

**Proceedings**  
**of the**  
**Honourable House of Assembly**  
**Session of 2026-2027**

**No.29**

**Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2026**

**Members Present:**

His Honour the Speaker | The Hon. Jache A. K. Adams | Dr. Leroy G. W. Bean | The Hon. E. David G. Burt | Mr. Vance M. E. Campbell  
The Hon. L. Craig Cannonier | The Hon. Owen K. Darrell | Dr. Douglas S. J. De Couto | The Hon. Zane J. S. DeSilva | Mr. Curtis L.  
Dickinson | Rev. Dr. Emily G. A. Dill | The Hon. Michael M. Fahy | Ms. Lovitta F. Foggo | The Hon. Tinée S. Furbert | The Hon.  
Wayne L. Furbert | The Hon. Jason P. Hayward | Mr. L. M. Robert King | The Hon. Alexa N. H. Lightbourne | Mr. Dennis J. R. Lister |  
Mrs. Renée D. L. Ming | Mr. R. Scott Pearman | The Hon. Diallo V. S. Rabain | Mr. Jarion C. Richardson | Mr. Dwayne V. Robinson |  
Mr. W. Lawrence Scott | Mr. Jamahl S. Simmons | The Hon. Ben A. Smith | Ms. Linda C. Smith | Mr. H. Kim E. Swan | Ms. Robin  
S. Tucker | Mr. Neville S. Tyrrell | The Hon. Michael A. Weeks | Mr. Paul G. E. Wilmot | The Hon. Kim N. Wilson

**This meeting of the House was held at the House Chamber, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Veritas Place, 65 Court Street, City of Hamilton.**

**10:02 a.m.**

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers

**10:04 a.m.**

Minutes of the Meeting the 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 were deferred.

**Announcements by the Speaker**

His Honour the Speaker informed Members of the absence of, Mr. T. C. Famous from the House of Assembly proceedings.

**Papers and Other Communications to the House**

The Hon. J. P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour, read the following communication to His Honour the Speaker: -

“I have the honour to attach and submit for the information of the Honourable House of Assembly the **“Economic Development Strategy 2023-2027- Strategic Priority 1: Local and International Business Retention and Expansion”**.”

**Statements by Ministers and Junior Ministers**

**10:05 a.m.**

Statement entitled “Update on Recruitment Across the Uniformed Services and Departments of the Ministry of National Security” was read by the Hon. M. A. Weeks, Minister of Economy and Labour.

**10:14 a.m.**

Statement entitled “Economic Development Strategy 2023-2027-Strategic Priority 1: Local and International Business Retention and Expansion” was read by the Hon. J. P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour.

**10:25 a.m.**

Statement entitled “Bermuda’s Next Steps with CARICOM” was read by the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne, Minister of Home Affairs.

**Question Period**

**10:44 a.m.**

Ms. R. S. Tucker asked the Hon. M. A. Weeks a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “Update on Recruitment Across the Uniformed Services and Departments of the Ministry of National Security”.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Ms. R. S. Tucker asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Ms. R. S. Tucker asked a second question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Ms. R. S. Tucker asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Ms. R. S. Tucker asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Ms. R. S. Tucker asked a third question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Ms. R. S. Tucker asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

**10:52 a.m.**

His Honour the Speaker

Ms. R. S. Tucker asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

**10:53 a.m.**

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a second question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a third question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

**10:59 a.m.**

L. M. R. King asked the Hon. J. P. Hayward a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled "Economic Development Strategy 2023-2027-Strategic Priority 1: Local and International Business Retention and Expansion".

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

**11:03 a.m.**

Mr. V. M. E. Campbell asked a question.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

Mr. V. M. E. Campbell asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

**11:05 a.m.**

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled "Bermuda's Next Steps with CARICOM".

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne replied.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne replied.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked a second question.

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne replied.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked a third question.

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne replied.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne replied.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne replied.

**Congratulatory and Obituary Speeches**

(Please refer to the House Hansard)

**11:13 a.m.**- Mr. D. J. R. Lister

**11:16 a.m.**- Ms. R. D. L. Ming

**11:19 a.m.**- The Hon. B. A. Smith

**11:20 a.m.**- The Hon. T. S. Furbert

**11:22 a.m.**- Dr. D. S. J. De Couto

**11:23 a.m.**- Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva

**Orders of the Day**

**11:25 a.m.**

The Hon. W. L. Furbert moved that the House resolve into Committee of Supply for further consideration of the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Fiscal Year 2026/2027, which was agreed to.

Ms. R. D. L. Ming in the Chair for Committee of Supply.

**11:28 a.m.**

The Hon. T. S. Furbert moved that the following Ministry of Youth, Social Development and Seniors Heads be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to: -

- 86 Ministry of Youth, Social Development and Seniors Headquarters
- 23 Child and Family Services
- 55 Financial Assistance

**12:29 p.m.**

The Hon. T. S. Furbert moved that the House do now adjourn for lunch, which was agreed to.

The House adjourned for lunch.

**2:02 p.m.**

The House resumed in Committee of Supply.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

**2:02 p.m.**

The Hon. T. S. Furbert continued with Head 86.

**2:28 p.m.**

Ms. L. F. Foggo acknowledged the presence of Senator Lindsay K. Simmons in the Public Gallery.

**3:01 p.m.**

Ms. L. C. Smith in the Chair.

**4:46 p.m.**

Ms. R. S. Tucker

**4:55 p.m.**

The Hon. T. S. Furbert replied

**5:00 p.m.**

Mr. D. J. R. Lister moved that Heads 86, 23 and 55 be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

**5:01 p.m.**

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

**5:02 p.m.**

The Hon. T. S. Furbert moved that the following Ministry of Economy and Labour Heads be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- 44 Ministry of Economy and Labour Headquarters
- 14 Department of Statistics
- 27 Immigration
- 29 Registry General
- 60 Workforce Development
- 94 Economic Development
- 99 Department of Labour

**6:30 p.m.**

Mr. W. L. A. Scott in the Chair.

**7:00 p.m.**

Mr. V. M. E. Campbell

**7:30 p.m.**

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair

**8:03 p.m.**

Mr. L. M. R. King

**8:07 p.m.**

Mr. D. V. Robinson

**8:10 p.m.**

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

**9:00 p.m.**

The Hon. J. P. Hayward moved that Heads 44, 14, 27, 29, 60, 94 and 99 be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward moved that the Committee rise, report progress and ask for leave to sit again 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2026, which was agreed to.

The Committee rose.

The House resumed.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

The Chairman reported progress and asked for leave to sit again, which was agreed to.

**9:01 p.m.**

The Hon. J. P. Hayward moved that the Bill entitled the “Employment Amendment Act 2026” be now read a second time, which was agreed to.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward spoke on the Bill.

**9:04 p.m.**

Mr. V. M. E. Campbell

**9:05 p.m.**

Mr. R. S. Pearman

**9:10 p.m.**

Mr. D. J. R. Lister

**9:12 p.m.**

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

**9:15 p.m.**

The Bill was Committed.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward moved Clause 1-7, which was agreed to.

**9:18 p.m.**

Mr. R. S. Pearman

**9:23 p.m.**

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

**9:26 p.m.**

Mr. R. S. Pearman

Mr. R. S. Pearman moved that the Committee rise, report progress on the Bill, which was defeated 13 to 8, with 3 abstentions.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams-**No**

Rev Dr. L. G. W. Bean-**Absent**

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt-**No**

Mr. V. M. E. Campbell-**Yes**

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier-**Yes**

The Hon. O. K. Darrell-**No**

Dr. D. S. J. DeCouto-**Absent**

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva-**No**

Mr. C. L. Dickinson-**Absent**

Rev. Dr. E. G. A. Dill-**Abstain**

The Hon. M. M. Fahy-**Yes**

Mr. T. C. Famous-**Absent**

Ms. L. F. Foggo-**Chair**

The Hon. T. S. Furbert-**No**

The Hon. W. L. Furbert-**No**

The Hon. J. P. Hayward-**No**

Mr. L. M. R. King-**Yes**

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne-**Absent**

Mr. D. J. R. Lister-**No**

Mrs. R. D. L. Ming-**Abstain**

Mr. R. S. Pearman-**Yes**

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain-**No**

Mr. J. C. Richardson-**Absent**

Mr. D. V. Robinson-**Yes**

Mr. W. L. A. Scott-**Absent**

Mr. J. S. Simmons-**No**

Mr. S. A. Simmons-**Absent**

The Hon. B. A. Smith-**Yes**

Ms. L. C. Smith-**Absent**

Mr. H. K. E. Swan-**No**

Ms. Tucker-**Yes**

Mr. N. S. Tyrrell-**No**

The Hon. M. A. Weeks-**No**

Mr. P. G. E. Wilmot-**Abstain**

The Hon. K. N. Wilson-**Absent**

Clauses 1-7 were agreed to, as printed.

The Preamble was agreed to.

The Committee rose.

The House resumed.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

The Bill was reported to the House as printed, which was agreed to, with 1 objection.

**9:38 p.m.**

The Hon. J. P. Hayward moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled “Employment Amendment Act 2026” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of the Hon. J. P. Hayward, the Bill entitled “Employment Amendment Act 2026” was then read a third time by its title only and passed.

**9:39 p.m.**

The Hon. W. L. Furbert moved that Standing Order 14 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled the “Customs Tariff Amendment Act 2026”, be read for the first time, which was agreed to.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert, read for the first time by its title a Bill entitled the “Customs Tariff Amendment Act 2026”.

Item numbers 2-5 on the Order Paper were carried over.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the House at its rising adjourn to Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026, which was agreed to.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the House do now adjourn, which was agreed to.

House Adjourned