

BERMUDA

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE

SESSION OF 2022 - 2023

No. 6

WEDNESDAY, 22nd MARCH 2023

PRESENT:

- Senator the Hon. Mrs. J.E. DILLAS-WRIGHT,
M.B.E., J.P. - PRESIDENT
- Senator Ms. K.J. BELL, J.P. - VICE PRESIDENT
- Senator R.J. WIGHT
- Senator the Hon. O.K. DARRELL, J.P.
- Senator Ms. A.J.L. HODGSON
- Senator Rev. Dr. E.G.A. DILL
- Senator Ms. L.K. SIMMONS
- Senator Ms. L.L. ROBINSON, J.P.
- Senator B.A. SMITH, J.P.
- Senator Mrs. R.S. TUCKER
- Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCOUTO, J.P.

**[This meeting of Senate was conducted in
the Senate Chamber at Veritas Place.]**

10:02a.m.

On the motion of Senator K.J. Bell, the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, 15th March 2023 were taken as read and confirmed; and consideration of the minutes of the meeting of Monday, 20th March 2023 was deferred.

Ministerial Statement

10:03a.m.

Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell, as Minister of Youth, Culture and Sport, made a Ministerial Statement on "Creative Cultural Labs".

Question Period

10:06a.m.

Senator B.A. Smith asked a question to Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell on his Ministerial Statement entitled "Creative Cultural Labs.

10:09a.m. - Senator R.S. Tucker asked a question.

10:11a.m. - Senator O.K. Darrell replied.

10:16a.m. - Senator B.A. Smith asked a second question.

10:20a.m. - Senator O.K. Darrell replied.

Orders of the Day

10:23a.m.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Senate do now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the "Appropriation Act 2023", together with the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Year 2023/2024 - which was agreed to.

The Senate resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Senator K.J. Bell in the Chair.

10:25a.m.

Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell moved that Head 16 - Ministry of Education Headquarters; Head 17 - Department of Education; and Head 41 - Bermuda College be now considered -- which was agreed to.

Senator Darrell spoke on the Heads.

12:07p.m. - Senator B.A. Smith

12:21p.m. - Senator R.J. Wight

12:25p.m.

Senator K.J. Bell, in the Chair, ordered the Senate do now adjourn for lunch and resume at 2:00p.m.

1:59p.m.

The Senate resumed in Committee of the Whole.

Senator K.J. Bell in the Chair

2:00p.m. - Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell

2:09p.m. - Senator R.J. Wight

2:10p.m. - Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell

2:14p.m. - Senator R.S. Tucker

2:15p.m. - Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell

2:15p.m. - Senator K.J. Bell

2:15p.m. - Senator B.A. Smith

2:16p.m. - Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell

2:16p.m. - Senator B.A. Smith

2:34p.m. - Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

2:36p.m. - Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell

2:59p.m. - Senator B.A. Smith

3:01p.m.

Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell moved that Heads 16, 17 and 41 be approved as printed - which was agreed to.

3:02p.m.

Senator R.J. Wight in the Chair.

Senator L.L. Robinson moved that Head 44 - Ministry of Economy and Labour Headquarters; Head 14 - Department of Statistics and Head 94 - Economic Development be now considered - which was agreed to.

Senator Robinson spoke on the Heads.

5:28p.m. - Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

5:32p.m. - Senator K.J. Bell

5:35p.m. - Senator R.S. Tucker

5:36p.m. - Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

5:38p.m. - Senator L.L. Robinson

5:39p.m. - Senator R.J. Wight

5:39p.m. - Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

5:40p.m. - Senator R.S. Tucker

5:41p.m. - Senator L.L. Robinson

5:42p.m. - Senator K.J. Bell

5:43p.m. - Senator L.L. Robinson

5:46p.m. - Senator K.J. Bell

5:47p.m. - Senator L.L. Robinson

5:52p.m. - Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

5:52p.m. - Senator L.L. Robinson

5:56p.m. - Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

5:56p.m. - Senator L.L. Robinson replied.

6:01p.m.

Senator L.L. Robinson moved that Heads 44, 14 and 94 be approved as printed — which was agreed to.

6:02p.m.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Committee rise, report progress and ask for leave to sit again — which was agreed to.

The Chair reported progress and requested leave for the Committee to sit again for further consideration of the Bill.

The Committee rose and the Senate resumed.

The Committee was accordingly granted leave to sit again.

6:03p.m.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Senate do now take under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the “Government Fees Amendment Regulations 2023” – which was agreed to.

Senator Hodgson spoke on the Regulations.

6:06p.m. - Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

6:07p.m. - Senator A.J.L. Hodgson replied.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the said draft Regulations be approved, and that the following message be sent to Her Excellency the Governor:

(No. 3)

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The Senate, having had under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the “Government Fees Amendment Regulations 2023”, proposed to be made by the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 2 of the Government Fees Act 1965, has the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Senate has approved the said draft Regulations.

-- which was agreed to and ordered accordingly.

6:09p.m.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Senate do now take under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the “Government Fees (Trade Marks and Service Marks) Amendment Regulations 2023” – which was agreed to.

Senator Hodgson spoke on the Regulations.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the said draft Regulations be approved, and that the following message be sent to Her Excellency the Governor:

(No. 4)

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The Senate, having had under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the “Government Fees (Trade Marks and Service Marks) Amendment Regulations 2023”, proposed to be made by the Minister of Finance under the provisions of section 2 of the Government Fees Act 1965, has the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Senate has approved the said draft Regulations.

-- which was agreed to and ordered accordingly.

6:19p.m.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Stamp Duties Amendment Act 2023” be now read the second time.

Senator Hodgson spoke on the Bill.

6:23p.m. - Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

6:24p.m. Senator Hodgson replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill – which was agreed to.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Bill be now read a third time – which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Bill entitled the “Stamp Duties

Amendment Act 2023” do now pass -- which was agreed to.

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

6:26p.m.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Payroll Tax Amendment Act 2023” be now read the second time.

Senator Hodgson spoke on the Bill.

6:32p.m. - Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

6:36p.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

6:37p.m. – Senator B.A. Smith

6:38p.m. Senator Hodgson replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill – which was agreed to.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Bill be now read a third time – which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Bill entitled the “Payroll Tax Amendment Act 2023” do now pass -- which was agreed to.

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

6:40p.m.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Public Treasury (Administration and Payments) Amendment Act 2023” be now read the second time.

Senator Hodgson spoke on the Bill.

6:43p.m. - Senator K.J. Bell

6:44p.m. - Senator B.A. Smith

6:45p.m. - Senator K.J. Bell

6:46p.m. - Senator A.J.L. Hodgson

6:46p.m. - Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

6:49p.m. - Senator A.J.L. Hodgson replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill – which was agreed to.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Bill be now read a third time – which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Bill entitled the “Public Treasury (Administration and Payments) Amendment Act 2023” do now pass -- which was agreed to.

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

6:53p.m.

Senator Rev. Dr. E.G.A. Dill moved that the Senate do now take under consideration the three draft Regulations entitled:

The “Marine and Ports Authority (Pilotage Dues) Regulations 2023”;
The “Marine and Ports Authority (Port Dues) Regulations 2023”; and
The Marine and Ports (Seaborne Services) Regulations 2023”

— which was agreed to.

Senator Dill spoke on the three sets of Regulations.

6:56p.m. - Senator B.A. Smith

6:56p.m. - Senator Rev. Dr. E.G.A. Dill replied.

Senator Rev. Dr. E.G.A. Dill moved that the said three sets of draft Regulations be approved and that suitable Messages be sent to Her Excellency the Governor conveying Senate's approval of the said three sets of Regulations -- which was agreed to and ordered accordingly.

PRESIDENT

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Thursday – 23rd March 2023

Congratulatory and/or Obituary Speeches

6:59p.m.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson congratulated all the children who participated in the various School Sports Day events, remarking on the joy of the children and their parents at participating in the events without Covid restrictions.

(1) Resolution into Committee of the Whole for further consideration of The Appropriation Act 2023, together with the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

{Governor's Recommendation Signified}

Adjournment

7:01p.m.

Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell moved that, at its rising, the Senate adjourn to Thursday, 23rd March 2023 – which was agreed to.

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

7:01p.m. - Senator L.L. Robinson

7:10p.m. - Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

7:15p.m. - Senator L.K. Simmons

7:19p.m. - Senator B.A. Smith

7:30p.m. – Senator O.K. Darrell

7:40p.m.