

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

No. 21

Friday, 21st November, 2025

Members Present:

His Honour the Speaker | The Hon. Jache A. K. Adams | Dr. Leroy G. W. Bean | Mr. Vance M. E. Campbell | The Hon. L Craig Cannonier | The Hon. Owen K. Darrell | Dr. Douglas S. J. De Couto | Mr. Curtis L. Dickinson | 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. 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. Dwayne V. Robinson | Mr. W. Lawrence A. Scott | Mr. Jamahl S. Simmons | Mr. Scott A. Simmons | Mr. Ben A. Smith | Ms. Linda C. Smith | Mr. H. Kim E. Swan | Ms. Robin S. Tucker | 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.

10:05 a.m.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers

10:06 a.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of 7th November 2025 were confirmed.

Announcements by the His Honour the Speaker

10:06 a.m.

His Honour the Speaker announced Members, the Hon. E. D. G. Burt and Mr. N. S. Tyrrell will be absent from today's proceedings.

Papers and Other Communications to the House

10:07 a.m.

The Hon. K. N. Wilson, Minister of Health, read the following communication to His Honour Speaker: -

"I have the honour to attach and submit for the information of the Honourable House of Assembly the "**Bermuda Hospitals Board Annual Report 2021**"."

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 consideration of the Honourable House of Assembly the "**Statistics (Census of Population and Housing) Order**

2025" proposed to made by the Minister responsible for statistics, in exercise of the power conferred by section 5 (3) of the Statistics Act 2002."

Statements by Ministers and Junior Ministers

10:08 a.m.

Statement entitled "Land Tax Relief for Surviving Spouses" was read by the Hon. W. L. Furbert, Acting Minister of Finance.

10:15 a.m.

Statement entitled "Introduction of the Atlantic Child Advocacy Alliance" was read by the Hon. T. S. Furbert, Minister of Youth, Social Development and Seniors.

10:22 a.m.

Statement entitled "Anti-Violence Town Hall Meetings" was read by the Hon. M. A. Weeks, Minister of National Security.

10:32 a.m.

Statement entitled "Statistics (Census of Population and Housing) Order 2025" was read by the Hon. J. P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour.

Question Period

10:37 a.m.

His Honour the Speaker informed Members that the answer to Dr. S. J. De Couto Parliamentary Question to the Hon. E. D. G. Burt will be deferred to the next meeting when the Hon. E. D. G. Burt is present in the House.

- *1. Will the Honourable Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House whether he receives any benefits as Premier outside his parliamentary salary, health insurance and pension benefits; and if so, what is the form and monetary value of such benefits, for each of the calendar years 2023, 2024 and 2025 to date?

10:37 a.m.

The Hon. K. N. Wilson asked for leave of the House under the provisions of Standing Order 18 (4) to defer the answer to the following 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?

-which was agreed to.

10:39 a.m.

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain, Spokesperson for Education, Minister for the Cabinet Office and Digital Innovation, provided Written Responses to Parliamentary Questions from Mr. B. A. Smith:

1. Will the Honourable Minister please provide this Honourable House with details on the implementation strategy for the new ban on student use of personal electronic devices including cell phones and smartwatches during school hours, including how schools are expected to monitor and enforce the policy?
2. Will the Honourable Minister please confirm whether additional personnel such as school safety officers, hall monitors, or security staff will be required to enforce the ban, and if so, how many positions are being allocated and funded across the school system?
3. Will the Honourable Minister please confirm what will be the consequences for students or teachers who violate the electronic device ban, and will there be a standardized enforcement protocol across all public schools to ensure consistency and fairness?

10:40 a.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto asked the Hon. W. L. Furbert a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled "Land Tax Relief for Surviving Spouses".

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

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

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto rephrased the second question.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

Mr. D. V. Robinson asked a question.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

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

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

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

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

10:44 a.m.

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

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

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

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

10:46 a.m.

Ms. Robin S. Tucker asked a question.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

Ms. Robin S. Tucker asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

Ms. Robin S. Tucker asked a second question.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

Ms. Robin S. Tucker asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

His Honour the Speaker.

10:51 a.m.

Ms. R. S. Tucker asked the Hon. T. S. Furbert a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement “Introduction of the Atlantic Child Advocacy Alliance”.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert replied.

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

The Hon. T. S. Furbert replied.

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

The Hon. T. S. Furbert replied.

10:55 a.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked the Hon. M. A. Weeks a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “Anti-Violence Town Hall Meetings”.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

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

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Mr. B. A. Smith asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Mr. B. A. Smith asked a second supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

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

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

His Honour the Speaker

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

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

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

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Mr. B. A. Smith asked a supplementary question.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

11:05 a.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto asked the Hon. J. P. Hayward a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “Statistics (Census of Population and Housing) Order 2025”.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

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

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

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

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

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

His Honour the Speaker

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

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

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

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

11:10 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.

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

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

Congratulatory and Obituary Speeches

(Please refer to the House Hansard)

11:13 a.m.- Mr. H. K. E. Swan

11:16 a.m.- Mr. S. A. Simmons

11:18 a.m.- Mr. R. S. Pearman

11:19 a.m.- The Hon. O. K. Darrell

11:22 a.m.- The Hon. M. A. Weeks

11:24 a.m.- Ms. L. C. Smith

11:25 a.m.- Mr. D. J. R. Lister

11:28 a.m.- The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain

11:31 a.m.-The Hon. L. M. R. King

11:32 a.m. -Mrs. R. D. L. Ming

11:35 a.m.-Ms. R. S. Tucker

11:36 a.m.-His Honour the Speaker

Introduction of Bills

11:36 a.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert read for the first time by its title a Bill entitled the “Corporate Income Tax Amendment (No. 2) Act 2025”.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert read for the first time by its title a Bill entitled the “Tax Credits Act 2025”.

Orders of the Day

The Hon. W. L. Furbert moved that the Bill entitled the “Companies (Prohibition of Bearer Shares and Nominee Directors) Amendment Act 2025” be now read a second time, which was agreed to.

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

11:44 a.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

11:51 a.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert replied.

The Bill was Committed.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

11:52 a.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert moved Clauses 1-3, which was agreed to.

Clauses 1-3 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.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams moved that consideration be given to the draft Regulations entitled the “Clean Air Amendment Regulations 2025”, proposed to be made by the Minister responsible for the environment in exercise of the power conferred by section 11 of the Clean Air Act 1991, which was agreed to.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams spoke on the draft Regulations.

12:10 p.m.

Ms. L. C. Smith

12:12 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King

12:13 p.m.

Mr. H. K. E. Swan

12:20 p.m.

Ms. L. F. Foggo

12:23 p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier

12:30 p.m.

Mr. D. J. R. Lister

12:34 p.m.

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

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams moved that the said draft Regulations be approved and a suitable message be sent to His Excellency the Governor, which was agreed to.

Item numbers 3 and 4 on the Order Paper were carried over.

12:43 p.m.

The Hon. W. L. Furbert moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled “Companies (Prohibition of Bearer Shares and Nominee Directors) Amendment Act 2025” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of the Hon. W. L. Furbert, the Bill entitled “Companies (Prohibition of Bearer Shares and Nominee

Directors) Amendment Act 2025” was then read a third time by its title only and passed.

12:44 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker granted leave for the Hon. D. V. S Rabain to table the “Fairmont Southampton Hotel and Resort Master Plan (Southampton Parish) Special Development Order 2025”.

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain, Minister for the Cabinet Office and Digital Innovation, 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 **“Fairmont Southampton Hotel and Resort Master Plan (Southampton Parish) Special Development Order 2025”** as made by the Minister responsible for planning, in exercise of the power conferred by section 15 (1) of the Development and Planning Act 1974.”

12:45 p.m.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward moved that the House, at its rising, adjourn until Friday, 5th December, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., which was agreed to.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward moved that the House do now adjourn, which was agreed to.

Mr. D. J. R. Lister

12:56 p.m.

Mr. D. V. Robinson

12:57 p.m.

Mr. D. J. R. Lister (Pol)

Mr. D. V. Robinson continued.

1:05 p.m.

Ms. L. C. Smith

1:06 p.m.

Mrs. R. D. L. Ming

1:10 p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier

1:16 p.m.

L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

1:26 p.m.

Mr. H. K. E. Swan

1:41 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker in the chair

1:44 p.m.

Mr. T. C. Famous

1:52 p.m.

The House adjourned.