

Proceedings
of the
Honourable House of Assembly
Session of 2026-2027

No.25

Friday, 27th February, 2026

Members Present:

His Honour the Speaker | The Hon. Jache A. K. Adams | Dr. Leroy G. W. Bean | The Hon. E. David G. Burt | Mr. Vance M. E. Campbell
The Hon. L. Craig Cannonier | The Hon. Owen K. Darrell | Dr. Douglas S. J. De Couto | The Hon. Zane J. S. DeSilva | Mr. Curtis L.
Dickinson | Rev. Dr. Emily G. A. Dill | The Hon. Michael M. Fahy | Ms. Lovitta F. Foggo | The Hon. Tinée S. Furbert | The Hon. Wayne
L. Furbert | The Hon. Jason P. Hayward | Mr. L. M. Robert King | Mr. Dennis J. R. Lister | Mrs. Renée D. L. Ming | Mr. R. Scott
Pearman | The Hon. Diallo V. S. Rabain | Mr. Jarion C. Richardson | Mr. W. Lawrence Scott | Mr. Jamahl S. Simmons | Mr. Scott
A. Simmons | Mr. Ben A. Smith | Ms. Linda C. Smith | Mr. H. Kim E. Swan | Ms. Robin S. Tucker | Mr. Neville S. Tyrrell | The Hon.
Michael A. Weeks | Mr. Paul G. E. Wilmot | The Hon. Kim N. Wilson

This meeting of the House was held at the House Chamber, 3rd Floor, Veritas Place, 65 Court Street, City of Hamilton.

10:05 a.m.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers

10:07 a.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of 20th February 2026 were confirmed.

Announcements by the Speaker

His Honour the Speaker informed Members of the absence of The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne, Mr. T. C. Famous and Mr. D. V. Robinson from the House of Assembly proceedings.

His Honour the Speaker informed Members that the Premier is expected to be in the House later today, as he is currently in transit to Bermuda.

Papers and Other Communications to the House

10: 08 a.m.

The Hon. J.A. K. Adams, Minister of Public Works and Environment read the following communication to His Honour the Speaker: -

“I have the honour to attach and submit for the information of the Honourable House of Assembly the “Marine Resources Enforcement Strategy 2025”.”

Statements by Ministers and Junior Ministers

10:09 a.m.

Statement entitled “Bermuda Housing Trust- Audited Financial Statements 2024/2025 and Outlook for 2026/2027” was read by the Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva, Deputy Premier and Minister of Housing and Municipalities.

10:20 a.m.

His Honour the Speaker acknowledged the presence of former Senators Marcus Jones and Maurice Foley in the Public Gallery.

Statement entitled “Ministry of Education 2026 Scholarships and Awards Programme” was read by the Hon. T. S. Furbert, Minister of Youth, Social Development and Seniors.

10:27 a.m.

Statement entitled “2024-2025 Annual Report of the Department of Financial Assistance” was read by the Hon. T. S. Furbert, Minister of Youth, Social Development and Seniors.

10:34 a.m.

Statement entitled “Ensuring Fair Competition and Preventing Market Concentration in Bermuda” was read by the Hon. K. N. Wilson, Minister of Health.

10:42 a.m.

Statement entitled “Youth Employment Strategy Update” was read by the Hon. J. P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour.

10:48 a.m.

Statement entitled “Tabling of the Employment Amendment Act 2026” was read by the Hon. J. P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour.

10:52 a.m.

His Honour the Speaker acknowledged the presence of Senator Dion Smith and former Senator and Attorney General, Mr. Phil Perin chief in the Public Gallery.

Statement entitled “Introduction of the Marine Resources Enforcement Strategy” was read by the Hon. J. A. K. Adams, Minister of Public Works and Environment.

11:02 a.m.

Statement entitled “Modernization of the Motor Car Act 1951” was read by the Hon. O. K. Darrell, Minister of Tourism and Transport, Culture and Sport.

11:12 a.m.

Statement entitled “Update on the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) Event in Bermuda” was read by the Hon. O. K. Darrell, Minister of Tourism and Transport, Culture and Sport.

11:21 a.m.

Ms. L. F. Foggo moved that Standing Order 14 be suspended to allow her to present two Petitions in the House, which was agreed to.

Ms. L. F. Foggo moved for leave to introduce the Petition by Appleby (Bermuda) Limited presenting a draft Bill to provide flexibility in certain respects when structuring HODLife Insurance Company Ltd.’s long-term insurance policies, as set out in the Bill entitled the “HODLife Insurance Company Ltd. Act 2026, which accompanies the Petition.

-which was agreed to.

Ms. L. F. Foggo moved for leave to introduce the Petition by Appleby (Bermuda) Limited presenting a draft Bill to provide flexibility in certain respects when structuring Anthea Insurance Limited’s long-term insurance policies, as set out in the Bill entitled the “Anthea Insurance Limited Act 2026, which accompanies the Petition

-which was agreed to.

Question Period**11:23 a.m.**

His Honour the Speaker informed Members that the Parliamentary Questions addressed to the Hon. E. D. G. Burt from Dr. D. S. J. De Couto and Mr. L. M. R. King and the Parliamentary Questions addressed to the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne from the Hon. M. M. Fahy will be deferred as the Ministers are absent.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier

11:25 a.m.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams, Minister of Public Works and Environment, provided Oral Response to Parliamentary Questions from Ms. L. C. Smith:

*1. Will the Honourable Minister please provide this Honourable House with a comprehensive update on the status of the new asphalt plant at the Government Quarry, including the current stage of installation, total capital cost to date, and whether commissioning has commenced?

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams provided an Oral Response.

*2. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House when is it anticipated that the new plant at the Government Quarry will begin production?

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams provided an Oral Response.

Ms. L. C. Smith asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams replied.

Ms. L. C. Smith asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams replied.

*3. Will the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House what increase in road paving output does the Ministry expect as a result of the new asphalt plant becoming operational, including the measurable improvements to Bermuda’s road infrastructure that the public can expect within the first 12 months of operation?

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams provided an Oral Response.

11:30 a.m.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked the Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “Bermuda Housing Trust- Audited Financial Statements 2024/2025 and Outlook for 2026/2027”.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a second question.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a third question.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

11:34 a.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier asked the Hon. K. N. Wilson a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “Ensuring Fair Competition and Preventing Market Concentration in Bermuda”.

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier asked a supplementary question

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier asked a second question

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier asked a supplementary question

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

11:40 a.m.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked the Hon. J. P. Hayward a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “Youth Employment Strategy Update”.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

11:47 a.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked the Hon. O. K. Darrell a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “Modernization of the Motor Car Act 1951”.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked a second question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy (PoO)

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked a third question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

Congratulatory and Obituary Speeches

(Please refer to the House Hansard)

12:00 p.m.- Mr. D. J. R. Lister

12:03 p.m.- The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain

12:05 p.m.- The Hon. T. S. Furbert

12:08 p.m.- Mr. H. K. E. Swan

12:11 p.m.- The Hon. B. A. Smith

12:12 p.m.- Rev. Dr. E. G. A. Dill

12:15 p.m.- Dr. D. S. J. De Couto

12:17 p.m.- Mr. J. S. Simmons

12:19 p.m.- Ms. L. F. Foggo

12:23 p.m.- The Hon. M. A. Weeks

12:26 p.m.- The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva

12:29 p.m.- Mr. Neville S. Tyrrell

12:32 p.m.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva moved that the House do now adjourn for lunch, which was agreed to.

The House adjourned for lunch.

2:01 p.m.

The House resumed.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

Introduction of Bills

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva read for the first time by its title a Bill entitled the “Municipalities Reform Act 2026”.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell read for the first time by its title a Bill entitled the “Motor Car (Ridesharing) Amendment Act 2026”.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward read for the first time by its title a Bill entitled the “Employment Amendment Act 2026”.

Orders of the Day

2:03 p.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert moved that the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Year 2026/2027 be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to.

2:04 p.m.

Dr. D. J. S. De Couto, Shadow Minister of Finance, presented the Opposition Reply to the Budget Statement presented by the Hon. E. D. G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance.

3:27 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker called on the Hon. J. P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour as the first Government speaker on the General Economic Debate on the 2026/2027 Budget Statement.

3:41 p.m.- Mr. J. C. Richardson (PoO)

The Hon. J. P. Hayward

4:28 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker acknowledged the presence of Senator Lindsay Simmons, Senator Tarik Smith and former Senators, Arianna Hodgson and Marcus Jones in the Public Gallery.

4:29 p.m.- Mr. J. C. Richardson

4:58 p.m.- J. S. Simmons

5:06 p.m.-Mr. R. S. Pearman (PoO)

5:12 p.m.-The Hon. V. M. E. Campbell

5:40 p.m.-The Hon. K. N. Wilson

5:41 p.m.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair

6:00 p.m.-The Hon. M. M. Fahy

6:05 p.m.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair acknowledged the presence of the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Senator the Hon. Kim R. Wilkerson, in the Public Gallery.

6:11 p.m.-The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva (PoO)

6:28 p.m.-Mr. H. K. E. Swan

6:34 p.m.-Mr. R. S. Pearman (PoO)

6:58 p.m.- The Hon. L. C. Cannonier

7:02 p.m.- The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain (PoO)

7:25 p.m.- Mr. H. K. E. Swan (PoO)

7:28 p.m.- The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain

7:32 p.m.- Dr. D. J. S. De Couto (PoO)

7:33 p.m.- Dr. D. J. S. De Couto (PoO)

7:34 p.m.-Mr. R. S. Pearman (PoO)

7:51 p.m.- The Hon. B. A. Smith

7:52 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

8:21 p.m.-The Hon. J. A. K. Adams

8:49 p.m.-Mr. R. S. Pearman

9:18 p.m.-Mr. C. L. Dickinson

9:31 p.m.-The Hon. T. S. Furbert

9:51 p.m.- Mr. D. J. R. Lister

10:02 p.m.-The Hon. O. K. Darrell

10:22 p.m.-The Hon. M. A. Weeks

10:42 p.m.- Mr. L. M. R. King

10:52 p.m.-The Hon. M. A. Weeks (PoO)

10:56 p.m.- Ms. R. S. Tucker

11:17 p.m.- Mr. N. S. Tyrrell

11:28 p.m.-The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva

11:32 p.m.-Mr. R. S. Pearman (PoO)

11:49 p.m.-The Hon. E. D. G. Burt

11:52 p.m.-Dr. D. S. J. De Couto (PoO)

Saturday, 28th February 2026

12:06 a.m.-Dr. D. S. J. De Couto (PoO)

12:08 a.m.-The Hon. W. L. Furbert

12:16 a.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert, Junior Minister of Finance, moved that the House do now resolve in Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2026/2027, which was agreed to.

The House resolved into Committee of Supply.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

The Hon. W. L. F. Furbert moved Heads 87 (Ministry of Justice Headquarters), 03 (Judicial Department), 04 (Attorney General's Chamber), 25 (Department of Corrections), 74 (Department of Court Services) and 75 (Department of Public Prosecutions).

The Hon. W. L. Furbert moved that the Committee rise, report progress and ask for leave to sit again 2nd March 2026, which was agreed to.

Report of Committee was agreed to.

The Committee rose.

The House resumed.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

The Committee was granted leave to sit again.

12:19 a.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the House, at its rising, adjourn until Monday, 2nd March, 2026 at 10:00 a.m., which was agreed to.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the House do now adjourn, which was agreed to.

The House adjourned.