

Proceedings
of the
Honourable House of Assembly
Session of 2016-2017

No. 15

Friday, 17th March, 2017

Members Present: His Honour the Speaker, Jeanne Atherden, Kenneth L. Bascome, David E. Burt, Derrick V. Burgess, L. Craig Cannonier, Rolfe P. Commssiong, Zane J. S. DeSilva, Michael H. Dunkley, Lovitta F. Foggo, Wayne L. Furbert, Dr. Edmund G. Gibbons, Patricia J. Gordon-Pamplin, Suzann Roberts-Holshouser, Susan E. Jackson, Dennis P. Lister, Trevor G. Moniz, Nandi S. Outerbridge, Everard T. Richards, Sylvan D. Richards, Diallo V.S. Rabain, Walter H. Roban, Ms. Leah K. Scott, Michael J. Scott, R. Wayne E. Scott, W. Lawrence Scott, J.S. Simmons, N.H. Cole Simons, Glenn C. Smith, Jeff Sousa, Neville S. Tyrrell, Kim N. Wilson.

10:06 a.m.

Prayers

Minutes of the 13th and 15th March-deferred

Papers and Communications:

DR. E. G. GIBBONS read the following communication to His Honour the SPEAKER.

TO HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER:-

I have the honour to attach and submit for the consideration of the Honourable House of Assembly the “Casino Gaming (General Reserve and Casino Taxes) Regulations 2017” .

Dr. E.G Gibbons
Minister of Economic Development

Sessions House
17 March 2017

Petitions:

MS. L.F.FOGGO presented the following Petition: The petition of the “The Bermuda Audubon Society Amendment Act 2017” requesting the enactment of a Private Act as set out in the Bill entitled “The Bermuda Audubon Society Amendment Act 2017” .

The Speaker recognized the presence of former Minister Mr. Erwin Adderley in the public gallery.

10:08am

Statements by Ministers and Junior Ministers:

Mr. N.H.C. SIMONS read a Ministerial Statement regarding the “A Strategic Plan for the Bermuda Public School System”.

10:17am

Question Period:

MRS. J.J.ATHERDEN provided oral responses to parliamentary questions from Mr. D.V. Rabain.

MR.D.V. RABAIN asked three supplementary question.

MR. E.D.G. BURT asked a supplementary question.
MR.D.V.S. RABAIN asked a supplementary question.

MS. L.F.FOGGO asked Mr. N.H.C. Simons a question on his Ministerial Statement.

MS. L.F.FOGGO asked a second question.
MS. L.F.FOGGO asked a third question.
MR. W.L. FURBERT asked a supplementary question
MR. W.L. FURBERT asked two supplementary questions.

The Speaker recognized the presence of Mr. Llewelyn Peniston former Senator sitting in the public gallery.

MR. C.W.D. BROWN asked a question.
MR. C.W.D. BROWN asked a two supplementary questions.
MR. C.W.D. BROWN asked a third question.
MR. E.D.G. BURT asked a supplementary question.

MRS.P.J. GORDON-PAMPLIN answered an earlier question asked by Mr. D.V.S. Rabain.
MR.E.D.G.BURT asked a supplementary question.
MR. Z.J. DESILVA asked a supplementary question.

Congratulatory and /or Obituary Speeches:
(Please refer to the House Hansard)

10:59am

Introduction of Bills:

MRS. J.J. ATHERDEN introduced and read for the first time the bill entitled the “Mortgaging of Aircraft and Aircraft Engines Amendment Act 2017”.

11:00am

Orders of the Day

MR. E.T.RICHARDS moved that the House resume in Committee of Supply for further consideration of the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2017/2018, which was agreed to.

MR. C.W.D.BROWN in the Chair.

MR. M.H.DUNKLEY moved consideration of Heads: 83-Ministry of National security HQ;06-Defence; 07-Police; 12-Customs; 13-Post Office; 25-Department of Corrections; 45-Fire Service; and 88-National Drug Control.

12:30pm

MR. M. H. DUNKLEY moved that the House do now adjourn for lunch, which was agreed to.

MR. C.W.D.BROWN in the Chair, ordered that the House do now adjourn for lunch and resume in Committee at 2:00 p.m.

2:00pm

The House resumed in Committee

MRS. S.ROBERTS-HOLSHOUSER in the Chair.

2:01pm-MR. M.H. DUNKLEY continued

3:06pm-MR.W.H. ROBAN

4:01pm-MR. G.C.SMITH in the Chair.

4:40pm-MR. M.H. DUNKLEY

4:50pm-MR. N.S.TYRRELL

4:51pm-MR. S.G. CROCKWELL

4:52pm-MR.W.H.ROBAN

4:57pm-MR. M.H. DUNKLEY

MR. M.H.DUNKLEY moved Heads: 83-Ministry of National security HQ;06-Defence; 07-Police; 12-Customs; 13-Post Office; 25-Department of Corrections; 45-Fire Service; and 88-National Drug

Control, to be approved, as printed which was agreed to.

6:00pm

MR. K.L. BASCOME moved for consideration of the following Head: 48- Tourism.

6:00pm-MR. R.P.COMMISSIONG in the Chair.

6:20pm-MR. J.S. SIMMONS

7:00pm- MR. S.G. CROCKWELL

7:35pm- MR. W.L.FURBERT

7:55pm-DR. E.G. GIBBONS

8:05pm-MR. Z.J. DESILVA

8:20pm-MR. M. PETTINGILL

8:30pm

MR. E. T. RICHARDS moved that the Committee rise, report progress and ask for leave to sit again, which was agreed to.

The Committee rose

The House resumed

The Chair reported progress and asked for leave to sit again, which was agreed to.

Order numbers 2-6 inclusive on the Order Paper were carried over.

8:36pm

On the Motion of MR. E. T. RICHARDS, the Bill entitled the "Payroll Tax Amendment Act 2017" was read a second time.

8:52pm-MR. E.D.G. BURT

9:23pm- MR. W.L.FURBERT

9:39pm- DR. E.G. GIBBONS

9:58pm- MR. Z.J. DESILVA

10:20pm-MR. D.V. BURGESS

10:25pm-MR. M.H. DUNKLEY

10:35pm- MR. E.T. RICHARDS

The Bill was Committed

MS. S.R.HOLSHOUSER in the Chair.

Mr. E.T. Richards moved Clauses 1-17.

11:05pm-MR. E.D.G. BURT

Clauses 1-17 were approved as printed

Mr. E.T. Richards moved an amendment to Clause 18 which reads as follows:

New Clause 18A

After Clause 18, insert the following new clause—

“Transitional provision

18A For the first tax period beginning on the commencement date of this Act (April to June 2017), section 3(1)(c) and (d) of the principal Act (inserted by section 4) shall apply as if for the words “the standard rate bands” there were substituted “6%”.

11:09pm- MR. E.D.G. BURT

11:10pm-MR. E.T. RICHARDS

11:11pm- MR. E.D.G. BURT

11:13pm- MR. E.T. RICHARDS

11:14pm- MR. E.D.G. BURT

Clause 18 was approved as amended, which was agreed to.

Clause 19 was approved as printed, which was agreed to.

The Preamble was agreed to.

The Committee rose

The Chair Reported the Bill to the House as amended, which was agreed to.

DR. E.G. GIBBONS moved that the House do now take under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the “Electronic Communications (Regulatory Authority Fees) Regulations 2017”.

11:22pm- DR. E.G. GIBBONS

11:27pm-MR. M.J. SCOTT

11:28pm- DR. E.G. GIBBONS

DR. E.G. GIBBONS moved that the Regulations be approved and the following Message be sent to His Excellency the Governor:

(No.14)

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY”

The House of Assembly having had under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the “Electronic Communications (Regulatory Authority Fees) Regulations 2017” has the Honour to inform your Excellency that the House has approved the said draft Regulation”.

-which was agreed to.

DR. E.G. GIBBONS moved that the House do now take under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the “Electricity (Regulatory Authority Fees) Regulations 2017”.

11:45pm- MR. M.J. SCOTT

11:48pm-MR.E.D.G. BURT

11:50pm- DR. E.G. GIBBONS

11:55pm- MR. E.D.G. BURT

11:56pm- MR. M.J. SCOTT

11:58pm- DR. E.G. GIBBONS

12:04am-MR. R.P. COMMISSIONG

12:05am- DR. E.G. GIBBONS

12:09am- MR. R.P. COMMISSIONG

12:10am- DR. E.G. GIBBONS

DR. E.G. GIBBONS moved that the Regulations be approved and the following Message be sent to His Excellency the Governor:

(No.13)

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY”

The House of Assembly having had under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the “Electricity (Regulatory Authority Fees) Regulations 2017” has the Honour to inform your Excellency that the House has approved the said draft Regulation”.

-which was agreed to.

DR. E.G. GIBBONS moved that the House do now take under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the “Government Fees Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2017”.

12:18am- MR. E.D.G. BURT

12:20am- DR. E.G. GIBBONS

DR. E.G. GIBBONS moved that the Regulations be approved and the following Message be sent to His Excellency the Governor:

(No.12)

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY”

The House of Assembly having had under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the “Government Fees Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2017” has the Honour to inform your Excellency that the House has approved the said draft Regulation”.

-which was agreed to.

Orders 11 and 12 were carried over.

12:24am

On the Motion of Mr. E. T. Richards, the Bill entitled the “International Cooperation (Tax Information Exchange Agreements) Amendment (No. 3) Act 2017”, was read a second time.

12:26am- MR. E.D.G. BURT

The Bill Committed

MS. S.R.HOLSHOUSER in the Chair.

12:28am

MR. E.T.RICHARDS moved Clauses 1-8 which were agreed to as printed.

The Preamble was agreed to.

The Committee rose

The Chair Reported the Bill to the House as amended, which was agreed to.

12:32am

On the Motion of Mr. E. T. Richards, the Bill entitled the “USA-Bermuda Tax Convention Amendment (No 2) Act 2017” was read a second time.

12:34am- MR. E.D.G. BURT

The Bill Committed

MS. S.R.HOLSHOUSER in the Chair.

12:35am

Mr. E. T. Richards moved Clauses 1 to 6.

12:36am- MR. M.J. SCOTT

Mr. E. T. Richards moved Clauses 1-6 were agreed to, as printed.

The Preamble was agreed to.

The Committee rose

The Chair Reported the Bill to the House as amended, which was agreed to.

Orders number 15 to 19 were carried over.

MR. E.T.RICHARDS moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled the, “Payroll Tax Amendment Act 2017” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of, MR. E.T.RICHARDS moved that the Bill entitled the, “Payroll Tax Amendment Act 2017” was then read the third time and passed.

MR. E.T.RICHARDS moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled the, “International Cooperation (Tax Information Exchange Agreements) Amendment (No. 3) Act 2017” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of, MR. E.T.RICHARDS moved that the Bill entitled the, “International Cooperation (Tax Information Exchange Agreements) Amendment (No. 3) Act 2017” was then read the third time and passed.

MR. E.T.RICHARDS moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled the, “USA-Bermuda Tax Convention

Amendment (No 2) Act 2017” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of, MR. E.T.RICHARDS moved that the Bill entitled the, “USA-Bermuda Tax Convention Amendment (No 2) Act 2017” was then read the third time and passed.

Mr. M.H. Dunkley moved that, at its next rising, the House adjourn to Monday, 20th March 2017, which was agreed to.

12:42am- MR. M. H. DUNKLEY

MR. M. H. DUNKLEY moved that the House do now adjourn, which was agreed to.

12:44am

The House adjourned until Monday 20th March 2017 at 10:00am.