

BERMUDA

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE

SESSION OF 2025 - 2026

No. 20

WEDNESDAY, 25th MARCH 2026

PRESENT:

Senator the Hon. Mrs. J.E. DILLAS-WRIGHT,
M.B.E., J.P. - PRESIDENT
Senator R.J. WIGHT - VICE 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 T.J.D. SMITH
Senator D.H. ROGERS

10:03a.m.

Senator R.J. Wight moved that the minutes of Wednesday, 18th March 2026 be taken as read, which was objected to by Senator T.O.P. Tannock.

10:03a.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson

10:04a.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

Senator R.J. Wight moved that the minutes of Wednesday, 18th March 2026 be deferred, which was agreed to.

Senator R.J. Wight moved that the minutes of Monday, 23rd March 2026 be deferred, which was agreed to.

Orders of the Day

10:06a.m.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar moved that the Senate do now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the “Appropriation Act 2026”, together with the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Year 2026/2027, which was agreed to.

(Senator R.J. Wight in the Chair)

10:08a.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the Committee do now take under consideration Head 71 – Ministry of Tourism, Transport, Culture and Sport Headquarters; Head 30 – Marine and Ports; and Head 20 – Sports and Recreation, which was agreed to.

Senator M.G. Fubler spoke on Head 71.

10:38a.m. – Senator T.J.D. Smith

10:46a.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

10:49a.m. – Senator T.J.D. Smith

10:52a.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

10:58a.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler (P.O.I)

10:58a.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

11:01a.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler (P.O.C)

11:01a.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers

11:05a.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler (P.O.O)

11:05a.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson

11:07a.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler spoke on Head 20.

11:37a.m. – Senator T.J.D. Smith

11:43a.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

11:46a.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler (P.O.C)

11:49a.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

11:55a.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

12:02p.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler spoke on Head 30.

12:19p.m. – Senator T.J.D. Smith

12:25p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

12:28p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

12:35p.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers

12:38p.m.

Senator R.J. Wight moved that Senate do now adjourn for lunch and resume at 2:00p.m., which was agreed to.

2:02p.m.

The Senate resumed in Committee of the Whole.

(Senator R.J. Wight in the Chair)

2:03p.m – Senator M.G. Fubler continued.

2:11p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

2:12p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

2:20p.m.

Senator R.J. Wight in the Chair acknowledged the presence of the Minister of Tourism, Transport, Culture and Sport, the Hon. Owen K. Darrell, JP, MP, in the Chamber.

2:20p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler

2:29p.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

2:29p.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler

2:30p.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that Heads 71, 30 and 20 be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

2:31p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

2:33p.m.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar moved that the Committee do now take under consideration Head 16 – Ministry of Education Headquarters and Head 17 – Department of Education, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar spoke on Head 16.

3:07p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

3:07p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

3:20p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

3:20p.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

3:21p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

3:24p.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers

3:26p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

3:26p.m. – Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar

3:36p.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

3:36p.m. – Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar

3:37p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham (P.O.C)

3:48p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

3:49p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

3:49p.m. – Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar spoke on Head 17.

5:54p.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

5:59p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

6:11p.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers

6:14p.m. – Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar replied.

6:22p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham (P.O.C)

6:28p.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers (P.O.I)

6:30p.m.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar moved that Heads 16 and 17 be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar moved that the Committee rise, report progress and ask for leave to sit again -- which was agreed to.

The Chairperson reported that the Committee had risen, reported progress and requested leave 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.

(Madam President in the Chair)

6:33p.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Bill entitled the “Municipalities Reform Amendment Act 2026” be now read a third time, which was objected to by Senator V.J. Cunningham, Senator D.H. Rogers, Senator T.J.D. Smith, Senator T.O.P. Tannock, Senator R.J. Wight.

The motion was Defeated on Division with a vote of 5 Ayes to 6 Nays.

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

NAYS: Senator V.J. Cunningham, Senator D.H. Rogers, Senator T.J.D. Smith, Senator T.O.P. Tannock, Senator R.J. Wight, Madam President.

Congratulations and/or Obituary Speeches

6:39p.m.

Senator T.J.D. Smith congratulated the Muslim community as they celebrate Eid-al-Fitr.

Senator the Hon. C.C. Caesar congratulated the participants of the second annual Verbal Victory Spelling Bee including the first-place winner, Hunter Pewter from Somersfield Academy.

6:43p.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that, at its rising, the Senate adjourn to Thursday, 26th March 2026 – which was agreed to.

6:43p.m.

Adjourned until Thursday, 26th March 2026.

PRESIDENT

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Thursday – 26th March 2026

- (1) Resolution into Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the “Appropriation Act 2026”, together with the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Financial Year 2026/2027 {Governor’s Recommendation Signified}