

BERMUDA
PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE
SESSION OF 2025 - 2026

No. 13

MONDAY, 29th SEPTEMBER 2025

PRESENT:

Senator the Hon. Mrs. J.E. DILLAS-WRIGHT,
M.B.E., J.P. - PRESIDENT
Senator Ms. T.O.P. TANNOCK
Senator the Hon. K.R. WILKERSON, J.P.
Senator the Hon. C.C. CAESAR, J.P.
Senator Ms. L.K. SIMMONS
Senator M.G. FUBLER
Senator Ms. L.F. BELL
Senator Ms. V.J. CUNNINGHAM
Senator D.E. SMITH
Senator T.J.D. SMITH

ABSENT:

Senator R.J. WIGHT – VICE PRESIDENT

10:02a.m.

On the motion of Senator T.O.P. Tannock, the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, 17th September 2025 were taken as read and confirmed.

Announcements

10:02a.m.

Madam President announced that Senator R.J. Wight will be absent from today's sitting.

10:02a.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson presented for the information of Senate the "2024 Treatment of Offenders Board (TOOB) Annual Report";

The "2023 Treatment of Offenders Board (TOOB) Annual Report";

The "2022 Treatment of Offenders Board (TOOB) Annual Report";

The "2024 The Parole Board Annual Report";

The "2023 The Parole Board Annual Report"; and

The "2022 The Parole Board Annual Report".

10:04a.m.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar presented for the information of Senate the "Banks and Deposit Companies (Over-The-Limit Fees and Unauthorized Overdraft Fees) Regulations 2025" as made by the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 60 of the Banks and Deposit Companies Act 1999 and acting on the advice of the Bermuda Monetary Authority.

10:04a.m.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar presented for the information of Senate the "Trusts (Regulation of Trust Business) Exemption Amendment Order 2025" as made by the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 10(2) of the Trusts (Regulation of Trust Business) Act 2001 and acting on the advice of the Bermuda Monetary Authority.

10:05a.m.

Senator L.F. Bell presented for the information of Senate the "Work Permit Policy".

Notices of Motions

10:06a.m.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar presented for the consideration of Senate the "National Pension Scheme (Occupational Pensions) (Administration Fees) Regulations 2025" proposed to be made by the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 69(1)(jb) and (q) of the National Pension Scheme (Occupational Pensions) Act 1998 and after consultation with the Pension Commission; and gave notice that at a later point in the meeting she would move that the said draft Regulations be approved.

10:07a.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler presented for the consideration of Senate the "Tourism Investment

(Navigate Drone Light Shows) Order 2025” proposed to be made by the Minister responsible for tourism, with the written agreement of the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 5 of the Tourism Investment Act 2017; and gave notice that at a later point in the meeting he would move that the said draft Order be approved.

10:07a.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler presented for the consideration of Senate the “Tourism Investment (Odyssey Commercial Charter Yacht) Order 2025” proposed to be made by the Minister responsible for tourism, with the written agreement of the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 5 of the Tourism Investment Act 2017; and gave notice that at a later point in the meeting he would move that the said draft Order be approved.

Ministerial Statements

10:08a.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson, as Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, made a Ministerial Statement entitled “The State of Corrections”.

10:41a.m.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar, as Minister of Education, made a Ministerial Statement entitled “Bermuda Public School System (BPSS) Stabilization and Transformation Update 2025”.

10:50a.m.

Senator L.K. Simmons, as Junior Minister of National Security, made a Ministerial Statement entitled “Royal Bermuda Regiment – 60th Anniversary”.

10:57a.m.

Senator L.K. Simmons, as Junior Minister of National Security, made a Ministerial Statement entitled “Update on Policing Operations and Community Safety”.

11:05a.m.

Senator L.F. Bell, as Junior Minister of Economy and Labour, made a Ministerial Statement entitled “Work Permit Policy 2025”.

Introduction of Bills

11:19a.m.

The following Public Bills were brought up from the Honourable House of Assembly, and given their First Reading in the Senate:-

The “Public Service Superannuation (PSSF Stabilization) Amendment Act 2025”;

The “National Pension Scheme (Occupational Pensions) Amendment Act 2025”;

The “Road Traffic Amendment and Validation Act 2025”;

The “Tourism Investment Amendment Act 2025”;

“The Loren (Pink Beach and Elbow Beach) Act 2025”;

The “Benefit Entities Act 2025”; and

The “Trustee Amendment Act 2025”.

Question Period

11:20a.m.

Senator the Hon. Kim R. Wilkerson, Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, provided Oral Response to a Parliamentary Question by Senator Victoria J. Cunningham.

*1. In the November 2024 Throne Speech, the Government indicated its intent to enlarge the jury pool through amendments to the Jurors Act 1971. Will the Honourable Minister please advise the Senate whether the Government has considered broadening jury-service eligibility beyond Bermudian status holders, to include spouses of Bermudians, Permanent Residents Certificate holders, BOTC status holders or guest workers who ordinarily reside in Bermuda, and if not, could the Minister please explain why these categories of residents were excluded?

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a supplementary question.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a second supplementary question.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

Senator the Hon. Crystal C. Caesar, Minister of Education, provided Oral Response to Parliamentary Questions by Senator Victoria J. Cunningham.

*1. In light of the recent rise in community violence across the island, will the Honourable Minister please advise the Senate what measures are currently in place to ensure the safety and security of students and staff at our public high schools, and what further steps are being planned?

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar replied.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a supplementary question.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar replied.

Senator Mischa G. Fubler, Junior Minister of Public Works and Environment, provided Oral Response to a Parliamentary Question by Senator Victoria J. Cunningham.

*1. Will the Junior Minister please advise what immediate steps will be taken on the Flatts Railway Trail bridge to address concerns raised by local residents, such as, lack of maintenance and oversight of the site, construction materials left abandoned, environmental degradation caused by the stalled works, security risks, such as trespassing on a derelict structure and people climbing onto the incomplete bridge, and graffiti and other such signs of neglect?

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a supplementary question.

Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

Senator Mischa G. Fubler, Junior Minister of Public Works and Environment, provided Oral Response to Parliamentary Questions by Senator Dion E. Smith.

*1. Will the Junior Minister please advise the Senate when the Ministry intends to conduct scheduled hedging and vegetation management along the roads in Warwick to ensure the safety of motorists, cyclists and pedestrians?

*2. Will the Junior Minister please provide the Senate with a schedule of proposed repaving or resurfacing works on Warwick roads particularly the main thoroughfares and heavily trafficked side roads, and which ones are proposed as priority?

*3. Will the Junior Minister please advise whether the Ministry has plans to install additional road safety measures in Warwick, such as, speed bumps in accident-prone and residential areas, street lighting in poorly illuminated zones, reflective road studs or “cat’s eyes” to improve nighttime driving safety, and upgrades to drainage to reduce flooding hazards.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a question to Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson on her Ministerial Statement entitled “The State of Corrections”.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a supplementary question.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a second question.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a supplementary question.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a third question.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

11:48a.m.

Madam President acknowledged the presence of Mr. Peter Sousa, CEO of the Pension Commission and Ms. Dionne Morrison-Shakir, Accountant General, in the Chamber.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a question to Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar on her Ministerial Statement entitled “Bermuda Public School System (BPSS) Stabilization and Transformation Update 2025”.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar replied.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a second question.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar replied.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a supplementary question.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar replied.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a third question.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar replied.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a supplementary question.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar replied.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a question to Senator L.K. Simmons on her Ministerial Statement entitled “Update on Policing Operations and Community Safety”.

Senator L.K. Simmons replied.

Senator D.E. Smith asked a question to Senator L.F. Bell on her Ministerial Statement entitled “Work Permit Policy 2025”.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a question.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a supplementary question.

Senator L.K. Simmons replied.

Senator L.F. Bell replied.

Senator L.K. Simmons replied.

Senator L.F. Bell replied.

12:10p.m.

Madam President acknowledged the presence of Ms. Malika Cartwright, Director of Work Force Development, in the Chamber and Senator L.K. Simmons wished Ms. Cartwright a happy birthday.

Orders of the Day

12:11p.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the provisions of Standing Order 25 be granted so that Senate may now proceed with the Second Reading of the Public Bills entitled the “Public Service Superannuation (PSSF Stabilization) Amendment Act 2025”;

The “National Pension Scheme (Occupational Pensions) Amendment Act 2025”;

The “Road Traffic Amendment and Validation Act 2025”;

The “Tourism Investment Amendment Act 2025”;

“The Loren (Pink Beach and Elbow Beach) Act 2025”;

The “Benefit Entities Act 2025”; and

The “Trustee Amendment Act 2025”

-- which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the provisions of Standing Order 71(2) be suspended so that Senate may now proceed with consideration of the “National Pension Scheme (Occupational Pensions) (Administration Fees) Regulations 2025”;

The “Tourism Investment (Navigate Drone Light Shows) Order 2025”; and

The “Tourism Investment (Odyssey Commercial Charter Yacht) Order 2025”

-- which was agreed to.

12:14p.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Public Service

Superannuation (PSSF Stabilization) Amendment Act 2025” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson spoke on the Bill.

12:32p.m.

Madam President acknowledged the presence of Mr. Michael Scott, former MP and Attorney-General, in the Public Gallery.

12:32p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

12:36p.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Bill entitled the “Public Service Superannuation (PSSF Stabilization) Amendment Act 2025” do now pass, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly passed and ordered to be laid before His Excellency the Governor for His Excellency’s assent.

12:43p.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that Senate do now adjourn for lunch and resume at 2:30p.m., which was agreed to.

2:31p.m.

Senate resumed.

2:31p.m.

Madam President informed Senators that due to time sensitivity requiring passage of the two Tourism related Bills under the Orders of the Day,

Senate will proceed immediately with Items 4 and 5 before taking up the other Orders, which was agreed to.

2:32p.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Tourism Investment Amendment Act 2025” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator Fubler spoke on the Bill.

2:36p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

2:38p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

2:40p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

2:41p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

2:42p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

2:42p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

2:43p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

2:44p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the Bill entitled the “Tourism Investment Amendment Act 2025” do now pass, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly passed and ordered to be laid before His Excellency the Governor for His Excellency’s assent.

2:47p.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the Public Bill entitled “The Loren (Pink Beach and Elbow Beach) Act 2025” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator Fubler spoke on the Bill.

2:53p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

2:55p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

2:56p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

2:57p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

2:57p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

2:58p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

2:58p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

2:59p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

2:59p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

3:00p.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson

3:01p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

3:03p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

3:03p.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson

3:04p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

3:04p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the Bill do now pass, which was objected to.

The passage of the Bill was affirmed on Division with a vote of 6 Ayes to 4 Nays.

AYES: Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson, Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar, Senator L.K. Simmons, Senator M.G. Fubler, Senator L.F. Bell and Senator the Hon. The President.

NAYS: Senator V.J. Cunningham, Senator D.E. Smith, Senator T.J.D. Smith and Senator T.O.P. Tannock.

The Bill was accordingly passed and ordered to be laid before His Excellency the Governor for His Excellency's assent.

3:07p.m.

Senator C.C. Caesar moved that the Public Bill entitled the "National Pension Scheme (Occupational Pensions) Amendment Act 2025" be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

3:13p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

3:15p.m. – Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar moved that the Bill entitled the "National Pension Scheme (Occupational Pensions) Amendment Act 2025" do now pass, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly passed and ordered to be laid before His Excellency the Governor for His Excellency's assent.

3:17p.m.

Senator L.K. Simmons moved that the Public Bill entitled the "Road Traffic Amendment and Validation Act 2025" be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator Simmons spoke on the Bill.

3:20p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

3:21p.m. – Senator L.K. Simmons replied.

3:22p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

3:23p.m. – Senator L.K. Simmons replied.

3:22p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

3:24p.m. – Senator L.K. Simmons replied.

3:25p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

3:25p.m. – Senator L.K. Simmons replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator L.K. Simmons moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator L.K. Simmons moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator L.K. Simmons moved that the Bill entitled the “Road Traffic Amendment and Validation Act 2025” do now pass, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly passed and ordered to be laid before His Excellency the Governor for His Excellency’s assent.

3:28p.m.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Benefit Entities Act 2025” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator Bell spoke on the Bill.

3:36p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

3:37p.m. – Senator L.F. Bell replied.

3:37p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

3:39p.m. – Senator L.F. Bell replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that the Bill entitled the “Benefit Entities Act 2025” do now pass, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly passed and ordered to be laid before His Excellency the Governor for His Excellency’s assent.

3:44p.m.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Trustee Amendment Act 2025” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator Bell spoke on the Bill.

3:52p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

3:53p.m. – Senator L.F. Bell replied.

3:54p.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson

3:55p.m. – Senator L.F. Bell replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that the Bill entitled the “Trustee Amendment Act 2025” do now pass, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly passed and ordered to be laid before His Excellency the Governor for His Excellency’s assent.

3:57p.m.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar moved that Senate do now take under consideration the “National Pension Scheme (Occupational Pensions) (Administration Fees) Regulations 2025” proposed to be made by the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 69(1)(jb) and (q) of the National Pension Scheme (Occupational

Pensions) Act 1998 and after consultation with the Pension Commission, which was agreed to.

4:07p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

4:11p.m. – Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar replied.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar moved that the said draft Regulations be approved and that the following Message be sent to His Excellency the Governor:-

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The Senate, having had under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the “National Pension Scheme (Occupational Pensions) (Administration Fees) Regulations 2025” proposed to be made by the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 69(1)(jb) and (q) of the National Pension Scheme (Occupational Pensions) Act 1998 and after consultation with the Pension Commission, has the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Senate has approved the said draft Regulations.”

-- which was agreed to and ordered accordingly.

4:15p.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that Senate do now take under consideration the “Tourism Investment (Navigate Drone Light Shows) Order 2025” proposed to be made by the Minister responsible for tourism, with the written agreement of the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 5 of the Tourism Investment Act 2017, which was agreed to.

4:18p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

4:20p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

4:20p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

4:20p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the said draft Order be approved and that the following Message be sent to His Excellency the Governor:-

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The Senate, having had under consideration the draft Order entitled the “Tourism

Investment (Navigate Drone Light Shows) Order 2025” proposed to be made by the Minister responsible for tourism, with the written agreement of the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 5 of the Tourism Investment Act 2017, has the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Senate has approved the said draft Order.”

-- which was agreed to and ordered accordingly.

4:21p.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that Senate do now take under consideration the “Tourism Investment (Odyssey Commercial Charter Yacht) Order 2025” proposed to be made by the Minister responsible for tourism, with the written agreement of the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 5 of the Tourism Investment Act 2017, which was agreed to.

4:25p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

4:26p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the said draft Order be approved and that the following Message be sent to His Excellency the Governor:-

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The Senate, having had under consideration the draft Order entitled the “Tourism Investment (Odyssey Commercial Charter Yacht) Order 2025” proposed to be made by the Minister responsible for tourism, with the written agreement of the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 5 of the Tourism Investment Act 2017, has the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Senate has approved the said draft Order.”

-- which was agreed to and ordered accordingly.

Congratulations and/or Obituary Speeches

4:27p.m.

Senator T.O.P. Tannock offered condolences to the family of the late Mr. Vernon Hassell.

Senator V.J. Cunningham associated herself with the condolences offered to the family

of the late Mr. Vernon Hassell. She also offered condolences to the family of the late Ms. Renee Marie Laurent. She congratulated the Top 10 Employers in Bermuda. Senator Cunningham congratulated Bermuda College for the rollout of the Compliance Academy.

Senator L.K. Simmons associated with the condolences extended to the family of the late Mr. Vernon Hassell. She thanked those in the community who came out to look for Ja'Dore Wilson. Senator Simmons also offered congratulations to the BPSU on their 3rd Women's Conversation and Brunch and thanked the women who spoke at the event.

Senator M.G. Fubler congratulated the MIRRORS Programme on their 17th anniversary and Masterworks. He also congratulated PadsPass.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar congratulated the Berkeley Institute on being in the top 5 of the top 10 Employers in Bermuda.

Senator T.J.D. Smith offered condolences to the family of the late Mr. Wayne "Huckles" Burrows. He also congratulated the young athletes who participated in the Athene football tournament.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson associated with the congratulations offered to Bermuda College. She congratulated Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority on hosting an event that brought in writer and scuba diver Tara Roberts.

4:43p.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that, at its rising, the Senate adjourn to Wednesday, 12th November 2025 – which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Senate do now adjourn – which was agreed to.

4:43p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler
(4:48p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock P.O.O)
(4:48p.m. – Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar P.O.O)

4:51p.m. – Senator L.K. Simmons

5:01p.m. – Madam President

5:02p.m.

Adjourned until Wednesday, 12th November 2025.

PRESIDENT

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Wednesday – 12th November 2025

NIL