

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

No. 20

Friday, 7th November, 2025

Members Present:

The Hon. Jache A. K. Adams | Dr. Leroy G. W. Bean | The Hon. E. David G. Burt | Mr. Vance M. E. Campbell | 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 | 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. Jarion C. Richardson | Mr. Dwayne V. Robinson | Mr. W. Lawrence A. Scott | 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.

10:03 a.m.

Ms. L. F. Foggo in the Chair as Acting Speaker.

Prayers

10:05 a.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of 26th September 2025 were confirmed.

Announcements by the Acting Speaker

10:06 a.m.

The Acting Speaker announced Members, His Honour the Speaker, Mr. N. S. Tyrrell and the Hon. L. C. Cannonier will be absent from today's proceedings.

The Acting Speaker announced that she had received the Auditor General's Report entitled "Ministerial Travel, Meal and Hospitality Expenses", submitted to her in compliance with section 13 of the Audit Act 1990.

Copies of the Report are available to Members on SharePoint.

Papers and Other Communications to the House

10:07 a.m.

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

I have the honour to attach and submit for the information of the Honourable House of Assembly the "**Bermuda Hospitals**

Board-Annual Report 2022" and the "**Bermuda Hospitals Board-Annual Report 2023**".

The Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne, Minister of Home Affairs, read the following communication to the Acting Speaker: -

I have the honour to attach and submit for the information of the Honourable House of Assembly the "**Regulatory Authority of Bermuda-Annual Report 2019-2020**" and the "**The Affordable Bermuda Agenda-Building a Strategy to Address the Cost of Living, October 2025**".

10:08 a.m.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell, Minister of Tourism, Transport, Culture and Sport, read the following communication to the Acting Speaker: -

I have the honour to attach and submit for the information of the Honourable House of Assembly the "**Road Traffic (Approved Speed Detection Devices) Order 2025**" as made by the Minister responsible for Transport, in exercise of the power conferred in the definition of "approved speed detection device" under section 7A of the Road Traffic Act 1947.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams, Minister of Public Works and Environment, read the following communication to the Acting Speaker: -

I have the honour to attach and submit for the consideration of the Honourable House of Assembly 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.

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

Statement entitled “Hurricane Melissa Relief Effort” was read by the Hon. E. D. G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance.

10:14 a.m.

Statement entitled “Update on Progress to Address Bermuda’s Housing Crisis” was read by the Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva, Deputy Premier and Minister of Housing and Municipalities.

10:21 a.m.

The Acting Speaker acknowledged the presence of the President of the Senate, Senator the Hon. Joan Dillas-Wright, in the Chamber; and former Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. Albert Fox in the Public Gallery.

10:22 a.m.

Statement entitled “Hurricane Response 2025” was read by the Hon. M. A. Weeks, Minister of National Security.

10:29 a.m.

Statement entitled “Supporting Bermudian Workers” was read by the Hon. J. P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour.

10:35 a.m.

Statement entitled “Keeping Our Community Protected from Leptospirosis” was read by the Hon. K. N. Wilson, Minister of Health.

10:41 a.m.

Statement entitled “The Affordable Bermuda Agenda: Cost of Living Report” was read by the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne, Minister of Home Affairs

10:48 a.m.

Statement entitled “Update on the Landlord and Tenant Act 2025” was read by the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne, Minister of Home Affairs

Question Period**10:53 a.m.**

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance informed the Acting Speaker that Dr. D. S. J. Decouto was

consulted on the sensitivity of providing Written Responses to the following Parliamentary Questions:

1. Will the Honourable Premier and Minister of Finance please provide for this Honourable House the aggregate amount of the first instalment CIT payments for the largest 5, 10, 25, and 50 CIT payers, where ‘largest’ is with respect to the size of each CIT payers first instalment payment, expressed as a percentage of the total aggregate first instalment payments received?
2. Will the Honourable Premier and Minister of Finance please provide for this Honourable House the percentage of the total of the first instalment of CIT payments, broken out by industry of the CIT payer, where industry is indicated on each CIT Payer’s Annual Declaration to the Registrar of Companies?

10:54 a.m.**The Hon. Zane J. S. DeSilva, Deputy Premier and Minister of Housing and Municipalities, provided Written Responses to Parliamentary Questions from the Hon. M. M. Fahy:**

1. Will the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House of the number of units at Bermudiana Beach Residences (broken down by each size of apartment i.e. studio, one bedroom, two bedroom, three bedroom) that are leased to Bermudians?
2. Will the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House of the number of units at Bermudiana Beach Residences (broken down by each size of apartment i.e. studio, one bedroom, two bedroom, three bedroom) that are leased and have been leased to non-Bermudian Government and non-Bermudian quango contractors, consultants and Public Servants?
3. Will the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House of the number of units at Bermudiana Beach Residences (broken down by each size of apartment i.e. studio, one bedroom, two bedroom, three bedroom) that are leased and have been leased to non-Bermudian Government and non-Bermudian quango contractors, consultants and public servants where the lease is or was subsidized or paid for by the Government of Bermuda or quango by way of a housing allowance, bonus or other contractual arrangement?

Written answers were provided to the Hon. M. M. Fahy.

10:55 a.m.

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

- *1. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House what are the projected start/completion dates for the repair of the HM Customs and Immigration Dock located on Ordinance Island in St George's, which has been unusable since 2024 as the Minister was informed by his technical staff in October 2024?

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

10:56 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 a list of all public preschool, primary, middle, and senior schools along with the number of full-time guidance counsellors, occupational therapist and behavioural support staff currently assigned to each school?
2. Will the Honourable Minister please provide this Honourable House with the number of teachers, school leaders, and support staff who have received formal training in restorative practices and trauma-informed care as required under the 2025 Code of Conduct, including the type of training provided, the date(s) it was conducted, and the number of hours involved?
3. Will the Honourable Minister please provide this Honourable House with the current student-to-guidance counsellor, student to occupational therapist and student-to-behavioural support staff ratios for each school in the Bermuda Public School System?

Written answers were provided to Mr. B. A. Smith.

The Hon. J. A. K. Adams, Minister of Public Works and Environment, provided Written Response to Parliamentary Question from the Hon. L. M. R. King:

1. Will the Honourable Minister please provide this Honourable House with a listing of the complaints the Ministry has received regarding noxious smells and sewage run off from the Greenland Farm operation, including sewage run off onto the Railway Trail which abuts the property and other neighboring properties, and sewage run off entering the interior of some homes, since the current operators (the

Almeidas) took over the farm operation, broken down by date?

Written answer was provided to the Hon. L. M. R. King

10:57 a.m.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell, Minister Tourism, 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 when a new National Road Safety Plan will be rolled out to the public?

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

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

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

- *2. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House about any legislative or policy changes that have been recommended by the Bermuda Road Safety Council between October 2022 and October 2025?

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

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

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

- *3. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House on the Government's strategy to reduce impaired driving in Bermuda?

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

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

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

11:04 a.m.

The Hon. O. K. Darrell, Minister Tourism, Transport, Culture and Sport, provided Oral Responses to Parliamentary Questions from Dr. D. S. J. De Couto.

- *1. Given the recent Pink Ferry breakdowns since the last session, will the Honourable Minister please advise this Honourable House whether or not the Ministry has a specific plan to modernize the Pink Ferry Service?

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

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

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

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

The Hon. O. K. Darrell replied.

11:07 a.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King asked the Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “Update on Progress to Address Bermuda’s Housing Crisis”.

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

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

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

11:09 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 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.

11:12 a.m.

Ms. R. S. Tucker asked the Hon. M. A. Weeks a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement “Hurricane Response 2025”.

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.

11:16 a.m.

Ms. L. C. Smith asked the Hon. K. N. Wilson a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement entitled “Keeping Our Community Protected from Leptospirosis”.

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

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

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

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

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

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

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

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

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

11:23 a.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman asked a question.

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

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

The Hon. K. N. Wilson replied.

11:27 a.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

The Hon. J. P. Hayward (PoO)

Mr. R. S. Pearman

11:28 a.m.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward

The Acting Speaker

Mr. R. S. Pearman

The Acting Speaker

11:29 a.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

The Acting Speaker

11:30 a.m.

Dr. D. S. J. De Couto asked the Hon. J. P. Hayward a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement “Supporting Bermudian Workers”.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

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

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

11:35 a.m.

Mr. D. V. Robinson asked a question.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

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

The Hon. J. P. Hayward replied.

11:37 a.m.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement “The Affordable Bermuda Agenda: Cost of Living Report”.

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 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.

The Hon. M. M. Fahy asked the Hon. A. N. H. Lightbourne a question in reference to the Ministerial Statement “Update on the Landlord and Tenant Act 2025”.

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

Congratulatory and Obituary Speeches

(Please refer to the House Hansard)

11:42 a.m.- The Hon. E. D. G. Burt

11:45 a.m.- Mr. D. V. Robinson

11:46 a.m.- The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva

11:49 a.m.- The Hon. T. S. Furbert

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

11:53 a.m.- The Hon. M. A. Weeks

11:57 a.m.- The Hon. M. M. Fahy

11:58 a.m.- Ms. R. S. Tucker

12:01 p.m.- Mr. H. K. E. Swan

12:04 p.m.- The Hon. O. K. Darrell

12:07 p.m.- Dr. D. S. J. De Couto

12:09 p.m.- Mr. W. L. A. Scott

12:10 p.m.- Rev. Dr. E. G. A. Dill

12:12 p.m.- Mrs. R. D. L. Ming

12:15 p.m.- The Hon. D. V. S. Rabain

12:18 p.m.- The Hon. L. M. R. King

12:19 p.m.- The Acting Speaker

Introduction of Bills

12:21 p.m.

The Hon. E. D. G. Burt read for the first time by its title a Bill entitled the “Companies (Prohibition of Bearer Shares and Nominee Directors) Amendment Act 2025”.

12:22 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.

2:02 p.m.

The House resumed.

The Acting Speaker in the Chair.

Orders of the Day

2:03 p.m.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks moved that the Bill entitled the “Revenue Amendment Act 2025” be now read a second time, which was agreed to.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks spoke on the Bill.

2:06 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King

2:07 p.m.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

The Bill was Committed.

Ms. L. C. Smith in the Chair.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks moved Clauses 1-8, which was agreed to.

2:12 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King

2:13 p.m.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

2:14 p.m.

The Hon. J. P. Hayward

2:15 p.m.

The Hon. L. M. R. King

The Hon. M. A. Weeks replied.

Clauses 1-8 were agreed to, as printed.

The Preamble was agreed to.

The Committee rose.

The House resumed.

The Acting Speaker in the Chair.

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

2:17 p.m.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert moved that the Bill entitled the “Charities Amendment Act 2025” be now read a second time, which was agreed to.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert spoke on the Bill.

2:27 p.m.

Ms. R. S. Tucker

2:28 p.m.

Mr. R. S. Pearman

2:32 p.m.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert replied.

The Bill was Committed.

Mr. S. A. Simmons in the Chair.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert moved Clauses 1-4, which was agreed to.

2:38 p.m.

Ms. R. S. Tucker

2:40 p.m.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert replied.

Ms. R. S. Tucker

2:41 p.m.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert replied.

Clauses 1-4 were agreed to, as printed.

The Preamble was agreed to.

The Committee rose.

The House resumed.

The Acting Speaker in the Chair.

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

2:43 p.m.

The Hon. M. A. Weeks moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable him to move that the Bill entitled “Revenue Amendment Act 2025” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of the Hon. M. A. Weeks, the Bill entitled “Revenue Amendment Act 2025” was then read a third time by its title only and passed.

2:44 p.m.

The Hon. T. S. Furbert moved that Standing Order 21 be suspended to enable her to move that the Bill entitled “Charities Amendment Act 2025” be now read a third time, which was agreed to.

On the motion of the Hon. T. S. Furbert, the Bill entitled “Charities Amendment Act 2025” was then read a third time by its title only and passed.

2:45 p.m.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva moved that the House, at its rising, adjourn until Friday, 21st November, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., which was agreed to.

The Hon. Z. J. S. DeSilva moved that the House do now adjourn, which was agreed to.

The House adjourned.