



Minutes of the proceedings of a Sitting of the Senate held at the Parliament Chamber, Mt. Wheldale, St. George on Wednesday 26th July, 2023 at 9:05 a.m.

PRESENT

Mr. Deputy President
Senator the Honourable Norland Cox
in the Chair

Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas	Minister of State with responsibility for Agriculture and Lands, Fisheries & Cooperatives
Senator the Honourable David Evlyn Andrew	Minister for Education, Youth, Sports & Culture
Senator the Honourable Quinc Britton	Member of the Senate
Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph	Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs
Senator the Honourable Gloria Ann Thomas	Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs
Senator the Honourable Jonathan La Crette	Minister for Health, Wellness & Religious Affairs

Senator the Honourable Neilon Franklyn	Opposition Member of the Senate
Senator the Honourable Salim Rahaman	Member of the Senate (Business Rep)
Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair	Member of the Senate (Farmers Rep)
Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis	Member of the Senate (Labour Rep)

ABSENT

Senator the Honourable Dessima Williams	Madam President (Excuse tendered)
Senator the Honourable Katisha Douglas	Opposition Member of the Senate (Excuse tendered)

The Sitting of the Senate began at 9:05 a.m.

PRAYERS

Prayers were said.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OR AFFIRMATION OF A NEW SENATOR

There was no Oath of Allegiance or Affirmation of a new Senator.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Sitting of the Senate held at the Parliament Chamber, Mt. Wheldale, St. George's on Tuesday 6th of June, 2023 at 9:10 a.m. be taken as read.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Minutes taken as read.

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Sitting of the Senate held at the Parliament Chamber, Mt. Wheldale, St. George's on Tuesday 6th of June, 2023 at 9:10 a.m. be confirmed.

Question proposed.**Question put and agreed to.****Minutes confirmed.****MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL**

There was no Message from the Governor-General.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT

Mr. Deputy President made the following announcements:

"Honourable Members, with regret I wish to inform this Honourable House that our Madam President is not in the best of health and has sent her regards for this proceedings, and I on behalf of Members have conveyed regards for her to get well as soon as possible so that she can be back to join us in this Honourable Chamber. She is doing well, but she is resting on the orders of her doctor. So, we wish President a speedy recovery and so that she can join us going forward.

Additionally, Honourable Katisha Douglas would also not be joining us today. She has been out for quite some time. She is on maternity leave and we wish her and her new baby all the best as we welcome a new one into the family of Grenada. So, we want to congratulate Honourable Katisha Douglas on her new baby and wish her speedy recovery.

At this point in time I want to make way for request by Honourable Mondy André Lewis, Member for Labour. Senator Lewis you have the floor."

Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis made the following statement:

Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy President, and thank you for the opportunity to use this platform, our highest institution, one of our highest institution in the land to make an announcement that is already known so that it can be officially associated with the fact that Grenada has lost a stalwart, Grenada has lost another patriot in the form of comrade Sister Madonna Harford. Sister Harford has served Grenada and the region. As a matter

of fact, she was a President of the Caribbean Public Service Association, President of the Grenada Public Workers' Union, President of the Grenada Trade Unions' Council and one of the Vice Presidents of the Caribbean Congress of Labour. She also served on the Grenada Public Service Commission and her contribution to Grenada has been invaluable, not just to the labour movement but to the whole of Grenada. And therefore, I felt it was fitting to bring to the attention of the Senate and to ask for the Senate to associate in recognising the contribution that she has made and the lasting legacy that she has left, if we could stand for a moment of silence in honour of her respect and the contribution that she has made to Grenada.”

The Deputy President granted the request by the Member.

Moment of Silence observed for the passing of Mrs. Madonna Harford.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

The under-mentioned Members made contributions:

- Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs
- Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs
- Minister for Education, Youth, Sports & Culture
- Minister of State with responsibility for Agriculture and Lands, Fisheries & Cooperatives and Leader of Government's Business

Senator Roderick St. Clair asked for clarification based on the statements made by the Minister.

Senator Salim Rahaman asked for clarification based on the statements made by the Minister.

- Minister for Health, Wellness & Religious Affairs

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS
FROM SELECT COMMITTEES**

There were no papers and reports laid.

PETITIONS

There were no Petitions.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

There were no Government Notices.

UNOFFICIAL NOTICES

There were no unofficial notices.

QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair made a personal explanation.

MOTIONS

There was no Motion.

BILLS

NATIONAL INSURANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2023

The Leader of Government's Business, introduced the above-mentioned Bill for first reading.

The Bill was read a first time.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas moved that the relevant Standing Order of the Senate be suspended to enable the Bill to be taken through all its stages at that Sitting.

Senator Lewis rose to seek some guidance as to which document was referenced since there were two document relating to NIS and indicated that he was unable to access the first bill.

The Deputy President apologised as there seemed to be some error and asked for a recess for five minutes so that the Clerk could obtain and send the correct document.

Senate adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Senate resumed at 11:32 a.m.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas moved that the relevant Standing Order of the Senate be suspended to enable the Bill to be taken through all its stages at that Sitting.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Relevant Standing Order suspended.

The Leader of Government's Business moved the second reading of the Bill.

Question proposed.

The under-mentioned Senators made contributions:

- Leader of Government's Business
- Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs
- Senator the Honourable Salim Rahaman
- Minister for Education, Youth, Sports & Culture
- Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair
- Senator the Honourable Neilon Franklyn
- Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis

The Leader of Government's Business thanked the Members for their contribution in supporting the Bill wholeheartedly, gave his rebuttal and commended the Bill for its second reading.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the Senate resolve itself into a Committee of the whole Senate to consider the Bill Clause by Clause.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Senate in Committee.

Clause 2	-	Amendment of section 2 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 3	-	Amendment of section 56 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 4	-	Amendment of section 64 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 1	-	Short title and commencement	-	agreed to

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the Senate resume and the Chairman of the Committee report progress on the Bill.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Senate resumed and the Chairman of the Committee reported that the Bill was considered by a Committee of the whole Senate and passed without amendments.

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the Chairman's Report be adopted.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Chairman's Report adopted.

The Leader of Government's Business moved the third reading of the Bill.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

NATIONAL INSURANCE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL, 2023

The Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs introduced the above-mentioned Bill for first reading.

The Bill was read a first time.

The Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs moved that the relevant Standing Order of the Senate be suspended to enable the Bill to be taken through all its stages at that Sitting.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Relevant Standing Order suspended.

The Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs moved the second reading of the Bill.

Question proposed.

The under-mentioned Senators made contributions:

- Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs
- Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis
- Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs
- Senator the Honourable Salim Rahaman
- Minister for Health, Wellness & Religious Affairs
- Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair

Mr. Deputy President suggested that the recess for lunch be taken, but the LOGB suggested that they wrap up. It was agreed to proceed.

The Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs thanked the Members for their contribution in supporting the Bill, gave her rebuttal and commended the Bill for its second reading.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs moved that the Senate resolve itself into a Committee of the whole Senate to consider the Bill Clause by Clause.

Question proposed.**Question put and agreed to.****Senate in Committee.**

Clause 2	-	Amendment of section 2 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 3	-	Amendment of section 24 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 4	-	Amendment of section 25 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 5	-	Insertion of new Third Schedule to principal Act-		agreed to
Clause 6	-	Consequential amendments	-	agreed to
	-	Schedule	-	agreed to
Clause 1	-	Short title and commencement	-	agreed to

The Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs moved that the Senate resume and the Chairman of the Committee report progress on the Bill.

Question proposed.**Question put and agreed to.**

The Senate resumed and the Chairman of the Committee reported that the Bill was considered by a Committee of the whole Senate and passed without amendments.

The Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs moved that the Chairman's Report be adopted.

Question proposed.**Question put and agreed to.****Chairman's Report adopted.**

The Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs moved the third reading of the Bill.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

There was no public business.

ADJOURNMENT

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the Senate be adjourned **sine die**.

The under-mentioned Senators spoke on the adjournment:

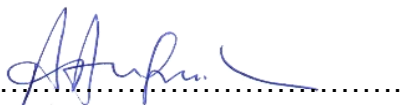
- Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair
- Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis

Mr. Deputy President made comments.

Question put and agreed to.

The Sitting of the Senate adjourned at 1:50 p.m. sine die.

Submitted to the Deputy President for his signature in accordance with Standing Order No. 7(2) of the Revised Standing Orders of the Senate.



.....
Andrew Augustine
CLERK OF PARLIAMENT

Signed by me pursuant to the provisions of the Revised Standing Order No. 7(2).



Norland Cox (Sen. the Hon.)
DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE