

BERMUDA

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE

SESSION OF 2025 - 2026

No. 29

MONDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER 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. R.A.R. PERINCHIEF, 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 the meeting of Wednesday, 22nd July 2026 be taken as read.

Senator D.H. Rogers noted a correction in the sitting number, the title of a Bill was incorrect and the title of the Ministerial Statement is inconsistent with Hansard.

Senator R.J. Wight moved that subject to the noted corrections, the minutes be confirmed, which was agreed to.

Announcements

10:05a.m.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief presented for the information of Senate the “Police Complaints Authority Bermuda Annual Report 2025 – Report of Police Complaints Authority to: His Excellency, the Governor and Minister of National Security”.

10:06a.m.

Senator L.F. Bell presented for the information of Senate the “Department of Immigration – Policy Proposal: Addressing Sham Marriages in Bermuda- Strengthening the Integrity of the Marriage and Immigration Systems”.

10:06a.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler presented for the information of Senate the “Bermuda Civil Aviation Authority 2024/25 Annual Report”; the

“2025 Year in Review Annual Report of the Bermuda Tourism Authority”; and the

“2026 Annual Report of the Bermuda Sport Anti-Doping Authority”.

Ministerial Statement

10:07a.m.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief, as Minister of National Security, made a Ministerial Statement entitled “Adolescent Substance Use Treatment Programme”.

Introduction of Bills

10:19a.m.

The following Public Bills were brought up from the Honourable House of Assembly, and given their First Reading in the Senate:-

“Motor Car and Auxiliary Bicycles (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 2026”

“Trustee Amendment Act 2026”

“Charities Amendment (No. 2) Act 2026”

“Beneficial Ownership Amendment Act 2026”

“Registration (Births and Deaths) Amendment Act 2026”

“Proceeds of Crime (Miscellaneous) Act 2026”

“Payroll Tax Rates Amendment Act 2026”

“Proceeds of Crime Amendment Act 2026”

“Police (International Co-Operation) Amendment Act 2026”

“Financial Intelligence Agency Amendment Act 2026”

Question Period

10:20a.m.

Senator R.J. Wight asked a question to Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief on his Ministerial Statement entitled “Adolescent Substance Use Treatment Programme”.

Senator R.J. Wight asked a second question.

Senator D.H. Rogers asked a question.

Senator D.H. Rogers asked a second question.

Senator D.H. Rogers asked a supplementary question.

Senator D.H. Rogers asked a third question.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a question.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a second question.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a third question.

Senator T.J.D. Smith asked a question.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief replied.

Orders of the Day

10:34a.m.

Senator L.K. Simmons moved that the Bill entitled the “Cost of Living Commission Amendment (No. 2) Act 2026” be now read the third time, which was agreed to.

Senator L.K. Simmons moved that the Bill do now pass, which was objected to.

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

AYES: Senator L.F. Bell, Senator M.G. Fubler, Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief, Senator L.K. Simmons and Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson.

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

10:38a.m. – Item #2 on the Order paper was carried over.

10:38a.m.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the provisions of Standing Order 25 be granted so that Senate may now proceed with the Second Reading of the Public Bills entitled:-

“Trustee Amendment Act 2026”

“Charities Amendment (No. 2) Act 2026”

“Beneficial Ownership Amendment Act 2026”

“Registration (Births and Deaths) Amendment Act 2026”

“Proceeds of Crime (Miscellaneous) Act 2026”

“Payroll Tax Rates Amendment Act 2026”

“Proceeds of Crime Amendment Act 2026”

“Police (International Co-Operation) Amendment Act 2026”

“Financial Intelligence Agency Amendment Act 2026”

--which was agreed to.

10:39a.m.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Trustee Amendment Act 2026” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief spoke on the Bill.

10:48a.m.

Madam President acknowledged the presence of Ms. Venous Memari from the Registrar of Companies in the Chamber.

10:49a.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

10:50a.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

10:50a.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers

10:54a.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson

10:57a.m. – Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief replied.

10:58a.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

10:58a.m. – Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief replied.

11:00a.m.

Madam President acknowledged the presence of Mr. Brian Eaton, Parliamentary Counsel, in the Chamber.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Bill entitled the “Trustee Amendment Act 2026” do now pass, which was agreed to.

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

11:01a.m.

Senator L.K. Simmons moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Charities Amendment (No. 2) Act 2026” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator L.K. Simmons spoke on the Bill.

11:12a.m.

Madam President acknowledged the presence of Mr. Matthew Nester, Registry General Legal and Compliance Officer and Ms. Pandora Glasford,

Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Youth, Social Development and Seniors, in the Chamber.

Madam President acknowledged the presence of Mr. R. Scott Pearman, JP, MP, Opposition Leader, in the Public Gallery.

11:13a.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

11:15a.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

11:16a.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers

11:20a.m. – Senator L.K. Simmons replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator L.K. Simmons moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator L.K. Simmons moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator L.K. Simmons moved that the Bill entitled the “Charities Amendment (No. 2) Act 2026” do now pass, which was agreed to.

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

11:26a.m.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Beneficial Ownership Amendment Act 2026” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief spoke on the Bill.

11:38a.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

11:40a.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

11:41a.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

11:43a.m. – Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Bill entitled the “Beneficial Ownership Amendment Act 2026” do now pass, which was agreed to.

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

11:48a.m.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Registration (Births and Deaths) Amendment Act 2026” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator L.F. Bell spoke on the Bill.

11:55a.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

11:57a.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

11:59a.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

12:00p.m. – Senator L.F. Bell replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that the Bill entitled the “Registration (Births and Deaths) Amendment Act 2026” do now pass, which was agreed to.

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

12:06p.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Proceeds of Crime (Miscellaneous) Act 2026” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson spoke on the Bill.

12:12p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

12:13p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

12:14p.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

12:14p.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers

12:15p.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Bill entitled the “Proceeds of Crime (Miscellaneous) Act 2026” do now pass, which was agreed to.

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

12:19p.m.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Payroll Tax Rates Amendment Act 2026” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief spoke on the Bill.

12:20p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

12:22p.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

12:22p.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

12:23p.m. – Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief (P.O.O)

12:24p.m. – Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief replied moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Bill entitled the “Payroll Tax Rates Amendment Act 2026” do now pass, which was objected to.

The Senate adjourned for lunch and will resume at 2:00p.m.

2:10p.m.

Senate resumed.

2:10p.m.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief provided clarity on the procedure on the debate of a Money Bill in the Senate.

2:11p.m.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Bill entitled the “Payroll Tax Rates Amendment Act 2026” do now pass, which was affirmed on Division with a vote of 6 Ayes to 3 Nays.

AYES: Senator L.F. Bell, Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief, Senator L.K. Simmons, Senator the Hon.

K.R. Wilkerson, Senator R.J. Wight and Madam President.

NAYS: Senator V.J. Cunningham, Senator D.H. Rogers and Senator T.J.D. Smith.

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

2:15p.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Proceeds of Crime Amendment Act 2026” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson spoke on the Bill.

2:25p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

2:27p.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

2:29p.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers

2:30p.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson (P.O.C.)

2:30p.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers

2:31p.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Bill entitled the “Proceeds of Crime Amendment Act 2026” do now pass, which was agreed to.

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

2:39p.m.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Police (International Co-

Operation) Amendment Act 2026” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief spoke on the Bill.

2:42p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

2:43p.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

2:44p.m. – Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief moved that the Bill entitled the “Police (International Co-Operation) Amendment Act 2026” do now pass, which was agreed to.

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

2:47p.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Public Bill entitled the “Financial Intelligence Agency Amendment Act 2026” be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson spoke on the Bill.

2:54p.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

2:56p.m. – Senator R.J. Wight

2:57p.m. – Senator T.J.D. Smith

2:57p.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that the Bill entitled the “Financial Intelligence Agency Amendment Act 2026” do now pass, which was agreed to.

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

Congratulations and/or Obituary Speeches

3:01p.m.

Senator R.J. Wight offered condolences to the family of the late Mr. John Swift.

Senator L.F. Bell congratulated the organizers of the Labour Day celebrations. She also congratulated Mr. Chris Furbert on his upcoming retirement as B.I.U. President.

Senator V.J. Cunningham associated with the condolences offered to the family of the late Mr. John Swift. She congratulated everyone who was involved with the Fashion Show for the Special Olympics held at Cedarbridge in July. She offered best wishes to students for the upcoming school year.

Senator L.K. Simmons offered condolences to the family of the late Mr. Russ Ford.

Senator T.J.D. Smith offered condolences to the Bright Temple family on the late Rev. Charles Smith. He also offered condolences to the family of the late Ms. Kimberly Miller. Senator Smith congratulated the North Valley Rams on their Charity Shield win. He also congratulated his son Roman on beginning his university education.

Senator D.H. Rogers associated with the condolences offered to the family of the late Mr. Russ Ford. He congratulated all who participated in the M.W.I. Arts Festival. He offered belated birthday wishes to his grandmother, Ms. Marlene

Rogers. He also brought attention to September being Dementia Awareness Month.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson associated with the condolences to the family of Mr. Russ Ford. She also offered condolences to the loved ones of Mr. Junior Maxwell Ming aka Scientist. She also associated with the congratulations extended to Mr. Chris Furbert on his upcoming retirement as B.I.U. President.

Madam President associated with the condolences offered to the family of Mr. Russ Ford and the retirement of Mr. Chris Furbert.

3:19p.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that, at its rising, the Senate adjourn to Monday, 28th September 2026 – which was agreed to.

3:19p.m – Senator D.H. Rogers

3:22p.m

Adjourned until Monday, 28th September 2026.

PRESIDENT

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Monday – 28th September 2026

- (1) Second Reading of the “Motor Car and Auxiliary Bicycles (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 2026” – Senator Mischa G. Fubler, Junior Minister of Tourism, Transport, Culture and Sport