



MINUTES
OF THE
HONOURABLE JAMAICA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

At a meeting of the Members of the House of Representatives held pursuant to adjournment at Gordon House in the City and Parish of Kingston on Thursday, the

19TH DAY OF MARCH, 2026

The House met at 2:30 P.M. o'clock.

PRAYERS

Prayer was read by Mrs. Marlene Malahoo Forte.

The Speaker welcomed all to the sitting for the continuation of the Budget Debate, featuring a contribution from Dr. the Most Honourable Andrew Holness, Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and Minister of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development. She expressed confidence that Members would give him their full attention and that the decorum of the House would be maintained.

She welcomed the following persons and groups to the sitting: Senator the Honourable Thomas Tavares-Finson, President of the Senate, and other members of the Senate; members of the diplomatic corps; the Honourable Audrey Sewell, Cabinet Secretary; Ambassador Rocky Meade, Permanent Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister; and Mrs. Arlene Williams, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development.

Special recognition was also given to the following Ministers of Education and other education officials across the Caribbean, that is:

- Honourable Dr. Geoffrey Hanley, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Youth and Social Development from the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis
- Honourable Sonia Savitri Parag, Minister of Education from the Cooperative of the Republic of Guyana
- Honourable Chad Blackman, Minister of Educational Transformation from Barbados
- Honourable Octavia Alfred, Minister of Education, Human Resource Planning, Vocational Training and National Excellence from Dominica
- Honourable Shellya Rogers-Webster, Minister of Social Development and Education from Anguilla
- Honourable Danny Butcher, Minister of Education from St. Lucia
- Honourable Phillip Jackson, Minister of Education, Vocational Training and Innovation from St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Mrs. Lorraine St. Louis-Nedd, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Grenada
- Dr. Wayne Wesley, Chief Executive Officer and Registrar, Caribbean Examination Council

The Speaker also acknowledged constituents from St. Andrew, West Central and other specially invited guests seated in the Gallery. Additionally, she welcomed viewers who were tuning in via the various social media platforms and the Public Broadcasting Corporation of Jamaica's live stream.

CALL OF THE ROLL

PRESENT WERE:

Most Honourable Juliet Ann Marie Holness, MP, Speaker

Mr. Heroy Anthony Clarke, MP, Deputy Speaker (St. James, Central)

The Honourable Floyd O'Brian Green, MP, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining, and Leader of the House

Dr. the Most Honourable Andrew Michael Holness, ON, PC, MP, Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and Minister of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development

The Honourable. Dr. Horace Anthony Chang, OJ, CD, MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Security and Peace

The Honourable Fayval Shirley Williams, MP, Minister of Finance and the Public Service

The Honourable Edmund Curtis Bartlett, OJ, CD, MP, Minister of Tourism

The Honourable Olivia Atavia Grange, OJ, CD, MP, Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport

Dr. Honourable Christopher Charles Tufton, MP, Minister of Health and Wellness

The Honourable Desmond Anthony Augustus McKenzie, CD, MP, Minister of Local Government and Community Development

The Honourable Robert St. Aubyn Montague, CD, MP, Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development with responsibility for Land Titling and Settlements

The Honourable Daryl Wesley Phillip Vaz, MP, Minister of Transport, Telecommunications and Energy

The Honourable Delroy Hawmin Chuck, KC, MP, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs

The Honourable Pearnel Patroe Charles, Jr., MP, Minister of Labour and Social Security

The Honourable Robert Nesta Morgan, MP, Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development with responsibility for Works

The Honourable Ambassador Audrey Patrice Marks, OJ, MP, Minister without Portfolio in the Office of the Prime Minister with responsibility for Efficiency, Innovation and Digital Transformation

The Honourable Matthew Peter Samuda, MP, Minister of Water, Environment and Climate Change

Dr. the Honourable Andrew O'Brien Wheatley, MP, Minister without Portfolio in the Office of the Prime Minister with responsibility for Science, Technology and Special Projects

The Honourable Alando Nathaniel Terrelonge, MP, Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

The Honourable Franklin Robert Witter, MP, Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining

The Honourable Marisa Colleen Dalrymple Philibert, CD, Minister of State in the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs

The Honourable Kerensia Alicia Morrison, MP, Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport

The Honourable Krystal Kerry-Ann Lee, MP, Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Wellness

The Honourable Donovan St. Ledger Williams, MP, Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and Social Security

The Honourable Zavia Taze Mayne, MP, Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service

The Honourable Rhoda Moy Crawford, MP, Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Skills, Youth and Information

The Honourable Delroy Hugh Williams, MP, Minister of State in the Ministry of Local and Community Development

The Honourable Tova Tené Hamilton, MP, Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism

The Honourable Delano Orlando Seiveright, MP, Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce

Mr. Christopher Rew Brown, MP, St. Mary, South Eastern

Dr. Angela Rose Marie Brown Burke, MP, St Andrew, South Western

Mr. Isat Aquaba Buchanan, MP, Portland Eastern

Ms. Nekeisha Shernicka Burchell, MP, St. James, Southern

Dr. Dayton Ricardo Campbell, MP, Westmoreland, Eastern

Mr. Damion Orande Crawford, MP, St. Catherine, North Western

Miss Joyce Denise Daley, MP, St. Catherine, Eastern

Dr. Alfred Patrick Dawes, MP, St. Catherine, South Eastern

Mr. Mark Jefferson Golding, MP, St Andrew, Southern

Mr. Dennis Junior Gordon, MP, St. Andrew, East Central

Mr. Ian Dave Hayles, MP, Westmoreland, Western

Mr. Wavell Wayne Hinds, MP, Clarendon, Northern

Mr. George Anthony Hylton, CD, MP, St. Andrew, Western

Mrs. Marlene Patricia Malahoo Forte, KC, MP, St. James, West Central

Mr. Omar Anthony Newell, MP, St. Mary, Central

Mr. Phillip Feanny Paulwell, CD, MP, Kingston, Eastern and Port Royal

Ms. Andrea Marvalyn Purkiss, MP, Hanover, Eastern

Mr. James Rudolph Edward Robertson, MP, St. Thomas, Western

Mr. Julian Jay Robinson, MP, St. Andrew, South Eastern

Dr. Kenneth Alphanso Russell, MP, St. Ann, South Eastern

Ms. Yvonne Rose Marie Shaw, MP, St. Thomas, Eastern

Mr. Duane Charles Edward Smith, MP, St. Andrew, North Western

Mr. Dwayne Francois St. Michael Vaz, MP, Westmoreland, Central

Mr. Clifford Everald Errol Warmington, CD, MP, St. Catherine, South Western

PUBLIC BUSINESS

The Honourable Floyd Green, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining and Leader of the House, moved that the time allotted for contribution to the debate be suspended to allow Dr. the Most Honourable Andrew Holness, Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and Minister of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development, to complete his contribution.

Seconded by: Mr. Clifford Warmington
Agreed to

Dr. the Most Honourable Andrew Holness, Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and Minister of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development, continued the debate on the motion that a Bill entitled, “AN ACT to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March, 2027, and to appropriate the sums granted in this session of Parliament” be now read a second time.

(Ms. Zuleika Amadie Jess, MP, St. Elizabeth, North Eastern, entered and took her seat).

(Mrs. Heatha Mavarie Miller Bennett, MP, Hanover, Western, entered and took her seat).

(Mr. Andrew Antonio Morris, MP, St. Elizabeth, North Western, entered and took his seat).

(Mr. Fitz Arthur Jackson, CD, MP, St. Catherine, Southern, entered and took his seat).

Further debate on the substantive motion was, by leave, deferred.

The Honourable Floyd Green, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining and Leader of the House, moved that the items “Announcements” and “Notices of Motions Given Orally” be recommitted.

Seconded: Mr. Phillip Paulwell
Agreed to

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Clerk laid on the Table of the House a copy of the following:

The Beach Access and Management Policy for Jamaica
Dated March 2026
and its related
MINISTRY PAPER
Numbered 20/2026
Titled:
Beach Access and Management Policy for Jamaica
[Office of the Prime Minister]

NOTICES OF MOTIONS GIVEN ORALLY

Dr. the Most Honourable Andrew Holness, Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and Minister of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development, gave notice that at the next meeting of the House he would move to introduce and have read a first time a Bill shortly entitled, “the National Reconstruction and Resilience Authority Act, 2026”.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:29 p.m., the Honourable Floyd Green, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining and Leader of the House, moved that the House do now adjourn to **Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.**

Seconded by: Mr. Wavell Hinds
Agreed to

The House adjourned accordingly.

.....
Juliet Holness, MP
Speaker