

Proceedings
of the
Honourable House of Assembly
Session of 2025-2026

No. 23

Friday, 12th December, 2025

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 | Rev. Dr. Emily G. A. Dill | The Hon. Michael M. Fahy | Mr. T. Christopher Famous | Ms. Lovitta F. Foggo | The Hon. Tinée S. Furbert | The Hon. Wayne L. Furbert | The Hon. Jason P. Hayward | The Hon. L. M. Robert King | The Hon. Alexis 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 A. Scott | Mr. Jamahl S. Simmons | Mr. Scott A. Simmons | 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, 3rd Floor, Veritas Place, 65 Court Street, City of Hamilton.

10:03 a.m.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers

10:05 a.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of 5th December 2025 were confirmed.

10:06 a.m.

Announcements by the His Honour the Speaker

His Honour the Speaker informed Members that Mr. B. A. Smith and Mr. C. L. Dickinson will be absent from today's proceedings.

His Honour the Speaker addressed Members in regards to the last Meeting and personal attacks.

Papers and Other Communications to the House

10:12 a.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt

His Honour the Speaker

10:13 a.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance, read the following communications to His Honour the Speaker: -

"I have the honour to attach and submit for the Information of the Honourable House of Assembly the **"Bermuda Public Accountability Board (BPAB)- Annual Report to the Minister of Finance, March 31, 2024."**;

the "Bermuda Public Accountability Board (BPAB)- Audited Financial Statements for the year ending March 31, 2024";

the "Bermuda Public Accountability Board (BPAB) – Annual Report to the Minister of Finance March 31, 2025"; and

the "Bermuda Public Accountability Board (BPAB) – Audited Financial Statements for the year ending March 31, 2025"

10:14 a.m.

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 **"Limited Liability Company (Forms) Amendment Regulations 2025"** made by the Minister of Finance in exercise of the power conferred by section 255 of the Limited Liability Company Act 2016."

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 **"Companies (Forms) Amendment Rules 2025"** made

by the Minister of Finance in exercise of the power conferred by section 288 of Companies Act 1981.”

10:15 a.m.

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 **“Benefit Entities Act 2025 Commencement Day Notice”** made by the Minister of Finance in exercise of the power conferred by section 9 of the Benefit Entities Act 2025.”

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 **“Registry General- Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024”** in accordance with section 19 of the Registration (Births and Deaths Act 1949.”

10:16 a.m.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams, Minister of Public Works and Environment, 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 **“Water Resources (Pollution Discharge Reporting, Abatement and Remediation) Regulations 2025”** made by the Minister responsible for the Environment, in exercise of the power conferred by section 39, as read with Part VIII, of the Water Resources Act 1975.”

Statements by Ministers and Junior Ministers

10:17 a.m.

Statement entitled “On the Protection of Public Officers” was read by the Hon. E. D. G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance.

10:22 a.m.

Statement entitled “Government of Bermuda Fiscal Update” was read by the Hon. E. D. G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance.

His Honour the Speaker acknowledged the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Burt, the parents of the Hon. E. D. G. Burt and his sibling in the Public Gallery.

10:31 a.m.

Statement entitled “Heritage Month Theme 2026” was read by the Hon. O. K. Darrell, Minister of Tourism and Transport, Culture and Sport.

10:37 a.m.

His Honour the Speaker acknowledged the presence of former Member of Parliament, Mr. Michael Scott in the Public Gallery.

Statement entitled “Release of the 2025 Annual Report of the Bermuda Drug Information Network (BerDIN)” was read by the Hon. M. A. Weeks, Minister of National Security.

10:50 a.m.

Statement entitled “Personal Safety and Security During the Holiday Period” was read by the Hon. M. A. Weeks, Minister of National Security.

10:55 a.m.

Statement entitled “Promoting Mental Wellness During the Holidays” was read by the Hon. K. N. Wilson, Minister of Health.

11:00 a.m.

Statement entitled “Labour Advisory Council 2025” was read by the Hon. J. P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour.

11:05 a.m.

Statement entitled “The 2024 Annual Report of the Registrar General” was read by the Hon. J. P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour.

11:10 a.m.

Statement entitled “Affordable Bermuda Agenda Update” was read by the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne, Minister of Home Affairs.

11:17 a.m.

Statement entitled “Updates to the National Electricity Sector Policy” was read by the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne, Minister of Home Affairs.

11:28 a.m.

Statement entitled “Electoral Reform Update” was read by the Hon. D. V. S. Rabain, Minister for the Cabinet Office and Digital Innovation.

11:33 a.m.

Statement entitled “Bermuda Government’s Digital Transformation Programme” was read by the Hon. D. V. S. Rabain, Spokesperson for Education, Minister for the Cabinet Office and Digital Innovation.

11:40 a.m.

Statement entitled “Water Resources Pollution (Discharge Reporting, Abatement and Remediation) Regulations 2025” was read by the Hon. J. A. K. Adams, Minister of Public Works and Environment.

11:45 a.m.

Statement entitled “Anti-Bullying Week 2025” was read by the Hon. T. S. Furbert, Minister of Youth, Social Development and Seniors.

Premier’s Questions

11:51 a.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a question in reference to wage gap.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a second question in reference to derelict properties.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a third question in reference to Healthcare and the aging population.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

11:56 a.m.

Ms. L. C. Smith asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a question in reference to CARICOM.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

Ms. L. C. Smith asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

11:58 a.m.

Mr. H. K. E. Swan asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a question in reference to cost of living.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

Mr. H. K. E. Swan asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

Mr. H. K. E. Swan asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

12:04 p.m.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Speaker’s Chair

12:06 p.m.

Ms. L. F. Foggo

Ms. L. C. Smith asked her second supplementary question in reference to CARICOM.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

12:07 p.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a question in reference to Municipalities.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

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

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

12:10 p.m.

Mr. N. S. Tyrrell asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a question in reference to grants for community clubs.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

Mr. N. S. Tyrrell asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a supplementary question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

12:14p.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a question in reference to inquest laws.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

Mr. R. S. Pearman asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

12:16p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a question in reference to OARRS Inc.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

12:17 p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier

His Honour the Speaker

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

12:18 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

12:19p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier

His Honour the Speaker

12:20p.m.

Rev. Dr. E. G. A. Dill asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a question in reference to Shorelink.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

Question Period

12:21 p.m.

The Hon. K. N. Wilson, Minister of Health, provided Oral Response to Parliamentary Question from Dr. D. S. J. De Couto:

*1. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House whether any additional Government financial grant or assistance to the Bermuda Hospitals Board (BHB) may be needed to support the recent pay rise agreement between BPSU and the BHB?

The Hon. K. N. Wilson provided Oral Answer.

12:22p.m.

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain, Minister for the Cabinet Office and Digital Innovation, informed His Honour the Speaker more time will be needed to provide an Oral Response to the Parliamentary Question from Dr. D. S. J. De Couto:

*1. Will the Honourable Minister please provide this Honourable House with a list of all Senators and Members of the House of Assembly who are currently receiving or have received any form of remuneration or compensation over and above their Parliamentary or Ministerial salaries for any work or services performed or consultancy or employment contract with any Government ministries, quangos, Statutory Boards or other publicly-funded entities or agencies, from 1 September 2024 to 30 November 2025; and the amount of remuneration or compensation received?

12:24 p.m.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva, Deputy Premier and Minister of Housing and Municipalities, provided Written Responses to Parliamentary Questions from the Hon. M. M. Fahy.

1. With respect to the recently announced procurement of one- and two-bedroom capsule units and expandable container home units, will the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House of the identity and address of the vendor of each unit and the total cost of each unit, broken down by (i) purchase cost per unit (ii) shipping and freight costs to Bermuda of the said units (iii) other costs directly related to the procurement of the said units, including any travel costs of the Minister and/or public servants incurred in visiting the vendor's manufacturing and/or sales site?

2. Will the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House of the procurement methodology followed regarding the purchase of the units, including what other vendors were considered for the units and specifications requested of the vendor for the units?
3. Will the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House of the identity of those Government Departments/ quangos/ agencies and/or non-Government persons / entities that were consulted or gave input to the Ministry of Housing and Municipalities and/or other Government agencies / quangos before purchasing the units?

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams, Minister of Public Works and Environment, provided Written Responses to Parliamentary Questions from the Ms. L. C. Smith.

1. Given the recent Ministerial Statement by the Minister of Health with respect to protection against the potentially fatal Leptospirosis disease spread by rats, will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House as to what measures (including trash collection and management of horticultural waste) his Ministry uses to compile quantitative or anecdotal information for estimating the rat population and its increase or decrease over periods of time?
2. Given that the primary effort to control the rat population is the use of poison and bait boxes, will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House as to whether the Ministry, perhaps through the Department of Environment and National Resources, has studied or considered other methods for better control of the rat and rodent pest problem, such as sterilization instead of poison and/or a controlled increase of the Barne Owl population, a natural predator of rodents?
3. Will the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House as to whether Government would consider more holistic approaches to managing the rat/rodent pest problem, as well as the large feral chicken population, through stronger waste management and enhanced controls over those environments that foster the breeding of pest species?

The Hon. K. N. Wilson informed His Honour the Speaker that she has requested the information in reference to Parliamentary Question #3 for Ms. L. C. Smith, which will be put forth to the Hon. J. A. K. Adams, Minister of Public Work and Environment.

12:25 p.m.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks, Minister of National Security, provided Oral Responses to Parliamentary Questions from the Hon. L. M. R. King:

- *1. On 7th November 2025, the Honourable Minister advised this Honourable House that the Government had an engineer in consultation regarding the repair of critical infrastructure on the HM Customs and Immigration Dock located on Ordinance Island. Will the Honourable Minister please provide this Honourable House with the planning number and estimated costs of the repair works?

The Hon. M. A. Weeks provided an Oral Answer.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

- *2. In November 2025, only a very small number of vessels arriving in St. George's were physically inspected by HM Customs, with a prohibited weapon being found on board one vessel. Will the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House what specific and increased measures are being taken to protect Bermuda from dangerous weapons, people and drugs entering this island?

The Hon. M. A. Weeks provided an Oral Response.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

- *3 Will the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House when a boat will be made available on a full-time basis to HM Customs and Immigration to facilitate safeguarding our borders?

The Hon. M. A. Weeks provided an Oral Response.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

12:33 p.m.

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

The House adjourned for lunch.

2:03 p.m.

The House resumed.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

Question Period continued

2:03 p.m.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell, Minister of Tourism and Transport, Culture and Sport, provided Oral Responses to Parliamentary Questions from Mr. D. V. Robinson:

*1. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House how he intends to address the potential shortage of the Bermudian workforce in the Hospitality and Tourism Industry?

The Hon. O. K. Darrell provided an Oral Response.

Mr. D. V. Robinson asked supplementary question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell deferred the supplementary Question to the Hon. J. P. Hayward.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

Mr. D. V. Robinson asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

*2. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House what course of action will he take if Hotels fall below the 70% Bermudian employment requirement for concessions due to a shortage of Bermudian workforce available?

The Hon. J. P. Hayward provided an Oral Response.

Mr. D. V. Robinson asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

Mr. D. V. Robinson asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

*3. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House whether he or his Ministry request any periodic feedback or progress on the Management Trainee programs within the hospitality and tourism industry, especially those tied to concessions?

The Hon. O. K. Darrell provided an Oral Response.

Mr. D. V. Robinson asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

Mr. D. V. Robinson asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

2:15 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled "On the Protection of Public Officers".

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

2:16 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled "Government of Bermuda Fiscal Update".

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a second question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

2:19 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto asked a question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto asked a second question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

2:23 p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier (PoO)

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

2:24 p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier (PoO)

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

2:25 p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier (PoO)

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto asked a third question.

2:26 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker asked Dr. D. S. J. De Couto to rephrase his question.

2:27 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto rephrased his question.

2:28 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

2:29 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt (PoO)

2:30 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker

2:31 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto withdrew his remarks in reference to wholesale and retail sale, GDP figures.

2:32 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked the Hon. M. A. Weeks a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled "Release of the 2025 Annual Report of the Bermuda Drug Information Network (BerDIN)".

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

His Honour the Speaker

The Hon. L. M. R. King rephrased the question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a second question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

2:35 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked the Hon. J. P. Hayward a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled "Labour Advisory Council 2025".

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

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

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

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

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

2:38 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked the Hon. J. P. Hayward a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled "The 2024 Annual Report of the Registrar General".

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier asked a question.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

2:44 p.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled "Affordable Bermuda Agenda Update".

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

The M. M. Fahy asked a second question.

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

The 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.

2:47 p.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “Updates to the National Electricity Sector Policy”.

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

The M. M. Fahy asked a supplementary question.

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

The M. M. Fahy asked a second question.

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

The M. M. Fahy asked a supplementary question.

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

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

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

The M. M. Fahy asked a third question.

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

2:52 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker called upon Dr. D. S. J. De Couto to present numbers in reference to wholesale and retail sale, GDP figures.

2:54 p.m.

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne provided an answer to the Hon. M. M. Fahy.

Congratulatory and Obituary Speeches

(Please refer to the House Hansard)

The Hon. L. M. R. King

2:55 p.m.- The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva

2:57 p.m.- Ms. L. C. Smith

2:58 p.m.- Mr. H. K. E. Swan

3:00 p.m.- The Hon. M. A. Weeks

3:01 p.m.- Mr. N. S. Tyrrell

3:02 p.m.- The Hon. T. S. Furbert

3:06 p.m.- Mr. R. S. Pearman

3:07 p.m.- The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain

3:08 p.m.- Mr. D. J. R. Lister

3:11 p.m.- Rev. Dr. E. G. A. Dill

Mr. T. C. Famous

3:13 p.m.- The Hon. M. M. Fahy

3:14 p.m.- The Hon. E. D. G. Burt

His Honour the Speaker

Orders of the Day

3:17 p.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert moved that the Bill entitled the “Land Valuation and Tax Amendment Act 2025” be now read a second time, which was agreed to.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert spoke on the Bill.

3:28 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto

3:31 p.m.

Ms. L. C. Smith

3:33 p.m.

Mr. H. K. E. Swan

3:36 p.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

3:38 p.m.

The Bill was Committed.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert moved Clauses 1-7, which was agreed to.

3:43 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. Decouto

3:44 p.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

3:45 p.m.

Clauses 1-7 were agreed to, as printed.

3:46 p.m.

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.

3:47 p.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert moved that the Bill entitled the “Bermuda Monetary Authority Amendment Act 2025” be now read a second time, which was agreed to.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert spoke on the Bill.

3:57 p.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

3:59 p.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

The Bill was Committed.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert moved Clauses 1-5, which was agreed to.

4:03 p.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

4:04 p.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

4:05 p.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

4:06 p.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

4:07 p.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

4:08 p.m.

Clauses 1-5 were agreed to, as printed.

The Schedule was agreed to.

The Preamble was agreed to.

4:09 p.m.

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.

4:10 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the Bill entitled the “Beneficial Ownership Amendment Act 2025” be now read a second time, which was agreed to.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt spoke on the Bill.

4:13 p.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

4:15 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

The Bill was Committed.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved Clauses 1-2, which was agreed to.

Clauses 1-2 were agreed to, as printed.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved Clause 3 and an amendment to Clause 3, which was agreed to.

4:22 p.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

Clause 3 was agreed to, as amended.

4:23 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved Clause 4, which was agreed to.

4:25 p.m.

Clause 4 was agreed to, as printed.

The Preamble was agreed to.

The Committee rose.

4:26 p.m.

The House resumed.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

The Bill was reported to the House as amended, which was agreed to.

4:27 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker acknowledged the presence of Youth Parliament Member, Jackson Langley in the Public Gallery, who serves as Deputy Premier and is also one of Bermuda's top youth triathlon athletes.

His Honour the Speaker also acknowledged the presence of Senator Tarik J. D. Smith in the Public Gallery.

4:28 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the Bill entitled the "Insurance Amendment (No.2) Act 2025" be now read a second time, which was agreed to.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt spoke on the Bill.

4:45 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto

4:47 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

The Bill was Committed.

4:48 p.m.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved Clauses 1-10, which was agreed to.

4:53 p.m.

Clauses 1-10 were agreed to, as printed.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved Clauses 11-20, which was agreed to.

4:59 p.m.

Clauses 11-20 were agreed to, as printed.

5:00 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved Clauses 21-31, which was agreed to.

5:05 p.m.

Clauses 21-31 were agreed to, as printed.

5:06 p.m.

The Schedule was agreed to.

The Preamble was agreed to.

The Committee rose.

5:07 p.m.

The House resumed.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

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

The House briefly adjourned to allow the Hon. E. D. G. Burt preparation for the Supplementary Estimate No. 1 for Financial Year 2025/2026.

5:09 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the House do now resolve into Committee of Supply for further consideration of the Supplementary Estimate No. 1 for Financial Year 2025/2026, which was agreed to.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair for Committee of Supply.

5:16 p.m.

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain moved that the following Item 1 Ministry of Cabinet and Digital Innovation Heads be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- 9 Cabinet Office
- 32 Department of Planning

- 43 Department of Information and Digital Technologies
- 61 Department of Employee and Organizational Development

5:24 p.m.

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain moved that Item 1 Heads 9, 32, 43, 61, be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

Mr. D. J. R. Lister spoke to Item 2 Head 25-Department of Corrections, which is a non-debatable Head.

5:29 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the following Item 3 Ministry of Finance Heads be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- 10 Ministry of Finance Headquarters
- 11 Accountant General

5:35 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. DeCouto

5:36 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt replied.

5:37 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that Item 3 Heads 10 and 11 be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

The Hon. K. N. Wilson moved that the following Item 5 Ministry of Health Head be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- 24 Hospitals

5:41 p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier

5:44 p.m.

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

5:47 p.m.

The Hon. K. N. Wilson moved that Item 5 Head 24 be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams moved that the following Item 6 Ministry of Public Works and Environment Head be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- 68 Parks

5:51 p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier

5:53 p.m.

Mr. H. K. E. Swan

5:54 p.m.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams replied.

5:57 p.m.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams moved that Item 6 Head 68 be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

5:58 p.m.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell moved that the following Item 7 Ministry of Tourism and Transport, Culture and Sport Head be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- 71 Ministry of Tourism and Transport, Culture and Sport Headquarters

6:03 p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier

6:04 p.m.

Mr. H. K.E. Swan

6:10 p.m.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

6:13 p.m.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell moved that Item 7 Head 71 be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

6:14 p.m.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks moved that the following Item 8 Ministry of National Security Head be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- 7 Police

6:17 p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier (PoO)

The House was briefly adjourned to allow the Hon. M. A. Weeks time to obtain correct figures for Head 7-Police.

6:18 p.m.

Ms. L. F. Foggo

6:20 p.m.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks continued with Head 7

6:21 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King

6:22 p.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier

The Hon M. A. Weeks replied.

6:23 p.m.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks moved that Item 8 Head 7 be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

6:24 p.m.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert moved that the following Item 9 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

6:35 p.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

6:36 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King

6:37 p.m.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert replied.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert moved that Item 9 Heads 86 and 23 be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne moved that the following Item 10 Ministry of Home Affairs Heads be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- 93 Ministry of Home Affairs Headquarters
- 89 Energy

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne moved that Item 10 Heads 93 and 89 be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

6:39 p.m.

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain moved that the following Item 11 Cabinet Office Head 65 Capital Development be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- Additional Community Club Grants

6:40 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain replied.

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain moved that Item 11 Cabinet Office Head 65-Additional Community Grants be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

6:44 p.m.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert moved that the following Item 12 Youth, Social Development and Seniors Headquarters Head 65 Capital Development be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- Security Upgrades at Residential Facilities,
- Brangman Home Modernization,
- Eastern Zone Community Centre Bathroom Upgrades

The Hon. T. S. Furbert moved that Item 12 Youth, Social Development and Seniors Headquarters Head 65 Capital Development:-

- Security Upgrades at Residential Facilities
- Brangman Home Modernization
- Eastern Zone Community Centre Bathroom Upgrades

-be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

6:47 p.m.

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne moved that the following Item 13 Energy, Head 65 Capital Development- Community Solar Program Pilot be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

6:55 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King

6:56 p.m.

Ms. L. C. Smith

The Hon. M. M. Fahy

6:58 p.m.

Ms. F. Foggo acknowledged the presence of the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Senator, the Hon. Kim R. Wilkerson, in the Public Gallery.

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

7:03 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King

7:04 p.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy

7:06 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt

7:08 p.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy

7:09 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King

7:10 p.m.

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

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne moved that Item13 Energy Head 65 Capital Development- Community Solar Program Pilot be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

7:13 p.m.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva moved that the following Item14 Bermuda Housing Corporation, Head 65 Capital Development- Affordable Housing Investments be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

7:17 p.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy

7:18 p.m.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva moved that Item14 Bermuda Housing Corporation, Head 65 Capital Development- Affordable Housing Investments be approved as printed, which was agreed to.

7:19 p.m.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva moved that Items 11, 12, 13 and 14 Head 65 be approved, which was agreed to.

7:20 p.m.

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain moved that the following Item15 Planning, Head 66 Capital Acquisitions- Energov Tenant Migration be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

7:21 p.m.

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain moved that the following Item16 Information and Digital Technologies, Head 66 Capital Acquisitions be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- Cloud and Mobile Security Enhancements
- Device Replacements

7:25 p.m.

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain moved that the following Item17 Education Headquarters, Head 66 Capital Acquisitions- Additional IT Equipment be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

7:27 p.m.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks moved that the following Item18 Police, Head 66 Capital Acquisitions be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

- Maritime Radar Replacement
- Police Vehicles

The Hon. M. A. Weeks moved that the following Item19 Police, Head 66 Capital Acquisitions- Upgrade Border Control Scanners be now taken under consideration, which was agreed to:-

7:32 p.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy

7:33 p.m.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks moved that Items 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 Head 66 be approved, which was agreed to.

7:34 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the following Item 2 Ministry of Justice Head 25- Psychologists be approved, which was agreed to.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the following Item 4 Ministry of Education Headquarters Head 16 be approved, which was agreed to.

- AI Education Initiatives
- Additional Scholarships and Awards

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the following Item 10 Ministry of Home Affairs Head 93 be approved, which was agreed to.

- Eat Grow Save- Community Garden
- Digital Finance Pilot

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the following Item 10 Ministry of Home Affairs Head 89- Student Bursary be approved, which was agreed to.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the Supplementary Estimate No. 1 for the Financial Year 2025/2026 be approved, which was agreed to.

The Committee rose.

7:35 p.m.

The House resumed.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

Order No. 6, Opposition Bill entitled “Absentee Voting Act 2025” was withdrawn and discharged from the Order Paper.

7:37 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled “Beneficial Ownership Amendment Act 2025” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of the Hon. E. D. G. Burt, the Bill entitled “Beneficial Ownership Amendment Act 2025” was then read a third time by its title only and passed.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled “Insurance Amendment (No. 2) Act 2025” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of the Hon. E. D. G. Burt, the Bill entitled “Insurance Amendment (No. 2) Act 2025” was then read a third time by its title only and passed.

7:38 p.m.

Mr. D. J. R. Lister moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled “Land Valuation and Tax Amendment Act 2025” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. D. J. R. Lister, the Bill entitled “Land Valuation and Tax Amendment Act 2025” was then read a third time by its title only and passed.

Mr. D. J. R. Lister moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled “Bermuda Monetary Authority Amendment Act 2025” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. D. J. R. Lister, the Bill entitled “Bermuda Monetary Authority Amendment Act 2025” was then read a third time by its title only and passed.

7:39 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the House at its rising adjourn to Friday February 20th, 2026, which was agreed to.

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

Mr. N. S. Tyrrell moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that a message be sent to the Senate conveying Christmas and New Year greetings, which was agreed to.

Mr. N. S. Tyrrell moved that Christmas and New Years Greetings be conveyed to the Senate, which was agreed to.

Mr. N. S. Tyrrell moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year be conveyed to His Honour the Speaker, which was agreed to.

Mr. N. S. Tyrrell moved that His Honour the Speaker be requested to accept Christmas greetings and best wishes from the Members of the House of Assembly, which was agreed to.

Mr. N. S. Tyrrell moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year be conveyed to His Excellency the Governor, Andrew Murdoch, which was agreed to.

Mr. N. S. Tyrrell moved that His Honour the Speaker be requested to convey to His Excellency the Governor, Andrew Murdoch and his family hearty Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New

Year from the Speaker and the Members of the House of Assembly, which was agreed to.

7:42 p.m.

Mr. T. C. Famous

7:47 p.m.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva

7:52 p.m.

Mr. J. S. Simmons

7:55 p.m.

Ms. L. C. Smith

7:58 p.m.

Mr. H. K. E. Swan

8:18 p.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

8:22 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King

8:25 p.m.

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne

8:32 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt

8:41 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker

8:45 p.m.

The House adjourned.