

Tuesday, May 5th, 2020

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Speaker (Mr. Reid) tabled a Special Measures Order (HOA Exemption Order #2) exempting the House of Assembly from the prohibition on gatherings of more than 10 people imposed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pursuant to notice and by leave the Honourable the Deputy Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) moved, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Coady), the following motion:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT, notwithstanding any Standing Order of this House:

Routine Proceedings of the House of Assembly, with the exception of Question Period, are suspended for this sitting day and the Orders of the Day provided for in this motion shall be dealt with in the manner provided by it;

AND THAT Notice of Motion is deemed to have been given on the following Bills:

1. An Act To Amend The Liquor Control Act And The Liquor Corporation Act, (Bill No. 34);
2. An Act Respecting The Witnessing Of Documents Through The Use of Audio-Visual Technology (Bill No. 35);
3. An Act To Amend The Temporary Variation Of Statutory Deadlines Act (Bill No. 36);
4. An Act To Amend The Pharmacy Act, 2012 (Bill No. 37);
5. An Act To Amend The Public Health Protection And Promotion Act (Bill No. 38);

AND THAT the said Bills shall now be deemed to have been read a First Time;

AND THAT notice shall be deemed to have been given under Standing Order 11(1) that this House not adjourn at 5:30 p.m. today, Tuesday, May 5, 2020”.

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act Respecting The Witnessing Of Documents Through The Use Of Audio-Visual Technology” (Bill No. 35) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 35 be now read the second time.

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Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act Respecting The Witnessing Of Documents Through The Use Of Audio-Visual Technology” (Bill No. 35) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 35 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

On motion of the Honourable the Deputy Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider a Bill entitled “An Act Respecting The Witnessing Of Documents Through The Use Of Audio-Visual Technology” (Bill No. 35).

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Bennett took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee (Mr. Bennett) reported that the Committee of Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had directed him to report that they had passed a Bill entitled “An Act Respecting The Witnessing Of Documents Through The Use Of Audio-Visual Technology” (Bill No. 35) without amendment.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 35 be now read the third time.

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act Respecting The Witnessing Of Documents Through The Use Of Audio-Visual Technology” (Bill No. 35) was read the third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that the said Bill be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor for her assent.

Pursuant to notice and by leave debate commenced and concluded on the following motion moved by the Honourable the Deputy Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) and seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (Mr. Warr):

“THAT while the COVID-19 pandemic and required public health orders continue, the House of Assembly Members need to fulfil their parliamentary duties as legislators and to provide for accountability and transparency.

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. **THAT**, notwithstanding any Standing Order of this House, the House may wish to sit from time to time in virtual proceedings in a manner to be determined further to this resolution;
2. **AND THAT**, with respect to a sitting of this House, “virtual proceedings” may include a proceeding of this House with any combination of the following:
 - a. Members physically present in the Chamber; and
 - b. Members present remotely by other technological means, including by a video conferencing or audio only platform;
3. **AND THAT** a Select Committee of Rules and Procedures Governing Virtual Proceedings of this House of Assembly be established to determine the manner in which the House may conduct virtual proceedings, which proceedings must satisfy the following requirements:
 - a. A virtual proceeding must be a proceeding of parliament conducted under the authority of the Speaker in the manner agreed to by Members.
 - b. The manner of the proceeding must protect and uphold the parliamentary privilege enjoyed individually and collectively by this House and its Members.
 - c. All Members must be able to access and use any video conferencing or audio platform chosen by the Standing Orders Committee.
 - d. The platform chosen by the committee must be secure for the purpose of a public meeting of this House.
 - e. The platform must be trusted by the Members and be transparent;
4. **AND THAT** the Select Committee consist of the current members of the Standing Orders Committee, the Opposition House Leader, the Third Party House Leader and an unaffiliated Member as agreed to by the unaffiliated Members, or where there is no agreement, an unaffiliated Member as chosen by the Speaker;
5. **AND THAT** the chair of the Standing Orders Committee shall be the chair of the Select Committee;
6. **AND THAT** the Select Committee may, at the discretion of the chair, meet using teleconference, virtual or other means to conduct its meetings;
7. **AND THAT** the report of the Select Committee shall be tabled with the Clerk of the House of Assembly as soon as possible, but in any event no later than July 1, 2020 and shall be deemed to have been duly presented to and adopted by the House of Assembly on that date;

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8. **AND THAT** the measures recommended by the Select Committee and adopted by the House shall apply, as appropriate, to meetings of other Committees of the House and the Management Commission;
9. **AND THAT** the measures recommended by the Select Committee and adopted by this House by the passing of this motion shall remain in place until December 3, 2020 unless earlier revised or replaced by this House of Assembly.”

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Liquor Control Act And The Liquor Corporation Act” (Bill No. 34) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 34 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Liquor Control Act And The Liquor Corporation Act” (Bill No. 34) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 34 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

On motion of the Honourable the Deputy Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Liquor Control Act And The Liquor Corporation Act” (Bill No. 34).

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Bennett took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee (Mr. Bennett) reported that the Committee of Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had directed him to report that they had passed a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Liquor Control Act And The Liquor Corporation Act” (Bill No. 34) without amendment.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 34 be now read the third time.

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Liquor Control Act And The Liquor Corporation Act” (Bill No. 34) was read the third time and passed.

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On motion it was ordered that the said Bill be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor for her assent.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Temporary Variation Of Statutory Deadlines Act" (Bill No. 36) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 36 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Temporary Variation Of Statutory Deadlines Act" (Bill No. 36) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 36 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

On motion of the Honourable the Deputy Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Temporary Variation Of Statutory Deadlines Act" (Bill No. 36).

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Bennett took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee (Mr. Bennett) reported that the Committee of Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had directed him to report that they had passed a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Temporary Variation Of Statutory Deadlines Act" (Bill No. 36) without amendment.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 36 be now read the third time.

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Temporary Variation Of Statutory Deadlines Act" (Bill No. 36) was read the third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that the said Bill be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor for her assent.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Pharmacy Act, 2012" (Bill No. 37) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 37 be now read the second time.

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Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Pharmacy Act, 2012” (Bill No. 37) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 37 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

On motion of the Honourable the Deputy Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Pharmacy Act, 2012” (Bill No. 37).

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Bennett took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee (Mr. Bennett) reported that the Committee of Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had directed him to report that they had passed a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Pharmacy Act, 2012” (Bill No. 37) without amendment.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 37 be now read the third time.

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Pharmacy Act, 2012” (Bill No. 37) was read the third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that the said Bill be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor for her assent.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Public Health Protection And Promotion Act” (Bill No. 38) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 38 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Public Health Protection And Promotion Act” (Bill No. 38) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 38 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

On motion of the Honourable the Deputy Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Public Health Protection And Promotion Act” (Bill No. 38).

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The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Bennett took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee (Mr. Bennett) reported that the Committee of Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had directed him to report that they had passed a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Public Health Protection And Promotion Act" (Bill No. 38) without amendment.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 38 be now read the third time.

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Public Health Protection And Promotion Act" (Bill No. 38) was read the third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that the said Bill be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor for her assent.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn at the call of the Chair.

On motion the House then adjourned *sine die*.

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.