

**Proceedings  
of the  
Honourable House of Assembly**

**Session of 2017-2018**

**No. 4**

**Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**Members Present:** His Honour the Speaker, Jeanne Atherden, C. Walton D. Brown, Derrick V. Burgess, David E. Burt, Wayne M. Caines, Rolfe P. Commissiong, Michael H. Dunkley, T. Christopher Famous, Lovitta F. Foggo, Tinee S. Furbert, Wayne L. Furbert, Dr. Edmund G. Gibbons, Patricia J. Gordon-Pamplin, Susan E. Jackson, Dennis J. Lister III, Renee D.L. Ming, Trevor G. Moniz, Walter H. Roban, Michael J. Scott, W. Lawrence Scott, N.H. Cole Simons, Benjamin A. Smith, Kim H.E. Swan, Neville S. Tyrrell, Michael A. Weeks, Kim N. Wilson.

**10:01 a.m.** Prayer

**Confirmation of Minutes:**

The minutes of the Meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 were confirmed.

**Announcements by the Speaker:**

**10:02 a.m.**

His Honour the Speaker announced that the following Members will be absent from today's proceedings:

Ms. L.K. Scott, Mr. L.C. Cannonier, Mr. Z.J. DeSilva, Mr. J.C. Baron, and Mr. S.A. Simmons.

His Honour the Speaker announced that he had received a letter from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Caribbean Regional Secretary Heather Cooke, regarding the catastrophic damage, caused by hurricane Irma to Caribbean sister islands.

His Honour the Speaker announced the following Message received from the Senate:

(No. 1)

**TO HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER AND  
MEMBERS OF THE HONOURABLE  
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:**

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Senator James S. Jardine, JP and Senator Vance M.E. Campbell, JP to serve as the Senate's representatives on the Standing Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on Private Bills.

And I am further pleased to announce the appointment of Senator Nandi S.O. Outerbridge, JP and Senator Vance Campbell, JP to serve as the Senate's representatives on the Standing Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on the Register of Members' Interests.

Senator the Hon. J.E. Dillas-Wright, MBE JP  
PRESIDENT

27th September 2017

**10:05 a.m.**

**Statements by Minister and/or Junior Ministers:**

MR. E. D. G. BURT made a Ministerial Statement regarding, his “Recent New York and Washington, D.C. Visits”.

MR. W. H. ROBAN read the following Ministerial Statements regarding “A Fleet Status Report – The Department of Marine & Ports Services” and “The State of Public Transportation Buses.

MR. C.W.D. BROWN made a Ministerial Statement regarding “An Explanation of the Recent Fish Die-Off”.

MR. D.V.S. RABAIN read the following Ministerial Statements, regarding the “Financial Support for Bermuda College Students” and the “Release of a New Geography Text Book, ‘Young Geographers’.

MR. J.S. SIMMONS made a Ministerial Statement regarding the “Bermuda Economic Development Corporation Loan Guarantee Programme”.

**10:29am**

**Question Period:**

MR. C.W.D.BROWN provided written responses to parliamentary questions from MRS. P.J. GORDON-PAMPLIN, which reads as follows:

Question 1: Will the Honourable Minister please inform the Honourable House of the number of work permits that were in issue on July 18, 2017, analysed by duration; specifying short term, between one (1) and two (2) years, between two (2) and three (3) years, between (3) years and five (5) years and over five (5) years?

**Answer:**

<b>Short Term Permits &amp; Periodic Permits as at July 18, 2017</b>	
1 month	121
1 year	943
2 year	157
3 month	427
3 year	263
4 month	165
4 year	2
5 month	202
5 year	75
6 month	375
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2730</b>
<b>Standard Permits as at July 18, 2017</b>	
1 year	1049
2 year	1302
3 year	1504
4 year	67
5 year	632
Over 5 year	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4554</b>

Question 2: Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House of the business categories of work permits that were in issue on July 18, 2017; separated by duration?

Answer: See attached lists. The use of “business categories” in the question is quite broad. As such, the spreadsheets list all active work permits as at July 18, 2017 as supported by the response given to question #1. (*Please refer to Parliament.bm website for detailed responses*).

MR.E.D.G.BURT provided oral responses to parliamentary questions from MRS. J.J. ATHERDEN which read as follows:

1. Would the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House of all Government Ministerial positions and Junior

Ministerial posts and indicate whether each is a full time or part time position?

All information with regard to Ministerial and Junior Ministerial positions is already in the public domain.

2. Would the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House of the total cost of the above mentioned Ministerial and Junior Ministerial posts for the remainder of this 2017/2018 fiscal year and what the future cost is on an annual basis?

The total Ministerial cost of the above mentioned Ministerial and Junior Ministerial posts for the remainder of this 2017/2018 fiscal year is \$631,808 (Represents cost for 6 months).

The second part of this question is a hypothetical question and I am unable to answer. We don't know what the Ministerial pay will be next year and how many Ministers will be in the Cabinet and if they will be on a full-time or part time basis.

MRS.P.J.GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a question to MR. E. D. G. BURT on his Ministerial Statement regarding his visit to New York and Washington D.C.

DR.E.G. GIBBONS asked a supplementary question.

MRS. J. J. ATHERDEN asked a supplementary question.

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a second supplementary question.

MR. W.L. SCOTT asked a question to MR. W.H. ROBAN, regarding his Ministerial Statement, on "Fleet State of Public Buses".

DR. E. G. GIBBONS asked a supplementary question

DR. E. G. GIBBONS asked a supplementary question.

MR. D. J. LISTER asked a supplementary question.

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a supplementary question.

MR.D.V.BURGESS asked a supplementary question.

MR.D.V.BURGESS asked a supplementary question.

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a second supplementary question.

MR.D.V.BURGESS asked a supplementary question.

MRS. R. D. L. MING asked a supplementary question.

MRS. T.S. FURBERT asked a question to MR.W.H.ROBAN on his Ministerial Statement.

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a supplementary question.

MR.W.L.SCOTT asked a supplementary question.

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a supplementary question.

MR. W. L. SCOTT asked a question to MR.W.H. ROBAN on his Ministerial Statement regarding the "The State of Public Transportation Buses".

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a question, followed by a supplementary question.

DR. E. G. GIBBONS asked MR.W.H.ROBAN a question on his Ministerial Statement.

DR. E. G. GIBBONS asked a supplementary question.

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a supplementary question.

DR. E. G. GIBBONS asked a second supplementary question.

MR. W.L. FURBERT asked a question.

MRS. J. J. ATHERDEN asked a question.

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a supplementary question.

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a second supplementary question.

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a supplementary question.

DR. E.G.GIBBONS asked a question followed by two supplementary questions.

MRS. J.J.ATHERDEN asked a question followed by two supplementary questions.

MR. D. J. LISTER asked a question to MR. W.H.ROBAN on his Ministerial Statement.

MR. D. J. LISTER asked a supplementary question.

MRS. J.J.ATHERDEN asked a question followed by two supplementary questions.

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a supplementary question.

MR. N. H. C. SIMONS asked MR. C.W.D. BROWN a question on his Ministerial Statement regarding "An Explanation of the Recent Fish Die-Off".

MRS. P. J. GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a supplementary question.

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

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MR. D. J. LISTER asked a supplementary question.

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

DR. E. G. GIBBONS asked a supplementary question.

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

MR. D. J. LISTER asked a supplementary question.

DR. E. G. GIBBONS asked a supplementary question.

MR.W. L. SCOTT asked MR. D.V.S. RABAIN a question on his Ministerial Statement regarding "Financial Support for Bermuda College Students".

MRS.P.J.GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a supplementary question.

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

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

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

DR. E. G. GIBBONS asked a supplementary question.

MR. D. J. LISTER asked a question.

MRS.P.J.GORDON-PAMPLIN asked a supplementary question.

**11:55pm**

**Congratulatory and /or Obituary Speeches:  
(Please refer to the House Hansard)**

**12:17pm  
Introduction of Bills:**

MR. E. D. G. Burt moved for leave to introduced and read the first time by its title a Bill entitled the "Tax Reform Commission Act 2017".

MR. E. D. G. Burt moved for leave to introduced and read the first time by its title a Bill entitled the "Appeal Tribunals (Miscellaneous) Act 2017".

**Orders of the Day**

Mr. E.D.G. Burt moved that the Bill entitled the "The Corporate Service Provider Business Amendment Act 2017" be now read a second time in the House, which was agreed to.

**12:30pm**

MR.E.D.G. BURT asked that the House adjourn for lunch, which was agreed to.

**2:00 p.m.**

The House resumed

MR. D.V. BURGESS in the Chair as Acting Speaker.

2:02pm- MRS. J. J. ATHERDEN  
2:21pm-MR. T. G. MONIZ  
2:24pm-MR. M.J. SCOTT  
2:28pm- MR.E.D.G. BURT

**2:37pm**

Bill committed

MS. S.E.JACKSON in the Chair.

MR. E.D.G. BURT moved Clauses 1 and 2.

2:41pm- MRS. J. J. ATHERDEN  
2:43pm- MR.E.D.G. BURT

Clauses 1-2 were agreed to as printed

**2:43pm**

MR. E.D.G. BURT moved Clauses 3, which was agreed to.

The Preamble was agreed to

The Report of Committee, as printed was agreed to.

The House Resumed.

Orders 2-4 were carried over

**2:48pm**

MR. R.P. COMMISSIONG moved the following motion standing in his name on the Order Paper.

**“Whereas** it is acknowledged that the increasing maldistribution of national income has facilitated the growth of income inequality and thus incipient poverty to levels not witnessed in over seven decades;

**And Whereas**, in addition, due to the near widespread utilization of foreign sourced low cost labour over the last quarter century, wages in real terms once inflation has been factored in; have declined for many of Bermuda’s workers;

**Be it Resolved**, pursuant to the Parliament Act 1957 part IV, that a Joint Select Committee be appointed to investigate, report on its subsequent findings; and to make recommendations to the House of Assembly with respect to the implementation of a living wage regime for Bermuda”.

**3:17pm**

His Honour the Speaker acknowledged the presence in the public gallery of Senator Jason Hayward.

3:17pm- MRS.P.J.GORDON-PAMPLIN  
3:27pm- MR. M.J. SCOTT  
2:59pm- DR. E.G.GIBBONS  
3:35pm- SPEAKER in the Chair  
3:38pm- DR. E.G. GIBBONS  
3:53pm- MR. H.K.E. SWAN  
4:00pm-MR. E.D.G. BURT  
4:04pm-MR. R. P. COMMISSION

The Speaker read the Motion and asked the House to agree to the Motion standing in Mr. R.P. Commissiong’s name, which was agreed to.

**4:07pm**

MS. K. N. WILSON on behalf of MR. E.D.G. BURT moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable her to move that the Bill entitled the “The Corporate Service Provider Business Amendment Act 2017” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of MS. K.N. WILSON, moved that the Bill entitled the “The Corporate Service Provider Business Amendment Act 2017” was then read the third time and passed.

**4:10pm**

MR. E.D.G. BURT moved that, at its next rising, the House adjourn to Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017, which was agreed to.

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

4:07pm- MR.W.L.FURBERT

4:15pm- MR.T.G. MONIZ

4:25pm- MR. D.J. LISTER (maiden speech)

4:40pm- MR. E.D.G BURT

**4:45pm**

The House adjourned until Friday next at  
10:00am.