



**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
BERMUDA**



**Sitting No.23- Friday, 19th July, 2024
Order of Business
(Standing Order 14)**

(a) 10:00 a.m. HOUSE CONVENES

(b) PRAYERS

(c) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES- Minutes of the 12th July, 2024 to be confirmed.

(d) MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

(e) ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER OR MEMBER PRESIDING

Members: Mr. H. Kim E. Swan, Mr. T. Christopher Famous and Mr. W. Lawrence Scott will be absent from today's proceedings.

(f) MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Forwarding the Bill entitled "National Heroes Act 2024".

(g) PAPERS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS TO THE HOUSE

"Human Rights Commission-Annual Report 2023" lay for the information of the Honourable House of Assembly -The Hon. Tinée S. Furbert, Minister of Youth, Social Development and Seniors

(h) PETITIONS

(i) STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS AND JUNIOR MINISTERS

"Building a Better and Fairer Economy through Tax Reform"- The Hon. E. David G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance

"Update on Government's Financial Performance"- The Hon. E. David G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance

"Tabling of Amendments to the Water Resources Act 1975"-The Hon. Walter H. Roban, Deputy Premier and Minister of Home Affairs

"Building a Better and Fairer Bermuda by Strengthening Legal Protections for our Citizens"-The Hon. Kathy Lynn Simmons, Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

"Seven Years in Review"-The Hon. Michael A. Weeks, Minister of National Security

"Building a Better and Fairer Bermuda"-Lt. Col. the Hon. David A. Burch, Minister of Public Works

"Building a Better and Fairer Health System"-The Hon. Kim N. Wilson, Minister of Health

"Strengthening our Social Safety Net-A Reflection of the Ministry's Work Initiatives"-The Hon. Tinée S. Furbert, Minister of Youth, Social Development and Seniors

"Bermuda and the UAE Sign Agreement to Advance Government Excellence and Technology Skills Development"-The Hon. Jason P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour

(j) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(k) QUESTION PERIOD

The Hon. Jason P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour to provide Oral Responses to Parliamentary Questions from The Hon. Jarion C. Richardson.

- *1. Members of the public have told the Opposition that they have passport renewals which have taken upwards of six months to process. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House as to how many passport applications and renewals in 2024 have exceeded the 11-week turnaround time as set out by the Minister during the House meeting of Monday, 6th March 2023?
- *2. Members of the public have told the Opposition that the Customer Service Desk in the Department of Immigration is not regularly staffed, and they have been told they can only ask questions via email. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House as to whether this is the formal Government policy?
- *3. Multiple members of the public have told the Opposition that they cannot get an answer to questions or updates in relation to their passport application/renewals. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House as to what actions members of the public should take in this circumstance?

The Hon. Jason P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour to provide Oral Responses to Parliamentary Questions from The Hon. Jarion C. Richardson.

- *1. The Honourable Minister has stated that he attends the weekly Department of Immigration senior management meeting. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House, whether work permits are approved at the weekly meeting of senior management?
- *2. In a May 2024 press conference, the Honourable Minister said Bermudian unemployment was at its lowest level in more than 40 years; and in that same month, the Minister then extended a moratorium on Closed and Restricted Categories. Given that, and the Minister’s explanation in the House on 18th June 2021 of the methodology used by Government to identify additional categories of closed and restricted work permits, will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House as to why he continued the restrictions?
- *3. The Opposition has been informed that Fast Track work permit applications are not in effect. Will the Honourable Minister please clarify for this Honourable House the status of the Fast Track work permit process?

The Hon. Jason P. Hayward, Minister of Economy and Labour to provide Oral Responses to Parliamentary Questions from Mr. R. Scott Pearman.

- *1. Regarding increased closed categories and extended time for categories being closed to provide job opportunities. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House as to how many unemployed Bermudians were identified as having the skill set or having interest in being trained in the areas of the closed categories prior to closing or extending the period of closing of such categories?
- *2. Will the Honourable Minister please inform this Honourable House as to how many unemployed Bermudians have been hired and in which categories since the categories have been closed in his initiative?
- *3. Will the Honourable Minister please provide this Honourable House with the results of the impact study on local businesses relating to the implementation or extension of closed categories under his policy?

The Hon. Wayne L. Furbert, Minister of Transport to provide Oral Responses to Parliamentary Questions from Ms. Susan E. Jackson.

- *1. Will the Honourable Minister please provide this Honourable House with a list of all Public Service Vehicle Licensing Board members, by year and professional title, from 2017 to 2022?
- *2. Will the Honourable Minister please provide this Honourable House a list of all companies considered in the bus digital fare RFP process?

The Hon. Diallo V. S. Rabain, on behalf of Mr. H. Kim E. Swan, Junior Minister of Tourism, Culture & Sport to provide Oral Responses to Parliamentary Questions from The Hon. L. Craig Cannonier.

- *1. Will the Junior Minister please inform this Honourable House as to the BELCO charges for the National Sports Centre for each month from January 2018 to date?

*2. Will the Junior Minister please inform this Honourable House as to the amounts paid by the National Sports Centre to BELCO each month from January 2018 to date?

*3. Will the Junior Minister please inform this Honourable House whether any grants above the budgeted annual grant were provided to the National Sports Centre specifically to cover the BELCO bills from January 2018 to date?

(l) CONGRATULATORY AND/OR OBITUARY SPEECHES

(m) MATTERS OF PRIVILEGE

(n) PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

(o) NOTICE OF MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE ON MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

(p) INTRODUCTION OF BILLS:

(i) GOVERNMENT BILLS

“Customs Tariff Amendment Act 2024”-The Hon. E. David G. Burt, Premier and Minister of Finance
[Governor’s Recommendation Signified]

“Water Resources Amendment Act 2024”-The Hon. Walter H. Roban, Deputy Premier and Minister of Home Affairs

“National Heroes Act 2024”-The Hon. Diallo V. S. Rabain, on behalf of Mr. H. Kim. Swan, Junior Minister of Tourism, Sports and Culture

(ii) OPPOSITION BILLS

(iii) PRIVATE MEMBERS’ BILLS

(q) NOTICES OF MOTION:

(r) ORDERS OF THE DAY:

- 1) Second Reading of the “Corporate Income Tax Agency Act 2024”
[Premier and Minister of Finance]
First Reading: 12th July, 2024
- 2) Second Reading of the “Bermuda Hospitals Board Amendment Act 2024”
[Minister of Health]
First Reading: 12th July, 2024
- 3) Second Reading of the “Development and Planning Amendment Act 2024”
[Minister of the Cabinet Office]
First Reading: 12th July, 2024

**Veritas Place
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19th July, 2024**

**Clark W. Somner
Clerk to the Legislature**