



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 Tuesday, the

24TH DAY OF MARCH, 2026

The House met at 2:45 P.M. o'clock.

PRAYERS

Prayer was read by Mr. Omar Newell.

The Speaker welcomed all to the sitting for the closing of the Budget Debate, with a contribution from the Honourable Favyal Williams, Minister of Finance and the Public Service. She extended a welcome to constituents from St. Andrew, Eastern; persons joining via the various social media platforms, particularly, the Public Broadcasting Corporation of Jamaica's live stream; and other persons seated in the Gallery.

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

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 Juliet Samantha Cuthbert Flynn, OD, MP, Minister of State in the Ministry of National Security and Peace

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 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. Richard Edward Azan, MP, Clarendon, North Western

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

Mr. Isat Aquaba Buchanan, MP, Portland Eastern

Mr. Peter Murcott Bunting, MP, Manchester, Southern

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

Dr. Dayton Ricardo Campbell, MP, Westmoreland, Eastern

Mr. Lothan Cousins, MP, Clarendon, South Western

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

Ms. Zuleika Amadie Jess, MP, St. Elizabeth, North Eastern

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

Mr. Andrew Antonio Morris, MP, St. Elizabeth, North Western

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

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

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 Everaldo Errol Warmington, CD, MP, St. Catherine, South Western

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions 2023
[Planning Institute of Jamaica]

The Insurance (Amendment of Twentieth Schedule) Regulations, 2026
Under the Insurance Act
[Ministry of Finance and the Public Service]

The Pensions (Superannuation Funds and
Retirement Schemes) (Registration, Licensing and Reporting) (Amendment) Regulations, 2026
and its Resolution
Under the Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) Act
[Ministry of Finance and the Public Service]

The Conch (Export Levy) (Rate of Levy) Order, 2026 and its Resolution
Under the Conch (Export Levy) Act
[Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining]

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(The Honourable Dr. Horace Anthony Chang, OJ, CD, MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Security and Peace, entered and took his seat).

The Honourable Floyd Green, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining and Leader of the House, moved that the time allotted for the debate be suspended to allow the Honourable Fayval Williams, Minister of Finance and the Public Service, to complete her contribution without interruption.

Seconded by: Mr. Clifford Warmington
Agreed to

The Honourable Fayval Williams, Minister of Finance and the Public Service concluded 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.

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

Seconded by: Mr. Duane Smith
Agreed to

Clerk read the Bill a second time.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House to consider the clauses of the Bill.

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2 agreed to.

Clause 3 agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Title and Enacting Clause agreed to.

The question that the Bill be reported to the House as having passed Committee stage without amendment agreed to.

The House resumed.

The Bill having been reported to the House as having passed Committee stage without amendment, the Honourable Fayval Williams, Minister of Finance and the Public Service, moved 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 third time.

Seconded by: Mr. Andrew Morris
Agreed to

Clerk read the Bill a third time.

Bill passed without amendment.

The Honourable Fayval Williams, Minister of Finance and the Public Service, moved:

THE CIVIL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT ACT

The Civil Service Establishment (General) Order, 2026, Resolution

WHEREAS section 3(1) of the Civil Service Establishment Act (hereinafter referred to as the Act) provides that, subject to the provisions of the Constitution of Jamaica relating to the holders of public offices and of this Act, the power to constitute or abolish offices in the public service shall be exercised by the Minister by order:

AND WHEREAS section 3(2) of the Act provides that an order made under section 3 of the Act may, from time to time –

- (a) determine the numbers of any office specified thereunder;
- (b) determine the emoluments to be attached to any office; and
- (c) make such incidental, consequential and supplemental provision as the Minister thinks necessary or expedient to give full effect to the order:

AND WHEREAS section 3(3) of the Act provides that an order made under section 3 of the Act may provide that it shall have effect from such date, not earlier than the 1st day of February, 1976, as may be specified therein:

AND WHEREAS section 3(4) of the Act provides that an order made under section 3 of the Act shall be subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives:

AND WHEREAS on the 13th day of January, 2026, the Minister made the Civil Service Establishment (General) Order, 2026:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this Honourable House as follows: -

1. This Resolution may be cited as the Civil Service Establishment (General) Order, 2026 Resolution.
2. The Civil Service Establishment (General) Order, 2026, which was laid on the table of the House on the 10th day of March 2026, is affirmed.

Seconded by: Mr. Andrew Morris
Agreed to

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

Seconded: Dr. Dayton Campbell
Agreed to

NOTICES OF MOTIONS GIVEN ORALLY

The Honourable Fayval Williams, Minister of Finance and the Public Service, gave notice that at the next meeting of the House she would move:

1.

THE PENSIONS (SUPERANNUATION FUNDS AND RETIREMENT SCHEMES) ACT

The Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) (Registration, Licensing and Reporting) (Amendment) Regulations, 2026, Resolution

WHEREAS section 58(1) of the Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) Act (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”), provides that the Financial Services Commission, may with the approval of the Minister, make regulations for such matters as may be necessary or expedient for the purposes of the Act:

AND WHEREAS on the 11th day of March, 2026, the Financial Services Commission, with the approval of the Minister, made the Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) (Registration, Licensing and Reporting) (Amendment) Regulations, 2026:

AND WHEREAS section 58(2) of the Act provides that Regulations made under section 58(1) shall be subject to affirmative resolution:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) (Registration, Licensing and Reporting) (Amendment) Regulations, 2026, be affirmed:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this Honourable House as follows: -

1. This Resolution may be cited as the Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) (Registration, Licensing and Reporting) (Amendment) Regulations, 2026, Resolution.
2. The Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) (Registration, Licensing and Reporting) (Amendment) Regulations, which was laid on the Table of the House on the 24th day of March, 2026, is hereby affirmed.

2.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Insurance (Amendment of Twentieth Schedule) Regulations, 2026, which was laid on the Table of the House on the 24th day of March, 2026, be referred to the Regulations Committee of the House for consideration and report.

She further gave notice that at a later stage that day she would for the suspension of the Standing Orders to enable her take the second motion.

The Honourable Floyd Green, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining and Leader of the House, gave notice that at the next meeting of the House he would move:

THE CONCH (EXPORT LEVY) ACT

The Conch (Export Levy) (Rate of Levy) Order, 2026, Resolution

WHEREAS section 3(1)(c)(ii) of the Conch (Export Levy) Act (hereinafter referred to as the Act) provides that the Minister may, from time to time, by order, subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives, prescribe the rate of the levy to be paid to the Veterinary Services Division, by exporters, for any conch season after the 2010 conch season:

AND WHEREAS on the 12th day of March, 2026, the Minister made the Conch (Export Levy) (Rate of Levy) Order, 2026:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the Conch (Export Levy) (Rate of Levy) Order, 2026, be affirmed:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this Honourable House as follows: -

1. This Resolution may be cited as the Conch (Export Levy) (Rate of Levy) Order, 2026, Resolution.
2. The Conch (Export Levy) (Rate of Levy) Order, 2026, which was laid on the Table of the House on the 24th day of March, 2026, is affirmed.

He further gave notice that at a later stage that day he would for the suspension of the Standing Orders to enable him take the motion.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

The Honourable Floyd Green, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining and Leader of the House, having obtained suspension of the Standing Orders, moved:

THE CONCH (EXPORT LEVY) ACT

The Conch (Export Levy) (Rate of Levy) Order, 2026, Resolution

WHEREAS section 3(1)(c)(ii) of the Conch (Export Levy) Act (hereinafter referred to as the Act) provides that the Minister may, from time to time, by order, subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives, prescribe the rate of the levy to be paid to the Veterinary Services Division, by exporters, for any conch season after the 2010 conch season:

AND WHEREAS on the 12th day of March, 2026, the Minister made the Conch (Export Levy) (Rate of Levy) Order, 2026:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the Conch (Export Levy) (Rate of Levy) Order, 2026, be affirmed:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this Honourable House as follows: -

1. This Resolution may be cited as the Conch (Export Levy) (Rate of Levy) Order, 2026, Resolution.
2. The Conch (Export Levy) (Rate of Levy) Order, 2026, which was laid on the Table of the House on the 24th day of March, 2026, is affirmed.

Dr. Dayton Campbell and Mr. Fitz Jackson also spoke on the motion.

Seconded by: Mr. James Robertson
Agreed to

The Honourable Fayval Williams, Minister of Finance and the Public Service, having obtained suspension of the Standing Orders, moved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Insurance (Amendment of Twentieth Schedule) Regulations, 2026, which was laid on the Table of the House on the 24th day of March, 2026, be referred to the Regulations Committee of the House for consideration and report.

Seconded by: Mr. Richard Azan
Agreed to

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:48 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 a date to be fixed.

On the motion for the adjournment, the Speaker advised Members that the Parliament had received communication from the Ministry of Health and Wellness regarding the national blood drive. She noted that an exercise will be conducted, and Members were being encouraged to support it. She further stated that Jamaicans were being encouraged, following the example set by Members, to give blood whenever possible to save lives. Additionally, she noted that the Honourable Krystal Lee, Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Wellness, was in charge of the process, and Members could engage in discussions with her on the matter.

Seconded by: Dr. Alfred Dawes
Agreed to

The House adjourned accordingly.

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Juliet Holness, MP
Speaker