BERMUDA

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE

SESSION OF 2025 - 2026

No. 30

MONDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER 2026

PRESENT:

Senator the Hon. Mrs. J.E. DILLAS-WRIGHT, M.B.E., J.P. - 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

ABSENT:

Senator R.J. WIGHT – VICE PRESIDENT

10:06a.m.

On the motion of Senator T.O.P. Tannock, the minutes of the meeting of Monday, 14th September 2026 were taken as read and confirmed.

Announcements

10:06a.m.

Senator the Hon. The President presented for the information of Senate the Report of the Auditor General entitled "Ministerial Travel, Meal and Hospitality Expenses", in accordance with the provisions of section 13 of the Audit Act 1990.

10:07a.m.

Senator the Hon. The President presented for the information of Senate the Report of the Auditor General entitled "Effectiveness of the Government of Bermuda Receivables and Debt Management Process Report", in accordance with the provisions of section 13 of the Audit Act 1990.

10:08a.m.

Senator L.K. Simmons presented for the information of Senate the "Cost of Living (Essential Commodities) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2026" as made by the Minister responsible for consumer affairs, in exercise of the power conferred by section 10E of the Cost-of-Living Commission Act 1974.

10:09a.m.

Senator L.K. Simmons presented for the information of Senate the "Charities Amendment Regulations 2026" proposed to be made by the Minister responsible for charities, after consultation with the Registrar and the Committee, in exercise of the power conferred by section 48 of the Charities Act 2014.

10:10a.m.

Senator L.F. Bell presented for the information of Senate the "Bermuda Affordable Housing Strategy 2025-2035".

Notice of Motion

10:10a.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson presented the following Motion and gave notice that she would move the Motion at the next day of meeting:

"That this Honourable House take note of the Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Historic Land Losses in Bermuda laid for the information of the House of Assembly on 10th December 2021."

Ministerial Statement

10:11a.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson, as Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, made a Ministerial Statement entitled "Corrections Reform Progress Update 1".

Introduction of Bills

10:25a.m.

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

"Insurance Amendment Act 2026"

"Employment Amendment (No. 2) Act 2026"

Question Period

10:26a.m.

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a question to Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson on her Ministerial Statement entitled "Corrections Reform Progress Update 1".

Senator V.J. Cunningham asked a second question.

Senator T.O.P. Tannock asked a question.

Senator T.O.P. Tannock asked a second question.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

Senator T.O.P. Tannock re-asked a question.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

Senator T.O.P. Tannock asked a third question.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson replied.

Orders of the Day

10:46a.m.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the Public Bill entitled the "Motor Car and Auxiliary Bicycles (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 2026" be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator M.G. Fubler spoke on the Bill.

10:52a.m.

Madam President acknowledged the presence of Ms. Carlita O'Brien, Acting Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Tourism, Transport, Culture and Sport and Mr. Terry Spencer, Director of Transport, in the Chamber.

10:54a.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

10:56a.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers
10:59a.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler (P.O.O)

11:01a.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

11:03a.m. – Senator M.G. Fubler replied.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that Standing Order 26 be suspended in respect of this Bill, which was agreed to.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the Bill be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a third time.

Senator M.G. Fubler moved that the Bill entitled the "Motor Car and Auxiliary Bicycles (Miscellaneous) 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.

11:16a.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:-

"Insurance Amendment Act 2026"

"Employment Amendment (No. 2) Act 2026"

--which was agreed to.

11:17a.m.

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

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

11:24a.m.

Madam President acknowledged the presence of Ms. Sierra Bell, Policy Advisor for the Ministry of Finance, Mr. Webster Mutepfa, Assistant Director of the Bermuda Monetary Authority and Mr. Ifor Hughes, Senior Advisor to the Bermuda Monetary Authority in the Chamber.

11:24a.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

11:26a.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

11:28a.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 "Insurance 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.

11:30a.m.

Senator L.F. Bell moved that the Public Bill entitled the "Employment Amendment (No. 2) Act 2026" be now read the second time, which was agreed to.

Senator L.F. Bell spoke on the Bill.

11:46a.m.

Madam President acknowledged the presence of Ms. Gabrielle Cann, Director of Labour and Acting Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Economy and Labour, in the Chamber.

11:46a.m. – Senator T.O.P. Tannock

11:50a.m. – Senator T.J.D. Smith

11:52a.m. – Senator D.H. Rogers
11:53a.m. – Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson (P.O.O)

11:57a.m. – Senator L.F. Bell replied.

11:58a.m. – Senator V.J. Cunningham

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 "Employment 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.

Congratulations and/or Obituary Speeches

12:08p.m.

Senator L.K. Simmons offered condolences to the family of the late Mr. Diallo Sharrieff.

Senator T.J.D. Smith associated with the condolences extended to the family of the late Mr. Diallo Sharrieff, as well as his family on the passing of his aunt, Ms. Helen Thompson.

Senator V.J. Cunningham offered condolences to the family of the late Mr. Ted Gauntlett. She congratulated Knowledge Quest on celebrating 25 years in service, offering more than $7 million in scholarships to Bermudian students seeking higher education. She highlighted the US Consul Education Exchange celebrating education ties between Bermuda and the United States. Senator Cunningham congratulated Peer Forward on opening their Bermuda chapter helping students applying for college with application and scholarship application support.

Senator M.G. Fubler associated with the condolences extended to the family of the late Mr. Diallo Sharrieff, as well as the family of Mr. Ted Gauntlett. He offered condolences to the families of the late Mr. Slinger "Mighty Sparrow" Francisco, Trinidadian Calypso singer, Rev. Charles Alexander Smith and Mr. Edouard Williams. Senator Fubler congratulated the Bermuda Men's Cricket Team who defeated Cayman Islands in the North American Cup. He also congratulated Mr. Gavin

Manders on winning several gold medals at the Jamaican International Pickleball Open. He congratulated the Bermuda Arts Council Second Quarter Grant recipients as well as the Student Grant awardees.

Senator L.F. Bell congratulated Bermuda Economic Development Corporation (BEDC), in partnership with Global Atlantic, on announcing the nine finalists for the 4th Annual Wave of Opportunity Pitch Competition. She also congratulated them on backing the Lumina Festival Financial Literacy Summit. Senator Bell congratulated the BPSU Women's Committee on hosting the "Heart of Solidarity" brunch.

Senator the Hon. R.A.R. Perinchief thanked all Senators on their condolences offered on the passing of the late Mr. Diallo Sharrieff, beloved family member. He associated with the condolences extended to the family of the late Mr. Ted Gauntlett.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson offered condolences to the family of the late Ms. Judith Ann Raynor. She also associated with the congratulations offered to Knowledge Quest on celebrating their 25th anniversary. She congratulated Ms. Gherdai Hassell who currently has a piece being shown at Masterworks. Minister Wilkerson congratulated St. Mary's Church on their 400th anniversary.

Madam President associated with the condolences offered to the families of the late Mr. Diallo Sharrieff and Mr. Ted Gauntlett. She also associated with the congratulations offered to the Men's Cricket Team and the Bermuda Arts Council grant recipients.

12:28p.m.

Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson moved that, at its rising, the Senate adjourn to Wednesday, 7th October 2026 – which was agreed to.

12:29p.m – Senator L.K. Simmons

12:35p.m

Adjourned until Wednesday, 7th October 2026.

PRESIDENT

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Wednesday – 7th October 2026

(1) Motion to be moved by Senator the Hon. K.R. Wilkerson, Attorney-General and Minister of Justice

"That this Honourable House take note of the Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Historic Land Losses in Bermuda laid for the information of the House of Assembly on 10th December 2021."