

**TWELFTH SITTING OF THE SECOND SESSION  
OF THE FOURTH HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**



**TO BE HELD ON  
FRIDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2020  
AT THE SAVE THE SEED ENERGY CENTRE  
DUFFS BOTTOM, TORTOLA  
AT 10:00 A.M.**

**AMENDED**

**ORDER OF THE DAY**

# **ORDER OF THE DAY**

**1) Prayers**

**2) Confirmation Minutes of Minutes**

- Confirmation of Minutes for the Meeting of Thursday 11th June, 2020.
- Confirmation of Minutes for the Meeting of Friday 19th June, 2020.

**3) Announcements by the Speaker**

**4) Statements by Ministers**

**5) Presentation of Papers**

**a) The Premier and Minister of Finance to lay on the table the following documents:**

- i) Statutory Instrument 2020 No. 79 - A proclamation by His Excellency the Governor under Section 83 (1) of the Virgin Islands Constitution Order, 2007 (U.K.S.I. 2007 No. 1678) appointing the time and place at which the Twelfth Sitting of the Second Session of the Fourth House of Assembly of the Virgin Islands shall be held.
- ii) Statutory Instrument 2020 No. 74 – Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations, 2020;
- iii) Statutory Instrument 2020 No. 75 – Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations, 2020.

**6) Notices of Motions Given Orally**

- a) The Premier and Minister of Finance to give notice that, at a later stage in the proceedings, he would seek leave to move the Motion standing in his name under Item 8(1)(i), (iii) through (vi) on the Order of the Day.
- b) The Minister for Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration to give notice that, at a later stage in the proceedings, he would seek leave to move the Motion standing in his name under Item 8(1)(ii) on the Order of the Day.
- c) The Leader of the Opposition and Member for the Eighth District to give notice that, at a later stage in the proceedings, he would seek leave to ask the Questions standing in his name under Item 7(i) through (iii) on the Order of the Day.

- d) The Member for the Second District to give notice that, at a later stage in the proceedings, he would seek leave to ask the Questions standing in his name under Item 7(iv) through (vi) on the Order of the Day.

**7) Questions and Answers to Questions**

- i) **The Leader of the Opposition and Member for the Eighth District to ask the Honourable Premier and Minister of Finance the following questions:**

**Question 1**

Mr. Speaker, could the Premier and Minister of Finance please tell this Honourable House, what was the dollar amount for Government revenue and expenditure for the periods 1st January through 2nd July, 2018, 1st January through 2nd July, 2019 and 1st January through 2nd July, 2020 respectively?

- ii) **The Leader of the Opposition and Member for the Eighth District to ask the Honourable Deputy Premier and Minister for Health and Social Development the following questions:**

**Question 1**

Mr. Speaker, could the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health and Social Development, please give this Honourable House a detailed breakdown of the \$12 million dollars allocated to fight the Territory's COVID-19 response?

- iii) **The Leader of the Opposition and Member for the Eighth District to ask the Honourable Minister for Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration the following questions:**

**Question 1**

Mr. Speaker, could the Minister for Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration please tell this Honourable House, how much money is owed to medical practitioners for service rendered under NHI?

**Question 2**

Mr. Speaker, could the Honourable Minister for Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration please tell this Honourable House, the dollar amount that is owed to NHI by its contributors inclusive of the Government of the Virgin Islands?

**Question 3**

Mr. Speaker, could the Honourable Minister for Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration please tell this Honourable House, how many persons have applied for

income relief through this Government's Economic Response Plan administered by the Social Security Board?

- a) Of the persons applied, how many have received relief and the dollar amount received?
- b) How many persons have been denied thus far and the reasons for denial?

**Question 4**

Mr. Speaker, could the Honourable Minister for Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration please tell this Honourable House, how many persons are assigned to handle requests for income relief by the Social Security Board?

- a) When does the Ministry expect all request will be processed and cheques paid or denied?
- b) Has the period for accepting claims closed? If the answer to B is yes..
- c) Please tell this Honourable House if consideration will be given to qualified persons who missed the deadlines or who might have recently lost their jobs?

- iv) **The Member for the Second District to ask the Honourable Premier and Minister of Finance the following questions:**

**Question 1**

Mister Speaker, could the Honourable Premier and Minister of Finance please tell this Honourable House, what is the detailed financial position of the Territory as at 31st May, 2020:

- a) Balance in Consolidated Fund?
- b) Balance in the Reserve Fund? and
- c) Current Loans and Balances

Of the amount listed by the Honourable Premier with regards to Loans and Balances, is the pension debt included in that amount and if so, what is the total pension debt as at the date above?

- v) **The Member for the Second District to ask the Honourable Minister for Education, Culture, Youth Affairs, Fisheries and Agriculture the following questions:**

**Question 1**

Mister Speaker, could the Honourable Minister for Education, Culture, Youth Affairs, Fisheries and Agriculture please tell provide this Honourable House, with

the detailed report that was promised for the Festival and supporting activities of 2019 since I only received a five page spreadsheet document requested from the committee stage of the budget process of this House in 2019; and list

- a) The total original budgeted amount;
  - b) The amount initially added to the original Budget;
  - c) If there was an overrun of the amended budgeted amount;
  - d) The total of any additional supplementary funds; and
  - e) What was the final cost/amount spent on the Virgin Islands 2019 Festival?
- vi) **The Member for the Second District to ask the Honourable Minister for Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration the following questions:**

### **Question 1**

Mr. Speaker, during the first meeting with the newly elected and appointed Minister for Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration some three months after being elected. One of the things highlighted was the importance of protected our beaches and reefs by implementing reef markers specifically for the areas in my district in White Bay Jost Van Dyke, Great Harbour Jost Van Dyke, Brewer's Bay, and Cane Garden Bay. Could the Honourable Minister for Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration, please update this Honourable House on;

- a) the status of purchasing and installing the markers in each of the aforementioned areas; and
- b) The expected completion date of installation for all areas.

## **8) Public Business**

### **1) Government Business**

#### **Second and Third Readings**

- (i) The Premier and Minister of Finance to move a motion for the Second and Third Readings of the Bill entitled, "**Police Act, 2019**";
- (ii) The Minister for Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration to move a motion for the Second and Third Readings of the Bill entitled, "**Trade In Endangered Species (Cites) Act, 2019**".
- (iii) **The Premier and Minister of Finance to move the following motion:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Assembly of the Virgin Islands approves the supplementary estimate set out in the Schedule which represents monies to be expended under their respective Heads in variation of

the amount appropriated by the Appropriation Act, 2019 (No. 1 of 2019) as follows:

- (a) Recurrent Expenditure of eleven million, three hundred fifty-one thousand, eight hundred eighty dollars (\$11,351,880) to be charged against the Consolidated Fund of the Territory.
- (b) Capital Acquisition Expenditure of three million, nine hundred eighty-seven thousand, nine hundred thirty-nine dollars (\$3,987,939) to be charged against the Consolidated Fund of the Territory.
- (c) Development Expenditure of three hundred sixteen thousand dollars (\$316,000) to be charged against the Development Fund of the Territory by way of funds transferred from the Consolidated Fund.

(iv) **The Premier and Minister of Finance to move the following motion:**

**WHEREAS** section 467 (1) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2001 (No. 13 of 2001) (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) provides that Regulations made by the Governor under the Act shall be subject to an affirmative resolution of the House of Assembly;

**WHEREAS** the Governor has, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 172, 174, 175, 224 and 459 of the Act, made the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2020, Statutory Instrument 2020 No. 74;

**AND WHEREAS** the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2020, S.I. 2020 No. 74 is being laid before the House of Assembly to be affirmed;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the House of Assembly of the Virgin Islands that, that Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2020, Statutory Instrument 2020 No. 74 be affirmed.

(v) **The Premier and Minister of Finance to move the following motion:**

**WHEREAS** section 467 (1) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2001 (No. 13 of 2001) (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) provides that Regulations made by the Governor under the Act shall be subject to an affirmative resolution of the House of Assembly;

**WHEREAS** the Governor has, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 425A, 459 and 460 of the Act, made the Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations, 2020, Statutory Instrument 2020 No. 75;

**AND WHEREAS** the Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations, 2020, S.I. 2020 No. 75 is being laid before the House of Assembly to be affirmed;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the House of Assembly of the Virgin Islands that, that the Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations, 2020, Statutory Instrument 2020 No. 75 be affirmed.

(vi) **The Premier and Minister of Finance to move the following motion:**

**WHEREAS** the Virgin Islands Constitution Order, 2007 (U.K.S.I. 2007 No. 1678) came into force on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

**WHEREAS** it was agreed between the United Kingdom Government and the Government of the Virgin Islands that the said Constitution may be reviewed after of ten (10) years after the date of which it came into force and it is now thirteen (13) years since that Constitution came into force,

**WHEREAS** Cabinet has agreed, subject to the approval of the House of Assembly of the Virgin Islands for the establishment of a Constitutional Review Commission comprising nine (9) members: a Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and five (5) other members to be nominated by the Premier and two (2) members to be nominated by Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition and appointed by the Cabinet, for the purpose of conducting a full review of the Virgin Islands Constitution Order, 2007 (U.K.S.I 2007 1678)

**WHEREAS** Cabinet has agreed among other things that;

- a. the overall composition of the said Commission should cover the main Islands of the Virgin Islands collectively include persons drawn from the legal fraternity, academia, business, communications/public relations, and other areas of civil society and;
- b. that the Commission be provided with a Secretariat which shall consist of a Secretary and appropriate staff and resources to conduct the review and produce its report and any other necessary documents, with the budgetary costs met by the Premier's Office;

**WHEREAS** Cabinet has further agreed that the Terms of Reference of the Constitutional Review Commission should be as follows:

- a. to re-evaluate the vision of the people of the Virgin Islands, as expressed in the preamble to the Virgin Islands Constitution Order, 2007, and to amend accordingly, if necessary;

- b. to evaluate the current Virgin Islands Constitution Order, 2007, and determine whether it is in strategic fit to facilitate the people of the Virgin Islands in achieving the revised vision in (a) above;
- c. to identify any gaps in relation to item (a) above;
- d. to make recommendations for Constitutional Reform, if necessary, based on (a), (b) and (c) above;
- e. to review the next step towards self-determination for the Territory of the Virgin Islands.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Assembly of the Virgin Islands has approved the establishment of and of the composition of the Constitutional Review Commission for the purpose of conducting a full review of the Virgin Islands Constitution Order, 2007 (U.K.S.I. No. 1678 of 2007) with the terms of reference specified above.

**2) Private Members Business**

**9) Other Business**

**10) Adjournment**