

BERMUDA

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE

SESSION OF 2022 - 2023

No. 14

WEDNESDAY, 19th JULY 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.L. ROBINSON, J.P.
Senator Ms. L.K. SIMMONS
Senator Mrs. R.S. TUCKER
Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCOUTO, J.P.

ABSENT:

Senator B.A. SMITH, J.P.

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

10:04a.m.

On the motion of Senator K.J. Bell, the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, July 5th 2023 were taken as read and confirmed.

Announcements

10:04a.m.

Senator the Hon. the President announced that Opposition Leader, Senator B.A. Smith would be absent from the meeting as he's traveling with Bermuda's National Swim Team at the 2023 World Championships in Japan.

10:04a.m.

Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell presented for the information of Senate the "Audited Financial Statements of the Office of the Information Commissioner for the Fiscal Year ending 31 March 2021".

10:06a.m.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson presented for the information of Senate the "Digital Asset Business Exemption Order 2023", as made by the Minister responsible for finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 11(7) of the Digital Asset Business Act 2018.

10:06a.m.

Senator L.L. Robinson presented for the information of Senate the "Labour Force Survey - November 2022".

10:06a.m.

Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell presented for the information of Senate the "Bermuda Tourism Authority 2022 Year in Review"; and the

"Bermuda Tourism Authority Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year ended December 31, 2022".

Ministerial Statements

10:08a.m.

Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell, as Minister of Youth, Culture and Sport, made a Ministerial Statement on the "2023 NatWest Island Games".

10:12a.m

The following Public Bill was brought up from the Honourable House of Assembly, and given its First Reading in the Senate:-

The "Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 2) Act 2023".

Question Period

10:12a.m.

Senator R.S. Tucker asked a question to Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell on his Ministerial Statement entitled "2023 NatWest Island Games".

Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell replied.

Orders of the Day

10:15a.m.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the provisions of Standing Order 25 be granted so that Senate may now proceed with the Second Reading of the Public Bill entitled "Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 2) Act 2023" – which was agreed to.

10:15a.m

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson moved that the Public Bill entitled the "Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 2) Act 2023" be now read the second time.

Senator Hodgson spoke on the Bill.

10:22a.m.

Madam President acknowledged the presence of Mr. Dean Lema, Principal Customs Officer, in the Chamber.

10:22a.m. – Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

10:30a.m. – Senator R.S. Tucker

10:32a.m. – Senator L.L. Robinson

10:38a.m. – Senator A.J.L. Hodgson replied.

10:43a.m. – Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto

10:38a.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 "Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 2) 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.

Congratulatory and/or Obituary Speeches

10:46a.m.

Senator R.J. Wight extended condolences to the family of the late Mrs. Martha Dismont, M.B.E.

Senator L.K. Simmons associated herself with the condolences extended to the family of the late Mrs. Martha Dismont, noting her tireless work with the Family Centre and as a foster parent.

Senator K.J. Bell associated herself the condolences offered to the family of the late Mrs. Martha Dismont, noting her huge impact on family welfare and support.

Senator Rev. Dr. E.G.A. Dill associated herself with the condolences for Mrs. Martha Dismont; and she also offered condolences to the family of the late Mrs. Wendy Lambert, whom she noted was a trailblazer of a woman, was a founding member of PRIDE Bermuda, and was active in the Sigma Psi Omega Sorority as well as an outstanding leader of the AME Church.

Senator A.J.L. Hodgson congratulated Pacers Track Club young athletes on winning multiple medals at a track meet in Canada. She also wished Mr. David Zuill, a former Prison Officer, a very happy birthday.

Senator R.S. Tucker associated herself with the condolences offered to the family of

the late Mrs. Martha Dismont. She also offered condolences to the family of the late Ms. Robin Valerie Tota.

Senator L.L. Robinson associated herself with the condolences extended to the family of the late Mrs. Martha Dismont. She also extended condolences to the family on the loss of Mrs. Joan Louise Dismont. She associated herself with the condolences offered for Ms. Wendy Lambert. Senator Robinson congratulated Dr. Shangri-la Durham-Thompson on her retirement.

Senator Dr. D.S.J. DeCouto associated himself with the condolences extended to the family of the late Mrs. Martha Dismont. He also associated himself with the congratulations offered to Dr. Durham-Thompson on her retirement; and he congratulated the Sandys Boat Club on winning Bermuda's first all-women's fitted dinghy race.

Senator K.J. Bell offered congratulations to all the recipients of the Best of Bermuda Awards, including her brother Mr. Jonathan Bell of the Royal Gazette.

Senator the Hon. O.K. Darrell associated himself with the condolences offered to the family of the late Mrs. Martha Dismont. He congratulated the Legislature's Sergeant-at-Arms, Arnold E. Allen for celebrating karate athletes at the 2nd Annual Shotocup Awards, as the co-director.

Madam President associated herself with the condolences extended to the families of the late Mrs. Martha Dismont and the late Mrs. Joan Dismont. She also associated herself with the condolences extended to the family of the late Ms. Wendy Lambert. Madam President associated herself with the congratulations offered to Dr. Shangri-la Durham-Thompson on her retirement. She also associated the whole Senate on congratulating the Sergeant-at-Arms Arnold E. Allen.

Adjournment

11:08a.m.

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

11:08a.m.

Senate adjourned until Wednesday, 26th July 2023.

PRESIDENT

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Wednesday – 26th July 2023

NIL