

**Statement in relation to the 2024 2<sup>nd</sup> Supplementary**

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**Second Meeting of the 2024/2025 Session  
of the Cayman Islands Parliament**

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**By the Honourable Premier Juliana O'Connor Connolly, JP, MP**

**Minister of Education**

***Statement in relation to the Exceptional Circumstance Appropriation  
changes resulting in the 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024 Supplementary Appropriations of the  
Ministry of Education***

**9 December 2024**



**MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION**

CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

Mister Speaker, as required by Section 11(6) of the Public Management and Finance Act (2020 Revision), I make this Statement to the Members of this Honourable House with respect to the “exceptional circumstance” transactions that Cabinet approved for the Ministry of Education for the period 1 October – 30 November 2024. Such transactions were approved pursuant to Section 11(5) of the PMFA. This Statement provides details of the aforementioned transactions.

### **TP 51 Other Educational and Training Assistance**

Mister Speaker, Truth For Youth has been undergoing serious financial challenges for some time. In 2023, the Cabinet approved a one-time grant to help alleviate the potential impact on the wider educational provision across the island.

Truth For Youth continues to face significant hardships, largely due to a decline in enrolment of over 19% since the new school year started in August 2024. This has resulted in an average class size of 6 students in grades 3 - 5. The school cannot increase tuition at this time and will have to make salary cuts and reduce staff numbers.

Due to the extenuating circumstances that Truth For Youth has found itself in and considering the social impact on families it serves, it was befitting to assist in whatever way

possible. This assistance was in the form of a one-time grant of \$100,000.

Therefore, approval is required under Section 11(5) of the PMFA (2020 Revision), to;

- increase TP 51 – Other Educational and Training Assistance by One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00)
- *(decrease was taken from the wider CIG budget for 2024)*

## **CCO 1 Teaching of Tertiary Level Professional and Vocational Programmes**

Mister Speaker, the University College of the Cayman Islands recently implemented a new student information system. This multi-year project started in 2022.

In November 2023, during the audit of the accounts for the 2022 financial year, it was determined that funds spent on this capitalized project should have been reported as expenses. The budget for 2024 was already close to being finalized, and \$480,000 was included under EI 46 - University of the Cayman Islands for this new system.

Funds must be transferred from the capital budget to the operational budget to accommodate the proper accounting treatment for this new system, which was fully implemented in 2024.

Therefore, approval is required under Section 11(5) of the PMFA (2020 Revision), to;

- increase CCO 1 – Teaching of Tertiary Level Professional and Vocational Programmes by \$480,000
- decrease EI 46 – University College of the Cayman Islands by \$480,000.

## **Conclusion**

Mister Speaker, thank you for allowing me to explain the exceptional circumstances that have resulted in the Supplementary Appropriations being requested by the Ministry of Education for 1 October – 30 November 2024.