



**2018/19 SESSION
of the
BERMUDA SENATE
OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT**

6 November 2019

*Sitting number 23 of the 2018/19 Session
(pages 675–680)*

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

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BERMUDA SENATE**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT
6 NOVEMBER 2019
10:03 AM***Sitting Number 23 of the 2018/19 Session*

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

The President: Good morning, Senators.
The Senate is in session.
Shall we pray?

PRAYERS

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

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

[Minutes of 30 September and 2 October 2019]

The President: The Minutes of the 30th of September and the 2nd of October 2019.

Sen. James S. Jardine: Madam President, good morning.

The President: Senator Jardine, you have the floor.

Sen. James S. Jardine: Madam President, I move that the Minutes of the [meetings of Monday, the 30th of September 2019](#), and [Wednesday, the 2nd of October 2019](#), be taken as read.

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

Sen. James S. Jardine: Madam President.
Madam President, I move that the Minutes of Monday, the 30th of September 2019, and Wednesday, the 2nd of October 2019, be confirmed as correct records of those meetings.

The President: Is there any objection to that motion?
No objection.
The Minutes of those meetings are confirmed.
Thank you, Senator Jardine.

[Minutes of 30 September 2019 and 2 October 2019 confirmed]

MESSAGES

The Clerk: No messages, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Clerk.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The President: There are none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sen Vance Campbell: Madam President.

The President: Senator Campbell, you have the floor.

**PENSION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT
COVERING THE YEARS 2011 TO 2017**

Sen Vance Campbell: Thank you, Madam President.
Madam President, I hereby present for the information of Senate the Pension Commission Annual Report covering the years 2011 to 2017, as produced by the Pension Commission.
Thank you, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Senator Campbell.
The Bermuda Health Council Annual Report.
Senator Richardson, you have the floor.

Sen. Anthony Richardson: Good morning, Madam President.

The President: Good morning.

**BERMUDA HEALTH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST, 2019**

Sen. Anthony Richardson: And the listening audience.

Madam President, I hereby present for the information of Senate the Annual Report of the Bermuda Health Council for the year ended March 31st, 2019. And the notation is that e-copies of the report will be forwarded to Senators for our information.

The President: Thank you, Senator Richardson.
The third item is the Chartered Professional Accountants of Bermuda Amendment By-Laws 2019.
Senator Richardson.

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS OF BERMUDA AMENDMENT BY-LAWS 2019

Sen. Anthony Richardson: Again, Madam President.

I hereby present for the information of Senate the Chartered Professional Accountants of Bermuda Amendment By-Laws 2019, as made by the CPA [Chartered Professional Accountants] Bermuda under the provisions of section 7 of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Bermuda Act 1973.

And again, Madam President, e-copies of the report will be forwarded to the Senators.

The President: Thank you, Senator Richardson.

Sen. Anthony Richardson: Thank you.

NOTICES OF MOTION

The President: There are none.

PETITIONS

BERMUDA CREDIT UNION CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

The President: Senator Campbell, you have the floor.

Sen Vance Campbell: Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, I hereby present the following petition:

The Petition of Messrs Cecil Durham and Clarence Smith, members of the Board of Directors of the Bermuda Credit Union Co-Operative Society, a co-operative registered under the previous name of the BIU Members Credit Union Co-Operative Society, requesting the enactment of a change of name for the organisation as formally agreed by resolution on the 12th of September 2017 and as more particularly set out in the Private Bill entitled the Bermuda Credit Union Co-Operative Society Amendment Act 2019, which accompanies the Petition.

Madam President, I move that the said Petition be referred to the Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on Private Bills for consideration and report.

Thank you.

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

Sen Vance Campbell: Thank you, Madam President.

STATEMENTS

The President: There are none.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The President: There are none.

FIRST READING OF PUBLIC BILLS

GOVERNMENT LOANS AMENDMENT (NO. 2) ACT 2019

CASINO GAMING (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT ACT 2019

INCORPORATED SEGREGATED ACCOUNTS COMPANIES ACT 2019

MISUSE OF DRUGS (HEMP) AMENDMENT ACT 2019

The President: The following Public Bills have been received from the Honourable House of Assembly and are read for the first time. Their titles are, respectively,

- Government Loans Amendment (No. 2) Act 2019;
- Casino Gaming (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 2019;
- Incorporated Segregated Accounts Companies Act 2019; and
- Misuse of Drugs (Hemp) Amendment Act 2019.

FIRST READING OF PRIVATE BILLS

The President: There are none.

QUESTION PERIOD

The President: There are none.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The President: We have no Orders of the Day today. The Bills will be taken up at the next sitting.

MOTIONS

The President: There are none.

CONGRATULATORY AND/OR OBITUARY SPEECHES

The President: Would any Senator care to speak on this?

Senator Kempe, you have the floor.

Sen. Nicholas Kempe: Thank you, Madam President, and obviously we have two of our former Members not present today due to their extracurricular ac-

tivities that have now been put forward for us. But I did want to congratulate Senator Robinson, while he is still technically a Senator, on his recent marriage. Thank you.

The President: Thank you, Senator Kempe.
Would any other Senator care to speak?
Senator Jones, you have the floor.

Sen. Marcus Jones: Thank you, Madam President. Good morning to my fellow colleagues. Good morning to the listening audience.

I would just like to extend congratulations to the CedarBridge Academy. I was most delighted to attend their special event where they crowned their Mr. and Miss CedarBridge Academy. There were 15 senior students who displayed their talents in dance, in singing, in poems, in rap. There was a large turnout. And truly, Bermuda has much to be proud of, in its young people at this age who had the wherewithal and the boldness to stand and perform. They also dressed in evening wear and career attire. It was a great, great evening. And I would just like to specifically extend congratulations to our Mr. CedarBridge Academy, who was Rayquon Woodley-Smith; and Miss CedarBridge Academy, who was Tamia Place.

Secondly, I would like to also extend congratulations to my former alma mater, the West End Primary School, which this week is celebrating their 150th anniversary. There have been ongoing events this week. They started off with a service in church on Sunday, and then they had their special assembly yesterday.

Many of the graduates of West End Primary School are former Members of Parliament and present Members of Parliament. In fact, the Minister of Finance, Curtis Dickinson, is alumni, as well as myself. We were in the same class together, as a matter of fact. Mr. Randolph Horton, former Speaker of the House; Mr. Walter Lister; Mr. Ed Bailey . . . the names go on and on. I am so proud and happy about my former school, and 150 years is not something to sniff at. So, congratulations to Ms. Trina Cariah and her staff there at the West End Primary School.

Thank you, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Senator Jones.
Would any other Senator care to speak?
Senator Michelle Simmons, you have the floor.

Sen Michelle Simmons: Good morning, Madam President.

The President: Good morning to you.

Sen Michelle Simmons: On a sad note, I would like to ask for condolences to be sent to the family of the late Rev. Dr. Charles A. Swan. I had the pleasure of

teaching with Rev. Swan many years ago. And he decided that his true calling was, in fact, in the Christian ministry. He has been affiliated with the United Church of Canada for many, many years and, in fact, has resided in Toronto, Canada, for quite a number of years.

During one period back in Bermuda, he was the resident pastor—I do not know if that is their description, but it is mine—of Grace Methodist Church on North Shore Road. And it is there that there will be a memorial service in memory of Rev. Swan tomorrow. But in the meantime, I would like to ask for condolences to be extended to all of his siblings, to Dawson, Gerald, Greta, Marion, Esther and Valerie, on his passing.

Thank you.

The President: Thank you, Senator Michelle Simmons.
Senator Jardine, you have the floor.

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

Madam President, this may be a somewhat unusual congratulatory set of remarks. But I would certainly like to send congratulations to all those who were involved in organising the series of events to celebrate the arrival of the first Portuguese in Bermuda.

I had the pleasure of attending one of those events on Saturday, and it was extremely well organised, well put on. There was a good cross section of people there from the Portuguese community and from the Bermuda community. And there was an exchange of gifts between the Premier and the President of the Azores, some very good speeches and a very good feeling amongst all those who attended. I did not get a chance to attend the event on Reid Street, but I hear it was a roaring success. And I just wanted to acknowledge that event and to thank all those who worked very hard to make the visit a great success.

Thank you very much, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Senator Jardine.
Would any other Senator care to speak?
No.

Then I would like to have congratulations extended to the Bermuda Tourism Authority, Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences (BIOS), and the Bermuda Championship, PGA [Tour], for hosting the first Bermuda Climate Risk Forum, on October the 30th, at the Hamilton Princess, which I was able to attend. The forum had attracted 150 delegates from around the world and included Mr. Michael Bloomberg, who is a global leader on climate change and who engaged in a keynote conversation with our Premier, David Burt.

Mr. Bloomberg spoke on a number of issues related to climate change, and he highlighted the fact

that it is getting worse and that people must pay attention to this reality. He also spoke to the importance of reducing carbon emissions and highlighted the role Bermuda can play in this regard because of the direct impact the Island experiences from the storms and the fact that the Island is home to a global insurance industry and because of the good science research that is carried out here.

The presentation was followed by two expert panel discussions on climate risk and its effect on small islands, and the science and the business of risk and resilience. And these were very informative.

I share this because it was a very, very interesting forum, and I am hoping that it was taped and that it can be shared with others because I think there was a tremendous amount of information. And as we all watch the news and we see what is happening worldwide with regard to climate change, I think that it is important that people do take it on board and really understand, and also appreciate the role that Bermuda plays in this arena.

And on the side of condolences, I would like for the Senate to send condolences to the family of Ms. Tamra Suzette Broadley, who was funeralised on October the 20th at the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Tamra was a highly qualified nurse who worked at the hospital.

And sadly, there was an incident in which she was involved in an accident. But when she was funeralised, all the nurses at the hospital turned out and formed an honour guard. And I thought that really was a real tribute to her. And so, I think condolences should be sent to the family.

Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

The President: We are going so quickly here.

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

The President: Yes.

Sen. the Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons: I move that Senate do now adjourn until Wednesday, November 13th.

The President: Wednesday, November the 13th?

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

The President: Thank you, Madam AG. That is next week.

Would any Senator care to speak on the motion to adjourn?

Senate Kempe, you have the floor.

GOVERNMENT'S ABUSE OF POLITICAL CAPITAL AND TAXPAYER FUNDS

Sen. Nicholas Kempe: Thank you, Madam President.

I have written, I believe, a couple of times on some of my concerns about the increase in spending from this Government's first fiscal year into the subsequent years on the various lines of state-funded communication.

And I think if people check their mailboxes, they will notice what seems to be a thinly veiled political communication that has been funded by the taxpayer, sent out to everyone. It is called "Two Years Working for the People." The timing is curious, seeing as two years of the election was back in July. This has conveniently arrived in everyone's mailboxes in the time of the bye-election.

And I just think that this is the type of kind of wanton misuse of taxpayer funds, to service a party as opposed to the government and the country as a whole, that people should be mindful of and should be asking the Government to do better on.

You add that to the recent, we will call it for lack of a better word, 'Throne Speech' that was diverted into the delegates' conference, which was extremely toxic and divisive in nature. It seemed to walk entirely away from any sort of a record. FinTech was barely a mention. And it felt like we were . . . in the lack of results, there has been this definitely stronger push, a ramping up of the rhetoric to divide and therefore divert and deflect the attention away from the lack of results.

All dissenters or contrary voices to the master plan and those who did not absolutely assent to the wishes of our glorious Leader were deemed enemies. And this is certainly a turn for the worst that concerns me. And I am hoping we can see a shift towards a more accountable use of political capital and taxpayer funds.

The President: Thank you, Senator Kempe.

Would any other Senator care to speak on the motion to adjourn?

Senator Kathy Lynn Simmons, Attorney General, you have the floor.

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

Before we close today, I listened with great interest to the remarks of Senator Kempe. To sit here in this Chamber and pretend that the Government has had no results, I would ask him, as I do, to go back and check his facts.

We all sit in this Chamber, and we have passed a multitude of legislative initiatives that speak to the Government's work on behalf of the people of Bermuda. So, before we add to or create our own rhetoric or narrative that does nothing to advance us

as a country, I would caution and advise the Member to take more care.

Thank you, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Senator Kathy Lynn Simmons.

Would any other Senator care to speak on the motion to adjourn?

Senators, we have completed the business of the Senate today. The Senate stands adjourned to next week, the 13th of November.

Thank you.

[At 10:22 am, the Senate adjourned until 10:00 am Wednesday, 13 November 2019.]

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