

**Proceedings**  
**of the**  
**Honourable House of Assembly**  
**Session of 2018-2020**

**No. 43**

**Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2020**

**Members Present:** His Honour the Speaker, Jeanne J. Atherden, Lt. Col. David A. Burch, Derrick V. Burgess, E. David G. Burt, L. Craig Cannonier, Wayne M. Caines, Rolf P. Commissiong, Zane J.S. De Silva, Curtis L. Dickinson, Michael H. Dunkley, T. Christopher Famous, Jason P. Hayward, Lovitta F. Foggo, Tinee S. Furbert, Wayne L. Furbert, Patricia J. Gordon-Pamplin, Susan E. Jackson, Dennis J.R. Lister, Renee D.L. Ming, Trevor G. Moniz, R. Scott Pearman, Diallo V.S. Rabain, Sylvan D. Richards, Walter H. Roban, Michael J. Scott, Leah K. Scott, W. Lawrence A. Scott, Jamahl S. Simmons, Scott A. Simmons, Ben A. Smith, H. Kim E. Swan, Neville S. Tyrrell, Michael A. Weeks, Kim N. Wilson.

**[This meeting of the House was conducted in the Temporary House Chamber located on the Third Floor at Veritas Place on Court Street in the City of Hamilton.]**

**10:07 a.m.**

Prayers

Minutes of the Meeting of March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 were confirmed.

Minutes of the Meeting of March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 were deferred.

HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER announced that he had received the Report of the Ministers and Members of the Legislature Salaries Review Board, together with the accompanying Annexes II, III and IV.

**Papers and Other Communications to the House**

**10:08 a.m.**

MR. W.H. ROBAN read the following communication to the Speaker:-

TO HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER:

With the Governor's recommendation and in accordance with section 36(3) of the Bermuda Constitution, I have the honour to attach and submit for the consideration of the Honourable House of Assembly, the "Electronic Communications (Regulatory Authority Fees) Regulations 2020", proposed to be made by the Minister responsible for telecommunications, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 6 and 11 of the Electronic Communications Act 2011, as read with section 44 of the Regulatory Authority Act 2011.

Mr. W.H. Roban

Minister of Home Affairs

**10:09 a.m.**

**Statements by Ministers and Junior Ministers.**

MR. D.V.S. RABAIN read a Ministerial Statement entitled "The Bermuda Public Schools - System Transformation".

**10:22 a.m.**

**Reports of Committees**

MR. D.V. BURGESS presented a Report from the Standing Orders and Privileges Committee.

MR. D.V. BURGESS moved to suspend S.O. 28 in order to ratify and agree to the amendments.

MR. SPEAKER read the following amendments to the Standing Orders:

6. Alternately, Members of the Government Backbenchers and Opposition may ask (1) question and be permitted two (2) follow-up supplementary questions.

MR. D.V. BURGESS moved that the recommended amendments to the Standing Orders be approved, which was agreed to.

**10:38 a.m.**

### **Premier's Questions**

MR. L.C. CANNONIER asked a question to Mr. E.D.G. Burt.

MR. L.C. CANNONIER asked a supplementary question.

MR. L.C. CANNONIER asked a second supplementary question.

MR. L.C. CANNONIER asked a second question.

MR. L.C. CANNONIER asked a supplementary question.

MR. L.C. CANNONIER asked a third question.

MR. L.C. CANNONIER asked a supplementary question.

MR. L.C. CANNONIER asked a second supplementary question.

MR. D.V. BURGESS asked a question to Mr. E.D.G. Burt.

MS. L.K. SCOTT asked a question to Mr. E.D.G. Burt.

MS. L.K. SCOTT asked a supplementary question.

MR. N.S. TYRRELL asked a question to Mr. E.D.G. Burt.

MRS. P.J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a question to Mr. E.D.G. Burt.

MR. R.P. COMMISSIONG asked a question to Mr. E.D.G. Burt.

**11:08 a.m.**

### **Question Period**

Under the provisions of Standing Order 18(4), MR. E.D.G. BURT deferred written response to the following parliamentary questions from Mr. L.C. Cannonier:-

Q1. Notwithstanding, the responses provided to questions by the Honourable Premier on July 12, 2019; will the Honourable Premier please advise this Honourable House if any Members of Parliament have been paid from the public purse for any services, other than Government Committees, Government Boards or Quangos?

Q2. Will the Honourable Premier please identify for this Honourable House the Members of Parliament and the amounts paid or the outstanding amounts due to them?

MR. N.H.C. SIMONS asked a question to Mr. D.V.S. Rabain on his Ministerial Statement

entitled “The Bermuda Public Schools - System Transformation”.

MR. N.H.C. SIMONS asked a supplementary question.

MR. N.H.C. SIMONS asked a second question.

MR. N.H.C. SIMONS asked a supplementary question

**11:12 a.m.**

### **Introduction of Bills**

MR. D.V.S. RABAIN on behalf of Mr. C.L. Dickinson introduced and read for the first time by its title a Bill entitled the “Bermuda Monetary Authority Amendment Act 2020”.

**11:13 a.m.**

### **Notices of Motion**

MR. SPEAKER asked for the indulgence of the House for the Ministers and Members Salary Motion to be deferred, which was agreed to.

**11:15 a.m.**

### **Orders of the Day**

MR. D.V.S. RABAIN on behalf of Mr. C.L. Dickinson moved that the House resume in Committee of Supply for further consideration of the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2020/2021, which was agreed to.

(MR. R.P. COMMISSIONG in the Chair.)

**11:17 a.m.**

MR. D.V.S. RABAIN moved for consideration the following Heads: 16 – Ministry of Education Headquarters, 17 – Department of Education and 41 – Bermuda College.

**12:25 p.m.**

MR. R.P. COMMISSIONG moved that the House do now adjourn for lunch and resume at 2:00 p.m., which was agreed to.

**2:01 p.m.**

House resumed in Committee of Supply.

(MR. R.P. COMMISSIONG in the Chair.)

**2:02 p.m.**

MR. D.V.S. RABAIN continued with Heads: 16, 17 and 41.

(2:40 p.m. - MS. S.E. JACKSON in the Chair)

2:46 p.m. – MR. N.H.C. SIMONS

2:52 p.m. - MR. D.V.S. RABAIN

2:52 p.m. – MR. N.H.C. SIMONS

2:54 p.m. - MR. D.V.S. RABAIN

2:54 p.m. – MR. N.H.C. SIMONS

2:55 p.m. - MR. D.V.S. RABAIN

2:56 p.m. – MR. N.H.C. SIMONS

2:57 p.m. - MR. D.V.S. RABAIN

2:57 p.m. – MR. N.H.C. SIMONS

2:58 p.m. - MR. D.V.S. RABAIN

2:58 p.m. – MR. N.H.C. SIMONS

3:59 p.m. - MR. D.V.S. RABAIN

3:00 p.m. – MR. N.H.C. SIMONS

3:16 p.m. - MR. D.V.S. RABAIN

3:17 p.m. – MR. N.H.C. SIMONS

(3:27 p.m. - MR. H.K.E. SWAN in the Chair)

(3:29 p.m. - MS. S.E. JACKSON in the Chair)

4:05 p.m. – MR. R.S. PEARMAN  
4:07 p.m. – MR. D.V.S. RABAIN  
4:29 p.m. – MR. N.H.C. SIMONS  
4:29 p.m. – MR. D.V.S. RABAIN  
4:33 p.m. – MR. H.K.E. SWAN

(4:40 p.m. – MR. D.V. BURGESS in the Chair)

(4:41 p.m. – MS. S.E. JACKSON in the Chair)

4:44 p.m. – MR. N.S. TYRRELL  
(4:46 p.m. – MR. H.K.E. SWAN in the Chair)

4:47 p.m. – MR. J.P. HAYWARD  
5:09 p.m. – MRS. P.J. GORDON-PAMPLIN  
5:11 p.m. – MR. D.V.S. RABAIN

**5:27 p.m.**

MR. D.V.S. RABAIN moved that Heads: 16 – Ministry of Education Headquarters, 17 – Department of Education and 41 – Bermuda College, be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

(5:29 p.m. – MRS. R.D.L. MING in the Chair)

**5:29 p.m.**

MR. W.H. ROBAN moved for consideration the following Heads: 32 – Department of Planning and 79 – Environment and Natural Resources.

6:59 p.m. – MR. S.D. RICHARDS  
7:35 p.m. – MR. R.S. PEARMAN  
7:36 p.m. – MR. W.H. ROBAN

**8:13 p.m.**

MR. W.H. ROBAN moved that Heads: 32 – Department of Planning and 79 – Environment and Natural Resources, be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

**8:14 p.m.**

MR. W.H. ROBAN 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 Chairman reported progress and asked for leave to sit again, which was agreed to.

**8:15 p.m.**

(MR. D.V. BURGESS in the Speaker’s Chair)

MS. K.N. WILSON moved the second reading of the Bill entitled the “Health Insurance Amendment Act 2020”, which was agreed to.

(8:21 p.m. MR.SPEAKER in the Chair)

8:21 p.m. – MRS. P.J. GORDON-PAMPLIN  
8:23 p.m. – MR. N.S. TYRRELL  
8:24 p.m. – MS. K.N. WILSON

The Bill was Committed.

(MR. D.V. BURGESS in the Chair)

**8:25 p.m.**

MS. K.N. WILSON moved Clauses 1 to 3, which was agreed to.

8:27 p.m. – MRS. P.J. GORDON-PAMPLIN  
8:29 p.m. – MS. K.N. WILSON

Clauses 1 to 3 were agreed to, as printed.

The Preamble was agreed to.

The Committee rose.

The House resumed.

The Bill was reported to the House, as printed, which was agreed to.

Order number 3 on the Order Paper was carried over.

**8:31 p.m.**

MR. C.L. DICKINSON moved for consideration the draft Regulations entitled "Government Fees Amendment Regulations 2020", proposed to be made by the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 2 of the Government Fees Act 1965.

8:33 p.m. – MRS. P.J. GORDON-PAMPLIN

8:35 p.m. –MR. C.L. DICKINSON

MR. C.L. DICKINSON moved that the said draft Regulations be approved, and that the following Message be sent to His Excellency the Governor:

(No. 17)

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The House of Assembly, having had under consideration the draft Regulations entitled the "Government Fees Amendment Regulations 2020", 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 House has approved the said draft Regulations. - which was agreed to and ordered accordingly.

Order Numbers 5 to 7 inclusive on the Order Paper were carried over.

**8:38 p.m.**

MR. E.D.G. Burt gave notice of the Ministers and Members of the Legislature (Salaries and Pensions) Act 1975 Resolution:-

**I HEREBY** do give notice that I propose to move the following Resolution:

**"BE IT RESOLVED** that previous resolutions of this House made pursuant to section 2 of the Ministers and Members of the Legislature (Salaries and Pensions) Act 1975 be revoked;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that pursuant to section 2 of the Ministers and Members of the Legislature (Salaries and Pensions) Act 1975 the annual salaries payable to Members of the Legislature listed in Part A and Officers of the Legislature listed in Part B of the table below shall be as set out in column 3 of the table with effect from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021."

## TABLE OF SALARIES

## A. MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE

(1)	EXISTING (2)	PROPOSED (3)
Senators	\$ 30,367	\$30,367
Members of the House of Assembly	\$56,023	\$56,023

## B. OFFICERS OF THE LEGISLATURE

(Salaries additional to salaries as Senators or Members of the House of Assembly)

President of the Senate	\$ 15,181	\$ 15,181
Speaker, House of Assembly	\$26,569	\$ 26,569
Vice President, Senate	\$3,308	\$3,308
Deputy Speaker, House of Assembly	\$ 13,285	\$ 13,285
Premier	\$151,262	\$151,262
Deputy Premier*	\$112,942	\$112,942
Minister of Finance	\$121,010	\$121,010
(As a part-time Minister)	\$80,505	\$80,505
Attorney General	\$147,022	\$147,022
Other Ministers in House of Assembly	\$100,841	\$100,841
(As a part-time Minister)	\$ 50,421	\$50,421
Other Ministers in the Senate	\$ 100,841	\$100,841
(As a part-time Minister)	\$ 50,421	\$50,421
Opposition Leader	\$30,367	\$30,367
Junior Ministers in House of Assembly	\$ 11,387	\$ 11,387
Junior Ministers in Senate	\$ 11,425	\$ 11,425
Party Whips	\$7,593	\$7,593

\* Where the Deputy Premier is also the Minister of Finance, the additional salary shall \$121,010

Hon. E. David Burt, JP, MP  
Premier

**8:39 p.m.**

LT. COL. D.A. BURCH, on behalf of Ms. K.N. Wilson, moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled the “Health Insurance Amendment Act 2020” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of LT. COL. D.A. BURCH, the Bill entitled the “Health Insurance Amendment Act 2020” was then read the third time by its title only and passed.

**8:40 p.m.**

MR. SPEAKER asked Members to approve Suspension of S.O. 14 to allow the Premier to update Members on the latest regarding Corona-Virus, which was agreed to.

**8:41 p.m.**

MR. E.D.G. BURT gave an update for Members.

**8:52 p.m.**

MR. E.D.G. BURT moved that, at its rising, the House adjourn to Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020, which was agreed to.

MR. E.D.G. BURT moved that the House do now adjourn, which was agreed to.

**8:52 p.m.**

The House adjourned until Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 10:00 a.m.