

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

No. 38

Friday, 26th June, 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 | The Hon. Curtis L. Dickinson | Rev. Dr. Emily G. A. Dill | The Hon. Michael M. Fahy | Mr. T. Christopher Famous | The Hon. Lovitta F. Foggo | The Hon. Tinée S. 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. Richdson | Mr. Jamahl S. Simmons | Mr. Scott A. 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. Kim N. Wilson

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

10:04 a.m.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers

10:06 a.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of 12th June, 2026 were deferred.

Announcements by the Speaker

10:07 a.m.

His Honour the Speaker informed Members that the Hon. M. A. Weeks, will be absent from today's proceedings.

Papers and Other Communications to the House

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance, 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 **"Bermuda Monetary Authority 2025 Annual Report"**. This report is submitted in accordance with section 28 (2) of the Bermuda Monetary Authority Act 1969.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance, 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 **"Contributory Pensions (Amendment of Contributions and**

Benefits) Order 2026" proposed to be made by the Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 37 of the Contributory Pensions Act 1970.

10:08 a.m.

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 **"Privacy Commissioner Safeguarding Bermuda Annual Report 2025-2026"** as required by Section 37 of the Personal Information Protection 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 **"Strengthening the Enforcement Powers of Bermuda's Employment and Labour Relations Tribunal Report"**.

10:09 a.m.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert, Minister of Youth, Social Development and Seniors, 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 **"Child Day Care Allowance Amendment Regulations 2026"** as made by the Minister responsible for financial assistance, in exercise of the power conferred by section 17 of the Child Day Care Allowance Act 2008.

Statements by Ministers and Junior Ministers**10:09 a.m.**

Statement entitled “The Bermuda Monetary Authority Annual Report 2025” was read by the Hon. E. D. G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance.

10:21 a.m.

His Honour the Speaker acknowledged the presence of the former Clerk Mrs. Shernette Wolffe in the Chamber.

Statement entitled “Bermuda Affordable Housing-First Phase Update” was read by the Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva, Deputy Premier and Minister of Housing and Municipalities.

10:29 a.m.

Statement entitled “Strengthening the Enforcement Powers of Bermuda’s Employment and Labour Relations Tribunal” was read by the Hon. J. P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour.

10:37 a.m.

Statement entitled “The Journey of Autism Spectrum Disorder Out of School Programmes” was read by the Hon. T. S. Furbert, Minister of Youth, Social Development and Seniors.

10:44 a.m.

Statement entitled “Summer Reminder on the Responsible Use of Our National Parks” was read by the Hon. J. A. K. Adams, Minister of Public Works and Environment.

10:53 a.m.

Statement entitled “Proposed Regulatory Framework for Licensing of Earth Stations” was read by the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne, Minister of Home Affairs.

Question Period

Mr. D. J. R. Lister, Junior Minister of Justice and Spokesperson for Education, provided Written Responses to Parliamentary Questions from the Hon. B. A. Smith:

1. Will the Honourable Minister of Education please provide this Honourable House all evidence, including survey results, consultation findings, staff feedback reports, meeting summaries, or other documented information relied upon by the Ministry to

support the conclusion that educators and school leaders have confidence in the current Student Code of Conduct and disciplinary framework and its consistent application across public schools?

2. Will the Honourable Minister please provide, for each Government preschool, primary school, middle school, and senior school the number of students enrolled in each classroom on September 30, 2025 and on June 1, 2026?
3. Will the Honourable Minister please provide, for each Government preschool, primary school, middle school, and senior school the projected number of students assigned to each classroom for the upcoming school year 2026/2027?

11:02 a.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto asked the Hon. E. D. G. Burt a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “The Bermuda Monetary Authority Annual Report 2025”.

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

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

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

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

11:07 a.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto asked the Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “Bermuda Affordable Housing-First Phase Update”.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

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

11:11 a.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier (PoO)

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

11:17 a.m.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

Mr. L. M. R. King (PoO)

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

11:30 a.m.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

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

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva replied.

11:39 a.m.

Mr. V. M. E. Campbell asked the Hon. J. A. K. Adams a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled "Summer Reminder on the Responsible Use of Our National Parks".

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Congratulatory and Obituary Speeches

(Please refer to the House Hansard)

11:44 a.m.- The Hon. L. F. Foggo

11:47 a.m.- The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva

11:50 a.m.- Mr. D. J. R. Lister

11:52 a.m. – Ms. R. S. Tucker

11:55 a.m.- Dr. D. S. J. De Couto

11:58 a.m. – Rev. Dr. E. G. A. Dill

12:01 p.m. – Mr. N. S. Tyrrell

12:02 p.m.- The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne

12:05 p.m.- The Hon. E. D. G. Burt

12:08 p.m. – His Honour the Speaker

Orders of the Day

12:09 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker noted that it has been agreed to do Order #2 prior to Order #1.

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

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

12:13 p.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy

12:14 p.m.

Mr. D. J. R. Lister

12:17 p.m.

The Bill was Committed.

The Hon. L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

12:18 p.m.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward moved Clauses 1-4, which was agreed to.

Clauses 1-4 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.

12:20 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt, moved that the Bill entitled the “Pensions (Increase) Amendment Act 2026” be now read a second time, which was agreed to.

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

12:28 p.m.

His Honour the Speaker

12:29 p.m.

Mr. S. A. Simmons

12:30 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.

2:01 p.m.

The House resumed.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

His Honour the Speaker acknowledged the presence of former High Commissioner of Belize, Kamala Palmer, in the Public Gallery.

The House continued with the Pensions (Increase) Amendment Act 2026.

2:03 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto

2:07 p.m.

Mr. H. K. E. Swan

2:09 p.m.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert

2:12 p.m.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams

2:17 p.m.

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

2:21 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto (PoO)

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto (PoO)

2:22 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto (PoO)

2:23 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto (PoO)

2:24 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto (PoO)

2:27 p.m.

The Bill was Committed.

The Hon. L. F. Foggo in the Chair.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved Clause 1, which was agreed to.

Clause 1 was agreed to, as printed.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved Clause 2 and an Amendment to Clause 2, which was agreed to.

Clause 2 was agreed to, as amended.

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

Clause 3 was agreed to, as printed.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved an Amendment to the Preamble, which was agreed to.

The Preamble was agreed to as amended.

The Committee rose.

The House resumed.

His Honour the Speaker in the Chair.

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

2:34 p.m.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled “Bermuda Immigration and Protection 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 “Bermuda Immigration and Protection Amendment Act 2026” was then read a third time by its title only and passed.

2:35 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled “Pensions (Increase) Amendment Act 2026” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of the Hon. E. D. G. Burt, the Bill entitled “Pensions (Increase) Amendment Act 2026” was then read a third time by its title only and passed.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt, moved that Standing Order 14 be suspended to enable him to introduce a Bill to the House, which was agreed to.

2:36 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt read for the first time by its title a Bill entitled the “Justice and Community Safety Reform Act 2026”, which was agreed to.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt moved that the House, at its rising, adjourn to Friday, July 10th, 2026, which was agreed to.

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

2:37 p.m.

Mr. J. C. Richardson

2:44 p.m.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell (PoO)

2:55 p.m.

The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain

3:02 p.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto

3:05 p.m.

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

3:06 p.m.

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

3:07 p.m.

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

3:09 p.m.

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

3:11 p.m.

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

Mr. T. C. Famous

3:17 p.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman (PoO)

3:18 p.m.

Mr. J. C. Richardson (PoO)

3:20 p.m.

Mr. J. C. Richardson (PoO)

Mr. J. C. Richardson (PoO)

3:24 p.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy (PoO)

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier

3:33 p.m.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva (PoO)

3:35 p.m.

Mr. T. C. Famous (PoO)

The Hon. K. N. Wilson (PoO)

3:38 p.m.

The Hon. K. N. Wilson

3:48 p.m.

The Hon. L. C. Cannonier clarified the figures he stated.

Mr. H. K. E. Swan

4:08 p.m.

Ms. R. S. Tucker

4:23 p.m.

The Hon. B. A. Smith

Mr. T. C. Famous in the Chair

4:35 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt

4:39 p.m.

Mr. J. C. Richardson (PoO)

Mr. J. C. Richardson (PoO)

4:41 p.m.

The House adjourned.