

## MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A SITTING OF THE SENATE HELD AT THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, MT. WHELDALE, ST. GEORGE ON TUESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2024 AT 09:00 A.M.

#### **PRESENT**

# Madam President Senator the Honourable Dr. Dessima Williams in the Chair

Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas Minister of Tourism, Creative

**Economy and Culture** 

(Leader of Government's

Business)

Senator the Honourable David Evlyn Andrew Minister of Education

Senator the Honourable Quinc Britton Parliamentary Secretary within

the Ministry of Tourism, Creative

Economy and Culture with Responsibility for Culture

Senator the Honourable Seville Francis Parliamentary Secretary within

the Ministry of Youth, and Sports

Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph Attorney General & Minister for

Legal Affairs, Labour and

**Consumer Affairs** 

Senator the Honourable Gloria Ann Thomas Minister of Social & Community

Development, Housing and Gender Affairs (Social Security)

Senator the Honourable Norland Cox Opposition Member of the Senate

(Deputy President)

Senator the Honourable Dwight Horsford Opposition Member of the Senate

Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis Member of the Senate (Labour

Representative)

Senator the Honourable Salim Rahaman Member of the Senate (Business

Representative)

Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair Member of the Senate (Farmers

Representative)

**ABSENT** 

Senator the Honourable Dr. Myanna Charles Opposition Member of the Senate

The Sitting of the Senate began at 9:00 a.m.

**PRAYERS** 

Prayers were said led by the President.

#### OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OR AFFIRMATION OF A NEW SENATOR

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

#### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

There was no Minutes to be considered.

#### **MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL**

There was no Message from the Governor-General.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MADAM PRESIDENT

Madam President welcomed the Senators to the first Senate Sitting for the New Year.

#### MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

The following Senators made Ministerial Statements:

Senator the Honourable Gloria Ann Thomas, Minister of Social & Community Development, Housing and Gender Affairs

The under-mentioned Members made contributions on the Minister's statement:

- Madam President
- ❖ Senator Roderick St. Clair, Farmer's Representative
- Parliamentary Secretary within the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture with Responsibility for Culture, Senator the Honourable Quinc Britton.

Madam President announced the absence from the Sitting of Senator the Honourable Dr. Myanna Charles.

The under-mentioned Senator made contribution on the Parliamentary Secretary's statement:

- Senator Salim Rahaman, Business Representative
- Minister of Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas

The under-mentioned Members made contributions concerning the Minister's statement:

- Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis, Labour Representative
- Madam President
- Minister of Education, Senator the Honourable David Andrew

The under-mentioned Senators made contributions on the Minister's statement:

- Senator the Honourable Salim Rahaman, Business Representative
- Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis, Labour Representative

Senator the Honourable Norland Cox, Opposition Member

The Minister promised to provide information on the Terms of Reference for the Spice Bus Initiative and details on the partnership with the Private Sector and Government.

### PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no Reports or Papers 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 EXPLANATIONS

The following Senators made Personal Explanations:

Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis, Labour Representative

The Senator, spoke on the timeliness of receiving notices and documentation for meetings in accordance with the Standing Orders.

Information security concern of the content of Members devices being leaked to the public.

Madam President sought clarity on the second issue and agreed to look into both issues.

❖ Senator the Honourable Salim Rahaman, Business Representative

He concurred with Senator Lewis on receiving notification for meetings and emails in a timely manner. He also spoke on world events and the impact it will have on cost of goods imported.

Madam President agreed to look into the matter of short notices for meetings.

Senator the Honourable Norland Cox, Opposition member offered a suggestion.

Madam President agreed to have a conservation with all stakeholders in the process.

Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair, Famers Representative associated himself with the issue raised.

#### **MOTIONS**

There were no Motions for consideration.

#### **BILLS**

#### WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND REGULATION BILL, 2025

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, 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.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Relevant Standing Order suspended.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas moved the second reading of the bill.

The under-mentioned Senators made contributions:

- ➤ The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas
- Senator the Honourable Dwight Horsford, Opposition Member

- Minister for Education, Senator the Honourable David Andrew
- Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis, Labour Representative
- ➤ Parliamentary Secretary within the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture with Responsibility for Culture, Senator the Honourable Quinc Britton
- > Senator the Honourable Norland Cox, Opposition Member
- Parliamentary Secretary within the Ministry of Youth, and Sports, Senator the Honourable Seville Francis

#### (Madam President left the Chair and the Deputy President took the Chair)

- Senator the Honourable Salim Rahaman, Business Representative (Madam President returned to the Chair)
- Minister of Social & Community Development, Housing and Gender Affairs (Social Security, Senator the Honourable Gloria Thomas
- > Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair, Farmer's Representative

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas gave his rebuttal, thanked all for their contribution and commended the bill for second reading.

#### Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas moved that the Senate resolve itself into a Committee of the whole Senate to consider the Bill Part by Part.

#### Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

#### Senate in Committee.

Part II -	Water Resources Management and Administration	-	agreed to
Part III-	Water Quantity and Water Quality Management	-	agreed to
Part IV-	Abstraction of Water	-	agreed to
Part V -	Water and Waste Water Control Areas and Permits	-	agreed to
Part VI-	Appeals	-	agreed to
Part I -	Preliminary	-	agreed to

Page 10 – In the Enacting Formula (preamble) delete the word "Queen's" where it appears and substitute it with the word "King's".

Page 13 – In the definition of the term "Government" delete the words "Carriacou and Petite Martinique" where they appear. The definition should now read- "Government" means "the Government of Grenada."

Page 14 – In the definition of the term "State" delete the words "Carriacou and Petite Martinique". The definition should now read-"State" means "the State of Grenada". The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas 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 with three (3) amendments.

The Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas 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, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas moved the third reading of the Bill.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

Senate adjourned for lunch at 1:26 p.m. for one hour. Senate resumed at 2:26 p.m.

### NATIONAL WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

The Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs, Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph introduced the above-mentioned Bill for first reading.

#### The Bill was read a first time.

The Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs, Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph 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 Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs, Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph proposed the second reading of the bill.

#### Question proposed.

The under-mentioned Senator made contribution:

➤ The Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs, Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph

Madam President made remarks.

The Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs, Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph thanked all Members for readily appreciating the amendments and commended the bill for second reading.

#### Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs, Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph 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 delete paragraph (a) and substitute as follows- "by deleting the definitions of "watercourse" and "water supply service." agreed to.
- Clause 3 Insertion of new section 2A in principal Act agreed to.
- Clause 4 Amendment of section 3 of principal Act agreed to.
- Clause 5 Repeal and replacement of section 6 of principal Act agreed to.
- Clause 6 Amendment of section 7 of principal Act agreed to.
- Clause 7 Repeal and replacement of section 11 of principal Act -

#### Delete the words "section 11" and replace with

	"section 12"	- agreed to.
Clause 8 -	Repeal of section 12 of principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 9 -	Repeal of section 13 of principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 10 -	Amendment of section 17 of principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 11 -	Amendment of section 23 of principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 12 -	Amendment of section 27 of principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 13 -	Repeal and replacement of section 27A of principal A	ct - agreed to.
Clause 14 -	Repeal of section 28 of principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 15 -	Amendment of section 30 of principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 16 -	Amendment of section 34 of principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 17 -	Repeal of sections 36, 37, 38, and 39 of principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 18 -	Repeal of sections 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, and 49 of	
	principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 19 -	Amendment of section 52 of principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 20 -	Repeal of section 54 of the principal Act	- agreed to.
Clause 1 -	Short title and commencement	- agreed to.

The Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs, Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph 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 with amendments.

The Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs, Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph moved that the Chairman's Report be adopted.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Chairman's Report adopted.

The Attorney General & Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs, Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph moved the third reading of the Bill.

**Question proposed.** 

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a third time and passed with amendments.

#### PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

The Minister for Education, Senator the Honourable David Andrew introduced the abovementioned Bill for first reading.

#### The Bill was read a first time.

The Minister for Education, Senator the Honourable David Andrew 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 for Education, Senator the Honourable David Andrew moved the second reading of the bill.

The under-mentioned Senators made contributions:

- ➤ The Minister for Education, Senator the Honourable David Andrew
- Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair, Farmer's Representative

The Minister for Education, Senator the Honourable David thanked all for their approval and support and commended the bill for second reading.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Minister for Education, Senator the Honourable David Andrew 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 -	Repeal and replacement of long title of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 3 -	Amendment of section 2 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 4 -	Amendment of section 4 of principal Act - clause 4		
	(b) (a) (i) to include the word " <b>law</b> ," after the		
	word "trade."	-	agreed to
Clause 5 -	Amendment of section 5 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 6 -	Amendment of section 7 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 7 -	Amendment of section 10 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 8 -	Amendment of section 12 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 9 -	Amendment of section 13 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 10 -	Amendment of section 14 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 11	Amendment of section 17 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 12	Repeal and replacement of section 32 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 13	Amendment of section 36 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 14	Amendment of section 37 of principal Act	-	agreed to
Clause 1	Short title and commencement	-	agreed to

The Minister for Education, Senator the Honourable David Andrew 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 with an amendment.

The Minister for Education, Senator the Honourable David Andrew moved that the Chairman's Report be adopted.

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

The Minister for Education, Senator the Honourable David Andrew, 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, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas moved the adjournment of the Sitting *sine die*.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Senate adjourned sine die at 4:41 p.m.

Submitted to the President for her 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).

Dessima Williams

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE