to be read a second time on the same day as their first reading in the Senate.]

The President: Senator Hayward, you have the floor.

BILL SECOND READING

MENTAL HEALTH AMENDMENT ACT 2019

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I move that the Bill entitled the Mental Health Amendment (No. 2) Act 2018 [*sic*] now be read a second time.

The Clerk: [It should be] the 2019 amendment.

The President: Did you say 2019?

Sen. Jason Hayward: Correct, that the [Mental Health Amendment Act 2019](#) now be read a second time.

The President: There is no objection, so you can carry on.

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, a primary purpose of the Mental Health Act is to set requirements for the assessment, detention, treatment and rights of people suffering from mental disorder who are at risk of harm to themselves or others. International estimates, such as from the World Health Organization, indicate that one in four people will experience mental health issues in their lifetime. However, only 2 [per cent] to 3 per cent of this group will have an illness that is severe, persistent, and that will require ongoing treatment at times in hospital involuntarily.

Madam President, since the introduction of the Mental Health Act in 1968 advancements in care models and treatment methods has prioritised the significance of social care, patient's rights, and safeguards. However, our legislation has not kept pace with these advancements. This Bill is a first step to bring Bermuda's legislation in line with contemporary methods of care while balancing the need to protect the rights of the individual patients and to ensure public safety.

I first want to acknowledge and thank the previous administration for initiating this important work. I am proud to continue this initiative and I am committed to the bipartisan collaboration that makes it possible for us to achieve meaningful change such as this amendment Bill.

This amendment Bill focuses on key pressing priorities. I have actively pushed to ensure its progress under my leadership as part of my commitment to protecting persons in care and, more specifically, to ensure we are improving the structures in place to

support persons with mental health needs in our community.

Madam President, this Bill focuses on three primary areas to improve treatment options and patient safeguards: establishing community treatment orders; establishing legislative requirements for consent to treatment; and establishing a framework within which mental capacity can be determined.

First, Madam President, the Bill provides a legislative structure to support supervised community treatment in the form of Community Treatment Orders [CTOs].

Community Treatment Orders enable mental health professionals to continue to treat patients granted leave from the hospital for extended periods of time with provisions for certain conditions to be set for patients, such as, attending appointments and the continuation of their medication.

Currently, the Act grants leave that expires after 12 months and it cannot be renewed. A small number of chronic patients that know the system stop taking their medication immediately after the 12-month period lapses only to have their health deteriorate, leading to required detention again, resulting in the so-called “the revolving door syndrome.”

Madam President, the introduction of CTOs will allow these patients to receive appropriate treatment on an ongoing basis at home or in other community settings, which currently is only available through readmission to hospital. Not only is treatment in the community more cost-effective, but it is the best place for true recovery from mental illness.

As with detention under the Act, safeguards must also complement this new authority and the Bill includes mandatory reviews and an appeal mechanism. This treatment option will also rely on BHB’s community teams already in place to support people on CTOs. BHB will monitor these resources to make sure that they are sufficient to meet any growing demand.

Overall, this part of the amendment is a continuation of our commitment to and promotion of community-based care and it is a first step to the larger efforts of reforming our mental health system.

Madam President, secondly, the Bill provides a requirement and framework for consent to treatment in specific cases. The Mental Health Act currently does not require patient consent for treatment authorised under it. In practice, clinicians aim to obtain consent, however, there are no legal safeguards in place for patients who cannot consent or refuse to consent to treatment.

As a result, this Bill introduces requirements for second opinions and consultations based on the severity of the treatment proposed. These provisions apply to persons detained in hospital or who are under a Community Treatment Order.

A key role introduced for consent to treatment is the second [opinion] approved doctor (SOAD).

These doctors will provide a clinical opinion on the patient’s ability to consent and, if the patient is unable to consent or refuses, the SOAD must assess if the treatment is appropriate. The second opinion doctor will be independent of the Bermuda Hospitals Board in order to ensure a fair process for the patient.

Finally, Madam President, the Bill establishes a framework within which mental capacity can be determined. This is an essential [component] to consent to treatment as capacity is required to be able to consent. The capacity framework will be outlined in a newly established Code of Practice and will be based on the United Kingdom’s Mental Capacity Act and associated standards of practice, as consulted on last year.

The framework will define a person lacking capacity, will establish criteria for determining such, and will put safeguards in place to ensure that decisions are made in the best interests of the patient. This Code of Practice will extend beyond the determination of capacity and is a key mechanism to ensure clarity on implementation of the legislation for practitioners with respect to new legislative requirements, as well as existing ones.

Before closing, Madam President, I would like to acknowledge and thank the many people who contributed to making this amendment possible. After multiple attempts for over more than a decade to amend this Act, it was a dedicated group of professionals who were able to finally make it happen. We are all indebted to the Mental Health Act Steering Committee and the Working Group, to the leadership at the Mid-Atlantic Wellness Institute and, in particular, to Dr. Sebastian Henagulph who has provided extensive medical and technical advice to get us to this excellent position. I am absolutely certain that we would not be here without his expert guidance.

In closing, Madam President, this Bill seeks to address some of the major gaps in the Mental Health Act. It regularises some current practices while establishing new options, processes, and criteria that will require staff education and development to ensure successful results.

This Ministry is committed to implementing these changes to improve practice and protect and promote the rights of persons with mental health needs. However, we know that this is only a first step. Our mental health system needs major work to ensure we can find sustainable solutions to provide care and support needed for a healthier Bermuda.

The Ministry of Health and Government are committed to the successful implementation of the Bill and the ongoing work which is required to improve our system.

Thank you, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Senator Hayward.

Would any Senator care to speak on this Bill?

Senator Robinson, you have the floor.

Sen. Dwayne Robinson: Thank you, Madam President. Good morning, colleagues.

First thing, I and we on this side really agree with this Bill. We feel like it is a necessary step in modernising the structure in which we support the community of mental health, Madam President. My only question and hope is that in the future we do put in initiatives to support folks with mental health within the workforce and within the working environment. But other than that, I think that this is a legislation that is needed, and it is something that will benefit the community as we have not put as much emphasis on mental health as we should have.

So, all in all, I think it is a very concise Bill and a step in the right direction.

Thank you, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Senator Robinson.

Would any other Senator care to speak? Senator Jardine, you have the floor.

Sen. James S. Jardine: Thank you and good morning, Madam President.

The President: Good morning.

Sen. James S. Jardine: Madam President, I certainly support this Bill. There are a very complex number of changes that have been made and additions that have been added, and we have heard from Senator Hayward the supervisory medical treatment orders and the details contained therein. There were two specific things in this amendment which I wanted to draw to the attention of listeners today, and the first is the amendments to section 65 of the principal Act.

And if I . . . Madam President, could just read out the small amendment which I think is very important—

The President: Yes, you may.

Sen. James S. Jardine: —and it says: “Where a person (“D”) has, pursuant to this Act, care or custody (whether by virtue of any legal or moral obligation or otherwise) of—(a) a mentally disordered person; or (b) a person who lacks, or who D reasonably believes lacks, mental capacity, it shall be an offence for [that person] to ill-treat or wilfully neglect that person.” And I think that is a very important addition to this particular Act.

And the second which was mentioned briefly by the Senator was the Code of Practice. Madam President, if I could just read the first three lines of that particular Code, and I think this is important again.

The President: Yes, you may.

Sen. James S. Jardine: “The Minister shall prepare and issue a Code of Practice providing for—” (amongst other things) “(a) the guidance of registered medical practitioners and other health professionals responsible for the care and treatment of patients suffering from mental disorder.”

So, I think this Code of Practice again is particularly important because it will set out certain guidelines by which the Government will assess the appropriate treatment of individuals with mental illness. So, Madam President, I think those two particular clauses are important, and I certainly support this amendment.

Thank you very much, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Senator Jardine.

Would any other Senator care to speak on this Bill?

Senator Kempe, you have the floor.

Sen. Nicholas Kempe: Thank you, Madam President.

Senator Hayward, I was hoping just for a bit of clarity on one of the clauses, 48J on page 11. It lays out who is allowed to physically detain and return someone to custody under the CTO, and categories (a) and (b) are clearly people with medical training, (d) could be, but (c) is a police officer. I am just wanting to know if there is any special training above and beyond your standard police training that they would require to be involved in the detainment of people with certain mental conditions?

The President: Thank you, Senator.

Would any other Senator care to speak on the Bill? No? Oh, sorry. I thought you were reaching for the microphone.

Senators, I would just like to make a comment myself. I have worked in the mental health field, both as a nurse and a psychiatric nurse, as well as a mental welfare officer. And I have been the administrator and the nursing administrator of MWI when it was St. Brendan's Hospital. And I have had the experience of working in the community, and I also have mental illness in my family.

So, I can tell you that I speak from experience in terms of dealing with individuals who suffer from mental illness. And once their treatment order declined, it ran out, they did not take the medication, and then we had to wait until they again began to show symptoms.

And I myself, as a mental welfare officer, have had to use the police, even though as a mental welfare officer I had the opportunity of taking an individual into the hospital to be treated. Sometimes, if they were so disturbed, you could not do it on your own, and just for the safeguarding of the individual, as well as yourself, you had to obtain the assistance of the police.

So, I welcome greatly this piece of legislation, because I think that it would have made a big difference at the time when I was practicing. And it brings Bermuda in line, actually, with the Mental Health Act in the UK and elsewhere. So, I am verily pleased, Senator Hayward, to see this tabled today and passed because I think it will help all those individuals who work with the mentally ill in Bermuda, both at the hospital and in the community. And I think it will help families too, because now people can be treated in the community. Some of them do not have to be admitted to the hospital if signs and symptoms of their disturbances are recognised early.

So, I am pleased to see this presented today and I want to thank you and all those individuals who were involved in bringing Bermuda's legislation up to the modern times, shall I say.

So, with that, Senator Hayward, if you could answer the questions that have been raised.

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I would like to thank the Senators for their support. I do think that a valid point was made by a fellow Senator regarding us needing to have reasonable accommodation for individuals with mental health in the workforce, and we are currently progressing to get there. But we need to improve our education about mental health as a society as a whole.

There are discriminatory practices that do take place that keep individuals with mental health locked outside of the workforce. In addition to that, when individuals with mental health issues are in the workforce, there is not reasonable accommodation by the employers, and there is a lack of understanding of what individuals need to cope in day-to-day life.

I believe the question that Senator Kempe asked can be best answered by saying that the police actually do not play somewhat of a clinical role but play a supporting role. And the police, being one of the only bodies that have detention authority in our society, all play a critical role in ensuring that they support the mental health professionals that do have the clinical experience with mental health patients.

With that said, Madam President, I move that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill.

The President: Yes, do the second reading.

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I move that the Bill be now read a second time.

The President: Is there any objection to the second reading?

No objection. Carry on.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 26

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I move that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill.

The President: Is there any objection to that motion? No objection. Carry on.

[Motion carried: Standing Order 26 suspended.]

BILL

THIRD READING

MENTAL HEALTH AMENDMENT ACT 2019

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I move that the Bill entitled the Mental Health Amendment Act 2019 be now read a third time.

The President: Is there any objection to a third reading?

No objections.

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I move that the Bill do now pass.

The President: It has been now moved that the Bill entitled the Mental Health Amendment [Act 2019], yes, be passed.

Is there any objection to that motion? No objection. So moved.

Thank you, Senator Hayward.

[Motion carried: The Mental Health Amendment Act 2019 was read a third time and passed.]

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

SENATE VISITORS

The President: Before we move onto the next order of business, I would just like to acknowledge the presence in the Gallery of the members of the National Anti-Money Laundering Office, Paula Tyndale, the National Coordinator, welcome! Also, Charmaine Smith. And I would also like to acknowledge the presence of [Anthony] Richardson, Parliamentary Counsel. Welcome to you all.

The next item on the agenda is the second reading of the Proceeds of Crime [Amendment Act 2019]. And Senator Simmons, Attorney General . . . it is now the second reading of the Proceeds of Crime Amendment Act, and Senator Simmons, Attorney General, you have the floor.

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, I move that the Bill entitled the Proceeds of Crime Amendment Act 2019 be now read a second time.

The President: Is there any objection to that motion?

No objection.

Carry on, Senator Simmons.

BILL

SECOND READING

PROCEEDS OF CRIME AMENDMENT ACT 2019

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Madam President, I am pleased to introduce to the Senate the [Proceeds of Crime Amendment Act 2019](#), the Bill, to address matters pertinent to Bermuda's compliance with international standards set by the Financial Action Taskforce that we call FATF.

Madam President, the assessment of Bermuda's anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing regime began early in 2018, and is now at an advanced stage. This assessment is being conducted by a team drawn from peer jurisdictions and led by the Caribbean Financial Action Taskforce which we call CFATF.

Bermuda now awaits the receipt of the second draft of the Mutual Evaluation Report from the assessment team to be followed by a comprehensive written response by Bermuda. As we await the finalisation of the assessment and the publication of the report, the Bermudian authorities continue to proactively work on strengthening the effectiveness of the regime. The amendments contained in this Bill will support the continued enhancement of Bermuda's AML/ATF regime, particularly in the area of international financial sanctions.

Madam President, during the assessment period, and, indeed, for some time prior to that, Bermudian authorities have worked collaboratively with Government House and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to enhance needed compliance with the targeted financial sanctions imposed by the United Nations, the UK and the EU in relation to terrorism, terrorism financing, and the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

In September 2018, these efforts culminated in a delegation of functions by the Governor to the Minister of Legal Affairs to support more focused domestic attention to these international obligations. Consistent with those efforts, the Government also took the necessary steps in 2018 to amend the AML/ATF legislation to require supervisory authorities to begin to monitor regulated entities to ensure that they are compliant with these international financial sanctions obligations.

Madam President, the Bill amends the Proceeds of Crime (Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-

terrorist Financing Supervision and Enforcement) Act 2008, and the Financial Intelligence Agency Act 2007.

Madam President, the amendments to the Proceeds of Crime (Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-terrorist Financing Supervision and Enforcement) Act 2008 will strengthen the enforcement of international financial sanctions obligations. This will be achieved by empowering supervisory authorities to impose penalties as a consequence for breaches of such obligations. The amendment will apply in relation to a range of penalties which currently exist in the Act, thus ensuring that supervisory authorities will have a variety of penalties to impose to match the nature and seriousness of a specific breach. The international standards require that penalties imposed should be effective, proportionate and dissuasive, and this can be achieved when an array of penalties of different degrees of seriousness are available to be applied.

Madam President, the amendment to the Financial Intelligence Agency Act 2007 is necessary to ensure that the FIA (that is, the Financial Intelligence Agency) can make relevant disclosures to the Minister to whom the Governor has delegated some of his functions in respect of the international financial sanctions. Although at present the FIA can make disclosures to the Minister of Legal Affairs on other matters, the FIA is only empowered to make disclosures about international financial sanction matters to the Governor. The amendment will allow the FIA to also make disclosures to the Minister of Legal Affairs concerning matters germane to her delegated functions for international financial sanctions, and that is me.

Madam President, this legislative initiative is only one part of the work being done by the relevant authorities in Bermuda to ensure that Bermuda is compliant with international financial sanctions and has an effective system for enforcement of these obligations. Other activities being carried out include: 1) the renewed focus of the National Anti-Money Laundering Committee's sanctions working group on the consideration of implementation matters in connection with the statutory responsibilities of supervisory authorities in relation to international financial sanctions and the recent delegation of functions and also 2) the development of an agreed coordination mechanism in relation to international sanctions against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to ensure that Bermuda's financial, professional and other business sectors are not misused by foreign actors to evade UN sanctions in this area.

Madam President, Bermuda remains committed to working to achieve full compliance with the international standards and this Bill is another step further in the ongoing journey to achieve this. And I would like to thank the National Anti-Money Laundering team and in particular, the NAMLC coordinator and her team and the drafter, that you mentioned earlier, my Anthony Richardson is there—

[Laughter]

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: —for their continued work in this area, and a good work it is.

The President: Thank you, Senator Kathy Lynn Simmons, Attorney General and Government Leader in the Senate.

Would any Senator care to speak on this Bill?
Senator Kempe, you have the floor.

Sen. Nicholas Kempe: The Opposition supports this Bill and also would like to thank NAMLC for their continued work.

The President: Thank you. Would any other Senator care to speak?

Senator Jardine, you have the floor.

Sen. James S. Jardine: Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, as someone who has been a member of a board responsible for the implementation of AML/ATF laws and regulations for some years and having worked closely with NAMLC, certainly I extend my thanks to them for all their extreme hard work under changing conditions which have resulted in many additional changes and amendments to our various AML/ATF Acts.

Certainly, I support this legislation. I think it is important that Bermuda continue to keep abreast of changes, to continue to refine its AML policies and procedures and laws and regulations so that we can show ourselves to be, should we say, leaders in this particular area on a global basis. I, too, hope that our assessment is a good one. And I look forward to hearing the results of the second round of that.

So, Madam President, just to say that I certainly support this legislation.

Thank you very much.

The President: Thank you, Senator Jardine.

Would any other Senator care to speak on this Bill? No?

Then, Senator Kathy Lynn Simmons, it is over to you.

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Thank you, Madam President.

Thank you, Senators, for your support of this Bill, and of the continuing efforts of the team to ensure that we are able to shine in this area. Senators can expect that we will, in fact, see further legislative initiative as we refine and review the legislation, and as the goalpost sometimes moves, we are, as always, responsive.

So, with that Madam President, I move that the Bill be now read a second time.

The President: Is there any objection to the second reading?

No objection.
Carry on.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 26

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Thank you, Madam President.

I move that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of the Bill.

The President: Is there any objection to that motion?
No objection.

[Motion carried: Standing Order 26 suspended.]

BILL

THIRD READING

PROCEEDS OF CRIME AMENDMENT ACT 2019

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: I move that the Bill be read a third time, Madam President.

The President: Is there any objection to the third reading?

No objection.

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Thank you, Madam President. I move that the Bill entitled the Proceeds of Crime Amendment Act 2019 do now pass.

The President: Is there any objection to that motion?

No objections.
The Bill is passed.

[Motion carried: The Proceeds of Crime Amendment Act 2019 was read a third time and passed.]

The President: Thank you, Senator Kathy Lynn Simmons. And I believe you have the next Bill which is a consideration of the draft Order entitled Good Governance.

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Senator Campbell.

The President: Sorry, Senator Campbell, it is your Bill. You have the floor.

ORDER

GOOD GOVERNANCE (PROTECTED DISCLOSURES) ORDER 2019

Sen. Vance Campbell: Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, the [\[Good Governance \(Protected Disclosures\) Order \[2019\]\]](#) before the Senate relates to protected disclosures. Madam President, this is commonly known as whistle-blower protection.

The President: Mm-hmm.

Sen. Vance Campbell: Madam President, with your indulgence, I would like to move to the Good Governance Act 2012.

The President: You certainly may.

Sen. Vance Campbell: Section 3. The title of this section is “Offence of terminating contract with, or withholding payment from, a whistle-blower.”

[Section] 3(1) indicates that “A person commits an offence—(a) if he terminates a contract with another person because that person or any of his officers or employees has made a protected disclosure; or (b) if he withholds any payment due under a contract to another person because that person or any of his officers or employees has made a protected disclosure.”

Section 3(2), Madam President, states, “For the purposes of this section, a person makes a protected disclosure if, in in good faith, he notifies whichever of the listed persons appears to him to be the most appropriate person to notify in the circumstances, that he has reasonable grounds to believe—(a) that another person has committed, is committing, or is about to commit, a criminal offence or breach of any statutory obligation related to that person’s business; or (b) that information tending to show any matter falling within paragraph (a) has been, is being, or is likely to be, altered, erased, destroyed or concealed by any person.”

And [section] 3(3) goes through a list of these listed persons. I will highlight some of them, Madam President, with your permission.

The President: Yes, you may. Yes, you certainly can.

Sen. Vance Campbell: The person’s employer, manager or supervisor; a police officer; the Collector of Customs; the Chief Fire Officer; the Chief Medical Officer; the Chief Environmental Health Officer; a Safety and Health Officer appointed for the purposes of the administration of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1982; the Auditor General; the Ombudsman; the Accountant General. And it goes up to [section 3(3)](p) in the list, right down to the Bermuda Health Council, established under section 3 of the Bermuda Health Council Act [2004].

There is a long list of persons in this list, Madam President.

So, the purpose, Madam President of this Order is to amend section [3(3)](f) which states “the Chief Environmental Health Officer of the Department of Environmental Health” and we are looking to correct, first of all, Madam President, the name of the department which should be the Department of Health. Secondly, we are looking to include the director of the department as a person to whom a protected disclosure can be made.

Madam President, the Order also adds the manager of Labour Relations or an inspector designated under section 34 of the Employment Act 2000 as a person to whom a protected disclosure can be made. And by including the manager of Labour Relations or an inspector designated under the Employment Act, persons making protected disclosures, Madam President, may do so without fear of persecution by their employer whilst providing the Labour Relations section with information to effectively investigate all complaints pursuant to the Employment Act 2000, and will likely result in the speedy resolution of employment-related issues.

With that, Madam President, I conclude my presentation. And thank you, Madam President.

The President: Senator Campbell—

[Inaudible interjection]

Sen. Vance Campbell: I am doing Good Governance Act.

The President: You had read the employment—

Sen. Vance Campbell: That is under the Good Governance Act.

The President: Oh, it is under the Good Governance? Okay. Subsection (3). Thank you, Senator Campbell.

Would any Senator care to speak on this Bill? No?

Then, Senator Campbell, you will move the Bill?

Sen. Vance Campbell: Madam President, I move that the said draft Order be approved and that the following message be sent to his excellency, the Governor.

The President: Is there any objection to that motion?

The Clerk: He has got to read it.

The President: Then read the motion.

Sen. Vance Campbell: “May it please your Excellency:

“The Senate, having had under consideration the draft Order entitled the Good Governance (Pro-

tected Disclosures) Order 2019, proposed to be made by the Premier under the provision section 3(7) of the Good Governance Act 2012, has the honour to inform your Excellency that the Senate has approved the said draft Order.”

The President: Is there any objection to the message being sent?

No? Then the message will be sent.
Thank you, Senator Campbell.

[Motion carried: The Good Governance (Protected Disclosures) Order 2019 was approved.]

Sen. Vance Campbell: Madam President, I did fail to move that Standing Order 71(2) be suspended, so that the Senate may now proceed with consideration of the Good Governance Protected Disclosure Order 2019, so I do apologise for that omission.

The President: Thank you, Senator Campbell. I am glad you picked that up. Yes, and thank all Senators for supporting this Bill.

We now move on to item 4 on the Orders of the Day and that is a consideration of the draft Order entitled: The Employment (Protected Disclosures) Order of 2019. Senator Hayward, you have the floor.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 71(2)

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I move that Standing Order 71(2) be suspended so that the Senate may now proceed with consideration of the Employment (Protection Disclosure) Order 2019.

The President: Is there any objection to that motion? No objection.

[Motion carried: Standing Order 71(2) suspended.]

The President: Carry on, Senator Hayward.

ORDER

EMPLOYMENT (PROTECTION DISCLOSURE) ORDER 2019

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I must say that the changes that are to be made mirror the changes that were just articulated by Senator [Campbell] regarding the Good Governance Act. But this [\[Employment \(Protection Disclosure\)\] Order \[2019\]](#) is in relation to the Employment Act 2000.

Under the Employment Act 2000, a person who makes a protected disclosure in good faith and on the premise that they have reasonable grounds to believe that his employer, other employee or himself has been directed to commit a criminal offence or breach of a statutory obligation may do so to the listed

persons in the Act, namely, “the person’s employer, manager or supervisor, a police officer; the Collector of Customs; the Chief Fire Officer, as defined in section 2 of the Bermuda Fire and Rescue Service Act 1982; the Chief Medical Officer, as defined in section 2 of the Public Health Act 1949; the Chief Environmental Health Officer of the Department of Environmental Health; a Safety and Health Officer appointed for the purposes of the administration of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1982; the Auditor General, appointed under section 88 of the Constitution; the Ombudsman, appointed under section 93A of the Constitution.”

Madam President, the Order adds the Manager of Labour Relations or an inspector designated under section 34 of the Act as a person to whom a protected disclosure can be made. By including the Manager of Labour Relations or an inspector designated under the Act, persons making protected disclosures may do so without fear of persecution by their employer while providing the Labour Relations section with information to effectively investigate all complaints pursuant to the Employment Act 2000 and will likely result in a speedy resolution of the employment-related disputes.

Thank you, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Senator Hayward.

Would any Senator care to speak on this Bill? Senator Kempe, you have the floor.

Sen. Nicholas Kempe: Just a correction for the minutes. It was Senator Campbell, not myself, that articulated the first draft Order.

The President: Thank you.

Would any other Senator care to speak on this Bill, Employment (Protective Disclosures) Order? No?

Then, Senator Hayward, do you want to move Bill?

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I move that the said draft Order be approved and that the following message be sent to his Excellency, the Governor.

The President: Is there any objection to that motion? No objection.

Carry on, Senator Hayward.

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President.

“May it please your Excellency:

“The Senate, having under consideration the draft Order entitled the Employment (Protection Disclosure) Order 2019, proposed to be made by the Minister responsible for Labour Relations under the provision of section 29A(5) of the Employment Act 2000, has the honour to inform your Excellency that the Senate has approved the said draft Order.”

The President: Is there any objection to that motion? No objection. A suitable message will be sent.

Thank you, Senator Hayward.

[Motion carried: The Employment (Protection Disclosure) Order 2019 was approved.]

MOTIONS

The President: There are none.

CONGRATULATORY AND/OR OBITUARY SPEECHES

The President: Would any Senator care to speak? Yes?

Senator Kathy Lynn Simmons, you have the floor.

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Thank you, Madam President.

I would like to acknowledge International Women's Day which recently took place and the groups and organisations that have put on events to celebrate women, the accomplishments of women and the aspirations for women as we move forward.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the women in the department of Child and Family Services. And I always pause when I visit them, because it is astounding to think that in 2019, that we have a majority of women, and that we have two staff members who are male, it just boggles the mind. And I would like to acknowledge their hard work with the children. Most of them have children, and they leave their families every day to come and service our most vulnerable population. And they are to be acknowledged and commended for their fortitude, and the grace and compassion that they bring to their jobs.

I would also like to acknowledge the women parliamentarians, and I would love to see—and *will* see in the very near future—more of us to bring the balance that is necessary to parliamentary proceedings. And I am tongue-in-cheek somewhat, but not really, and I encourage women, generally, to spend the time necessary to contemplate where we are and where we need to go as a demographic that can add so much value to our country as we move forward.

Thank you, Madam President.

The President: I would certainly like to support those comments, and to say that there was an absolutely wonderful . . . I don't know if you, those of you who were able to observe, but at the City Hall there was an absolutely wonderful programme that was put on. And I think there were many women who came out, and certainly women who were playing a feature role in Bermuda all spoke. And it was just an excellent pro-

gramme. So, I just iterate and support Madam Attorney General on the comments that she has made.

Would any other Senator care to speak on the motion?

Senator Simmons, Michelle Simmons, you have the floor.

Sen. Michelle Simmons: Good morning, Madam President.

I am following the Attorney General, and I am very happy to do so, because I would like to focus on our girls right now. I had the pleasure of attending the annual Thinking Day Service, hosted, of course, by Girlguiding Bermuda. I had not been to one of those services for quite some time, and I was just absolutely astounded by the enthusiasm of the Rainbows, the Brownies, the Guides and the Rangers, who all seemed so happy to be there and not only attending the Thinking Day Service, but also actively participating.

I believe the community is aware now that Girlguiding Bermuda is celebrating its centenary, one hundred years of service to this community. This year—yes—and their focus is on leadership. So, this ties in quite nicely with what the Attorney General has just said.

I would like to share with the community that Girlguiding Bermuda is still very welcoming of young girls, middle girls and also our older girls. The Rainbows are age 5 to 7, the Brownies 7 to 10, Guides 10 to 14, and Rangers 14 to 25. Yes, I am doing a little ad for Girlguiding Bermuda. If you have girls who have any interest, please get in touch. The Island Commissioner is Mrs. Karen Trott. She is doing a fantastic job, and she is well supported by her leaders.

However, of course, they always need more help, and I am going to share that on the back of the programme from the church service, they had a little ad. *How can you have an impact on Girlguiding Bermuda? Make a change. Make a difference. Be an influence. Volunteer today.* So, they are looking for more leaders who will be in leadership positions with our young girls and they do have a website. It is www.girlguiding.bm and there is a phone number 292-0675. If *anyone* in the community is interested in helping Girlguiding Bermuda, here is your opportunity. And remember, please get your girls involved. It is a very healthy, wholesome activity and I am very proud to say I am a former Brownie and Girlguide. Did not get to the Rangers. I had other things on at that time. Thank you, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Senator Michelle Simmons.

Would any other Senator care to speak on the motion to adjourn [*sic*]? Senator Kempe, you have the floor.

Sen. Nicholas Kempe: Congrats and obits. Thank you, Madam President.

The President: Sorry! Where am I? Oh. On the motion. Sorry . . . Congratulatory. I am trying to hasten things along, and I should not be doing that.

You have the floor.

Sen. Nicholas Kempe: So, I guess slightly off topic but following on International Women's Day and in the spirit of the tongue-in-cheek: International Pi Day on 3/14/[2019].

I would like to just congratulate all the youth that get involved in extracurricular activities that expand upon and help foster a sense of numeracy. We see in the paper things from the stock market challenges to small business camps, and I know that YEI (Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative) is getting into the schools which is a great thing, to card counting, and this kind of thing. So, I would just like to congratulate those youth that use their free time to help develop their numeracy skills. It is certainly useful in life.

The President: Thank you, senator Kempe.

Would any other Senator care to speak on congratulatory and/or obituary speeches?

Senator Caesar, you have the floor.

Sen. Crystal Caesar: Thank you, Madam President. On a slightly sadder note, I would like to express my condolences, and I am sure the entire Senate would like to as well, to the former Member of Parliament and former party leader of the PLP. His father passed recently, Mr. Allen Leroy Bean. I would like to express my heartfelt condolences to his brothers, sisters and numerous other relatives who are remaining and I would like, if it pleases Madam President to associate the Senate.

Thank you.

The President: Thank you, Senator Caesar.

Would any other Senator care to speak? Senator Hayward, you have the floor.

Sen. Jason Hayward: Madam President, I would like to congratulate Lamont Marshall who is now the Bermuda 15K record holder. He recently broke Mike Watson's 33-year-old national record. Lamont now holds Bermuda's 5K record, the 10K record and the 15K record. He is also the reigning Bermuda Day champ. He is doing excellent things, and I believe he is just getting stronger as a runner.

So, I would like to send congratulations to Lamont Marshall.

The President: Thank you, Senator Hayward.

Would any other Senator care to speak? No? Then [we will] move on to the adjournment.

Senator Kathy Lynn Simmons, Attorney General.

ADJOURNMENT

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Thank you, Madam President.

I move that the Senate do now adjourn to . . . I am proposing we adjourn to Monday, March 18 as a departure. But for the purposes of this proceedings, we can discuss it once we finish, yes?

The President: There is a motion on the floor, Senators, that the Senate adjourn and meet on Monday the 18th to do the general debate.

[Crosstalk]

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: We can do it all together.

The President: It has been suggested by the Attorney General that we do it all together. Is there any . . . as opposed to the 20th?

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Mm-hmm.

An Hon. Member: So, we will not meet on the 20th?

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: We can meet on the 20th since the House will have finished its business by then and then we can take up—

The President: We can meet on the 20th. So, the suggestion is that we meet on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of next week and finish everything. Is that my understanding?

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Yes.

The Clerk: So, the Bills on Monday will be the ones that have been laid today for first reading?

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Absolutely.

The President: As well as the general budget debate. Is there any objection to this motion?

An Hon. Member: Are we changing the date of the Committee heads debate, or are we just adding another date for . . . ?

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: We are preparing to meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday of next week and will allot the business that comes down accordingly for those days. And when we get the heads, we will start those on Wednesday, because the House finishes on Friday.

An Hon. Member: As opposed to Friday. Right now there is just a question of meeting on Monday the 18th?

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Mm-hmm. Yes.

The President: All right, is there any objection to the Senate meeting on Monday?
No objection.

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Thank you.

The President: So, the Senate stands adjourned until Monday.

An Hon. Member: We got the motion to adjourn now, then?

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: I move that we adjourn until Monday, March 18th.

An Hon. Member: Yes, that is already done. Please just move to adjourn now.

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: Move to adjourn Senate.

The President: Any objection to move to adjourn now and would any Senator want to speak on the motion to adjourn?

No one?

Then, that is it Senators. The Senate stands adjourned until Monday the 18th of March. Thank you, Senators.

[At 11:09 am, the Senate stood adjourned until 10:00 am, Monday, 18 March 2019.]

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