



PARLIAMENT OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

Second Meeting of the 2022-2023 Session
Fourth Sitting

Wednesday
14th December, 2022
(Pages 1-32)

Hon. Katherine A. Ebanks-Wilks, MP
Speaker

Disclaimer: The electronic version of the *Official Hansard Report* is for informational purposes only.
The printed version remains the official record.

PRESENT WERE:

Hon. Katherine A. Ebanks-Wilks, MP
Speaker

MINISTERS OF THE CABINET

Hon. G. Wayne Panton, JP, MP	<i>Premier</i> , Minister of Sustainability & Climate Resiliency
Hon. Christopher S. Saunders, MP	<i>Deputy Premier</i> , Minister of Finance & Economic Development <i>and</i> Border Control & Labour
Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly, JP, MP	Minister of Education <i>and</i> District Administration & Lands
Hon. Bernie A. Bush, MP	Minister of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage
Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan, MP	Minister of Tourism & Transport
Hon. André M. Ebanks, MP	Minister of Financial Services & Commerce <i>and</i> Investment, Innovation & Social Development
Hon. Sabrina T. Turner, MP	Minister of Health & Wellness <i>and</i> Home Affairs
Hon. Johany S. "Jay" Ebanks, MP	Minister of Planning, Agriculture, Housing & Infrastructure

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

Hon. Franz I. Manderson, MBE, Cert Hon, JP	<i>Deputy Governor</i> , ex officio Member responsible for the Portfolio of the Civil Service
Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin, KC, JP	<i>Attorney General</i> , ex officio Member responsible for the Portfolio of Legal Affairs

ELECTED MEMBERS
GOVERNMENT BACKBENCHERS

Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, JP, MP	Elected Member for West Bay West
Ms. Heather D. Bodden, OCI, Cert. Hon., JP, MP	Parliamentary Secretary to Tourism <i>and</i> Social Development, Elected Member for Savannah
Mr. Isaac D. Rankine, MP	Parliamentary Secretary to Home Affairs <i>and</i> Planning, Agriculture & Infrastructure, Elected Member for East End
Hon. Dwayne S. Seymour, JP, MP	<i>Deputy Speaker</i> , Parliamentary Secretary to Labour, Housing <i>and</i> Transport
	Elected Member for Bodden Town East

OPPOSITION MEMBERS

Hon. Roy M. McTaggart, JP, MP	<i>Leader of the Opposition</i> , Elected Member for George Town East
Mr. Joseph X. Hew, MP	<i>Deputy Leader of the Opposition</i> , Elected Member for George Town North
Hon. Sir Alden McLaughlin, KCMG, MBE, KC, JP, MP	Elected Member for Red Bay
Mr. Moses I. Kirkconnell, JP, MP	Elected Member for Cayman Brac West and Little Cayman
Ms. Barbara E. Conolly, JP, NP, MP	Elected Member for George Town South
Mr. David C. Wight, JP, MP	Elected Member for George Town West

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT
SECOND MEETING OF THE 2022/23 SESSION
WEDNESDAY
14 DECEMBER, 2022
11:22 AM
Fourth Sitting

[Hon. Katherine A. Ebanks-Wilks, Speaker, presiding]

The Speaker: Good morning. I call on the Honourable Deputy Leader of the Opposition to grace us with prayers.

Mr. Joseph X. Hew, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Elected Member for George Town North: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Let us pray.

Almighty God, from whom all wisdom and power are derived: We beseech Thee so to direct and prosper the deliberations of the Parliament now assembled that all things may be ordered upon the best and surest foundations for the glory of Thy Name, and for the safety, honour and welfare of the people of these Islands.

Bless our Sovereign, King Charles III; William, Prince of Wales; and all the Royal Family. Give grace to all who exercise authority in our Commonwealth, that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety may be established amongst us. Especially we pray for the Governor of our Islands, the Premier, the Speaker of the Parliament, the Leader of the Opposition, Ministers of the Cabinet, ex officio Members, Members of the Parliament, the Chief Justice and Members of the Judiciary, that we may be enabled faithfully to perform the responsible duties of our high office. All this we ask for Thy great Name's sake.

Let us say The Lord's Prayer together:

Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine upon us and be gracious unto us. The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon us and give us peace, now and always. Amen.

The Speaker: Please be seated.

Proceedings are now resumed.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OR AFFIRMATIONS

The Speaker: None.

**READING BY THE HONOURABLE
SPEAKER OF MESSAGES AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Speaker: I have a short statement.

Today marks a special day here in the Parliament Management Commission and I wanted to take a moment to recognise Mrs. Zena Merren-Chin on her birthday.

[Desk thumping]

The Speaker: Ms. Zena, I would like to draw your attention to all of the Parliament Staff that have gathered in the gallery just to honour you this morning.

Ms. Zena stands in a category next to none and it's noteworthy that she has served as the last Clerk of the Legislative Assembly; Head of Department for the Legislative Department, and is now the first Clerk of the Parliament of the Cayman Islands and Chief Officer of the Parliament Management Commission.

[Desk thumping]

The Speaker: I just wanted to touch briefly on her background as many in the public may not know but Ms. Zena actually started her career as a police officer. She was a detective and then the Clerk of Court, practiced as an attorney-at-law in the private sector, and then she missed public service so much, that she returned approximately 13 years ago at the post of Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Ms. Zena, we are fortunate and appreciative to have you as our Clerk and Chief Officer, especially with the knowledge and experience that you have amassed over the years. Today we want to acknowledge you on your birthday, and thank you for all of the sacrifices that you have made for keeping the functioning of Parliament together. Especially me as a new Speaker, I want to say thank you for your assistance over the last few weeks.

I will close by letting Members know that when we break, we will have a little birthday cake in the kitchen for Ms. Zena.

Thank you.

The Clerk: Thank you guys, very much.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

The Speaker: None.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND OF REPORTS

REPORT OF THE STANDING BUSINESS COMMITTEE – FIRST MEETING OF THE 2022-2023 SESSION OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS PARLIAMENT

The Speaker: The Honourable Premier.

The Premier, Hon. G. Wayne Panton, Minister of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency, Elected Member for Newlands: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I rise to lay on the Table of this honourable House the Report of the Standing Business Committee for the First Meeting of the 2022-2023 Session of the Cayman Islands Parliament.

The Speaker: Does the Honourable Premier wish to speak thereto?

The Premier, Hon. G. Wayne Panton: Madam Speaker, thank you.

I think the report speaks for itself and I appreciate the cooperation and collaboration of all Members. Thank you.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR CAYMAN AIRWAYS LIMITED – FOR THE 2020 FINANCIAL YEAR

ANNUAL REPORT FOR CAYMAN AIRWAYS LIMITED – FOR THE 2021 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister of Tourism and Transport.

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan, Minister of Tourism and Transport, Elected Member for George Town Central: Yes, Madam Speaker, I rise to lay on the Table of this honourable House the Annual Report for Cayman Airways Limited for the 2020 Financial Year.

The Speaker: Does the Honourable Minister wish to speak thereto?

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Yes, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, in accordance with section 52(8) of the Public Management and Finance Law [Act] (2018 Revision) I place before this honourable House

the Audited Financial Statements of Cayman Airways Limited for the year ended the 31st December, 2020.

Madam Speaker, during the fiscal year, the airlines transported some 118,000 passengers on 4,876 flights; of this amount, over 38,800 passengers or almost a third of the total, were transported domestically. During the period, the airline also transported over 1,940 tons of cargo.

The airline entered 2020 with two of its MAX fleets grounded; a continuation of the grounding that first occurred in March 2019. That grounding would be in effect for the entire year. With the MAX fleet grounded and to ensure that its fleet of three 737-300s was able to cover the scheduled flights, each of the aircrafts was scheduled for various intervals of under budgeted, heavy maintenance from February through to June 2020.

On March 22, 2020, as a precaution against the globally expanding SARS-CoV-2, coronavirus (COVID-19), the Cayman Islands Government closed its international borders. For several weeks there was no international passenger travel; by April, the airline began to operate limited international repatriation flights. The border closure resulted in very little passenger volume and the existing aircraft was able to accommodate, despite the grounded MAX fleet.

On September 28th, 2020, some 18 months later than originally expected, the airline retired the oldest 737-300 Air Max VP-KY. This retirement had originally been planned for March 2019 but was delayed due to the MAX grounding; however, the cost to keep the aircraft in service beyond September was impractical and the aircraft was removed from the fleet.

The Airline's 2020 financials show the net loss of KY\$464,000 (US\$552,000) after interest and depreciation for the year. The original budget called for a net loss of KY\$7.1 million; this KY\$6.6 million variation was primarily due to the reclassification of the \$6.35 million of equity injection to the output payment.

The airline's ability to reduce expenses based on fuel, aircraft services and so forth, is a correspondent ratio to the reduction in revenue, then offset by the new funding from Cabinet and compensation from the manufacturer for the MAX grounding meant that the airline was able to cope with the international border closure. Additionally, in early 2020, the Cayman Islands Government agreed to provide CAL [Cayman Airways Limited] with new additional funding of \$4.99 million for the unbudgeted, heavy maintenance of the 737-300 aircrafts and to accommodate any needed sub-service as a result of the grounded MAX aircrafts.

Annually, the Company renews its property, plant and equipment for impairment losses whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable or when impairment indicators are present. As at 31st December 2020, indicators of an impairment were apparent in relation to the de-hulled fleet and the impairment amounting to KY\$1.3 million arose.

Our continued strategic use of Cayman Airways to enable easy and affordable access to the Cayman Islands has contributed greatly to the country's tourism success over the years, Madam Speaker. However, during 2020, the country's need changed from one of tourism and stimulating the economy, to one of maintaining connections, transporting cargo and providing repatriation services. Cayman Airways once again proved its worth, as we were able to maintain ties with the outside world, to receive cargo supplies and to ensure our people had access to needed off-island services such as medical treatment.

Madam Speaker, the financial statements I present have been audited by the Auditor General in accordance with sub-section 29(2) of the Public Management and Finance Law [Act] (2013 Revision). An unqualified opinion was issued on the 31st December 2020 Financials, with an emphasis of matter for the Company's reliance on financial support from the Cayman Islands Government. The Auditor General states that the statements present fairly in all material respects, the financial position of Cayman Airways Limited and its subsidiaries as of the 31st December 2020, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year [then] ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Board and the Management of Cayman Airways Limited for their efforts in producing these audited financial statements and the Office of the Auditor General for auditing them.

I invite Members of this honourable House and the public to review the report in detail.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister for Tourism and Transport.

[Pause]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Madam Speaker, I do apologise. I didn't realise that the Order Paper called for both 2020 and 2021 financial years' reports and therefore in my closing remarks, I only spoke to 2020. With your indulgence, I would like the opportunity to speak to the 2021 report and add just a few remarks with respect to that.

The Speaker: Please proceed.

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Thank you, Madam Speaker. In accordance with section 52(8) of the Public Management and Finance Law (2020 Revision), I place before the honourable House the Audited Financial Statements for Cayman Airways Limited for the year ended 31st December, 2021.

Madam Speaker, during the fiscal year, the Airline transported some 139 *[sic]* passengers on 5,925 flights; of this amount over 52,000 passengers, over

one-third of the total, was transported domestically. During the period, the airline also transported 2,120 tons of cargo.

Madam Speaker, I crave your indulgence.

[Pause]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

In February 2021, the Boeing 737-8 MAX aircrafts were cleared by the Civil Aviation Authority of the Cayman Islands and Cayman Airways returned the aircraft to service.

In March 2021, Cayman Airways took delivery of its third Boeing 737-8 MAX. For much of that year, international travel was restricted and the nation's borders remained closed to international visitors. During this time, Cayman Airways provided strong domestic connectivity and repatriation flights to several other countries.

In September 2021, the borders of the Cayman Islands reopened to vaccinated, international visitors. Cayman Airways quickly ramped up its international service offerings to ensure that the seat capacity to the Cayman Islands matched the demand. In doing so, service was relaunched to several gateways including Tampa, New York and Havana; while existing service to Miami, Kingston and La Ceiba was expanded.

During 2020, KY\$1.538 million in input payments had been transferred to the 2021 budget year and reallocated to the 2020 budget year along with some \$5.34 million in equity investments— a total transfer of \$6.88 million in Cayman Islands Government funding. Therefore, during mid-2021, to address the 2020 transfer and restore the funding, KY\$7 million was approved by Parliament as a supplemental appropriation. The entire amount of \$7 million was classified as an output payment.

The airline's 2021 financials show a net loss of \$4.216 million, which is equivalent to US\$5,019,000 after interest and depreciation for the year. The original budget called for a net loss of KY\$5.7 million. The airline's ability to reduce expenses such as fuel and aircraft services in a corresponding ratio to the reduction in revenue, then offset by the new funding from Cabinet, meant that the airline was able to cope with the financial impact of the international border closure.

Annually, the company reviews its property, plant and equipment for impairment losses whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable and when impairments indicators are present. As of the 31st December, 2021, no indicators of impairment were apparent with respect to the fixed assets of the company.

Our continued strategic use of Cayman Airways during the period of our border closure, followed by our ability to quickly react to changes in the relaxation of the COVID-19 restrictions, ensured that access to and from the Cayman Islands was provided as needed.

Madam Speaker, the financial statements I present have been audited by the Auditor General in accordance with section 29(2) of the Public Management and Finance Law (2013 Revision). An unqualified opinion has been issued on the 31st December, 2020 Financials with an “emphasis of matter” for the company's reliance on financial support from the Cayman Islands Government.

The Auditor General states that the statements present fairly in all material respects, the financial position of Cayman Airways Limited and its subsidiary as of the 31st December 2021, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Board and Management of Cayman Airways for their efforts in producing the audited financials and the Auditor General's team.

I now invite Members to take a look at the report in detail.

ANNUAL REPORT 2021 – CAYMAN ISLANDS TOURISM ATTRACTION BOARD

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister of Tourism and Transport.

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I lay before this honourable House the Annual Report 2021 for the Cayman Islands Tourism Attraction Board.

The Speaker: Does the Honourable Minister wish to speak?

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Yes, Madam Speaker; thank you.

In accordance with section 52(5) of the Public Management and Finance Act (2020 Revision) [*sic*] [(2013 Revision)], I am pleased today to place before this honourable House the Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Cayman Islands Tourism Attraction Board for the fiscal year 2021.

Madam Speaker, the Cayman Islands Tourism Attraction Board is a statutory authority established under the Tourism Attraction Board Law 1996 (Law 17 of 1996) on the 25th November, 1996.

The primary function of the Tourism Attraction Board is the general and financial management of the government-owned tourism attractions in accordance with the aforementioned law and the Cabinet directives. Those are: Pedro St. James, Queen Elizabeth II Park, the Hell geological site and the Cayman Craft Market. The authority's operations are regulated by the Government of the Cayman Islands.

Madam Speaker, the 2021 audited financial statements show that the total income for the year ended 31st December, 2021 was \$2,809,614, while total expenditures were \$2,597,309. This resulted in a net

surplus of \$212,305. The authority had current assets of \$2,004,614, and non-current assets of \$9,638,238. Total assets equalled \$11,642,852 at the 31st December, 2021. Current liabilities were \$380,896, and there were no non-current liabilities. Total liabilities therefore equalled \$380,896. Total equity, being contributed capital and retained earnings, equalled \$11,261,956. Total liabilities and equity amounted to \$11,642,852.

Madam Speaker, the audited financial statements of the Tourism Attraction Board includes the Auditor General's opinion. The entity received an unqualified opinion for the year 2021. The Auditor General found that the financial statements of the authority present fairly in all material respects, the financial position of the Tourism Attraction Board and its entities as of the 31st December, 2021; its financial performance and its statement of cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with international public sector accounting standards.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the public to visit the Children's Garden at the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park. It's truly, truly, a family friendly facility for all of your family to enjoy; so please, on behalf of the entity, I encourage persons to go and visit yourself.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Board and Management of the Cayman Islands Tourism Attraction Board for their efforts in producing the audited financial statements and the Office of the Auditor General for auditing them.

I invite the Members of this honourable House and the public to review the reports in detail.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

PORT AUTHORITY CAYMAN ISLANDS – ANNUAL REPORT 2021

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister of Tourism and Transport.

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Madam Speaker, I rise to present to this honourable House the Port Authority of the Cayman Islands' Annual Report 2021.

The Speaker: Does the Honourable Minister wish to speak thereto?

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Yes, Madam Speaker, thank you.

Madam Speaker, in accordance with section 52(8) of the Public Management and Finance Act (2020 Revision), I am pleased today to place before this honourable Parliament the audited financial statements for the Port Authority of the Cayman Islands for the fiscal year 2021.

Madam Speaker, the Port Authority of the Cayman Islands is a statutory body established on September 15th, 1996, under the Port Authority Act. The authority is principally engaged in enforcement of the Port Authority Law and Regulations, as well as the general

maintenance and control of all ports within the Cayman Islands, as set out in the aforementioned law.

Madam Speaker, Members of this honourable Parliament are aware that the authority currently operates two ports; one in Grand Cayman and one in Cayman Brac. The operations of the authority are regulated by the Government of the Cayman Islands.

Madam Speaker, the 2021 audited financial statements show that the total operating income for the year ended 31st December, 2021 was \$22,280,219, while total operating expenditure was \$20,897,508. The annual expense for the defined benefit liability, together with the net loss associated with the reliance on land and building, and the actuarial re-measurement of the defined benefit liability at December 31st, 2021 totalled \$9,672,357. This resulted in a net income of \$11,055,068.

The authority had current assets of \$13,788,909 and non-current assets of \$80,014,264. Total assets amounted to \$93,803,173 as at 31st December, 2021. Current liabilities were \$1,643,649, and the non-current liabilities which present the authority's defined benefit, healthcare liabilities and the lease liabilities was \$51,561,000 at the 31st December, 2021. The total liabilities amounted to \$53,204,986 for the same date and total equity, being contributed capital, retained earnings, and re-evaluation reserves, amounted to \$40,598,187. Total liabilities and equity amounted to \$93,803,173 for the year ended the 31st December, 2021.

Madam Speaker, the audited financial statements of the authority included the Auditor General's opinion. The financial statements have been audited by the Auditor General's Office, and I am delighted to report that an unqualified audit opinion has been issued on the 31st December, 2021's financial statements. The Auditor General states that the financial statements present fairly in all material respects, the financial position of the Port Authority of the Cayman Islands as of the 31st December, 2021, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended in accordance with the international financial reporting standards.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognise and welcome back to the Port Authority as the Port Director, Mr. Paul Hurlston. As you know, we were in transition from having an Acting Director; now we have resolved the matter. I am sure that everyone will agree that his background and experience will add significant value to the Port.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Board and the Management of the Port Authority of the Cayman Islands for their hard work in producing these audited financial statements.

I invite the Honourable Members of this Parliament and the public to review the report in detail.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

2021 ANNUAL REPORT – UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CAYMAN ISLANDS

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister of Education.

Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly, Minister of Education and District Administration and Lands, Elected Member for Cayman Brac East: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table of this honourable House the Annual Report 2021 in respect of the University College of the Cayman Islands.

The Speaker: Does the Honourable Minister wish to speak thereto?

Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly: No, thank you, Madam Speaker. It is self-explanatory.

MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, INVESTMENT, AVIATION & MARITIME AFFAIRS – CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT – ANNUAL RE- PORT JANUARY – JUNE 2021

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister of Investment, Innovation and Social Development.

Hon. André M. Ebanks, Minister of Financial Services and Commerce and Investment, Innovation and Social Development, Elected Member for West Bay South: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I rise to lay on the Table of this honourable House the Annual Report of the then entitled Ministry of International Trade, Investment, Innovation and Maritime Affairs for the period January–June 2021.

The Speaker: Does the Honourable Minister wish to speak thereto?

Hon. André M. Ebanks: No, thank you, Madam Speaker. The report is self-explanatory.

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT – 2021 HALF-YEAR REPORT

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister of Investment, Innovation and Social Development.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I rise to lay on the Table of this honourable House the half-year Annual Report in relation to the Ministry then called the Ministry of Community Affairs for the period January–June 2021.

The Speaker: Does the Honourable Minister wish to speak?

Hon. André M. Ebanks: No, thank you, Madam Speaker. The report is self-explanatory.

2021 HALF-YEAR REPORT – MINISTRY OF YOUTH, SPORTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister of Youth Sports, Culture and Heritage.

Hon. Bernie A. Bush, Minister of Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage, Elected Member for West Bay North: Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table of this honourable House the 2021 half-year Report for the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage.

The Speaker: Does the Minister wish to speak?

Hon. Bernie A. Bush: Madam Speaker, just to thank my staff for the hard work and diligence that they put in. Thank you.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION - 2020 ANNUAL STATISTICS REPORT

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister of Youth Sports, Culture and Heritage.

Hon. Bernie A. Bush: Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table of this honourable House the Freedom of Information 2020 Annual Statistics Report.

The Speaker: Does the Minister wish to speak?

Hon. Bernie A. Bush: Just once again to thank the Ombudsman and their office for the hard work they have done with such short staff. Thank you.

QUESTIONS TO HONOURABLE MINISTERS AND MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

The Speaker: None.

STATEMENTS BY HONOURABLE MINISTERS AND MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

The Speaker: I have given leave to the Honourable Minister of Tourism and Transport to make a statement.

[Pause]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan:
Industry year-to-date report

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I am grateful to you for allowing me this opportunity to give Members of this

honourable House and the public an update on our tourism industry's performance.

Madam Speaker, 2022 has been a very challenging year, full of ups and downs for all of us but, despite the scale and the depth of the disruptions caused by the pandemic, I believe a sense of renewed hope is encouragingly taking hold in our Islands where tourism is concerned. So, I am happy to provide this summary of the industry's year-to-date results. It's important that the country knows how the second pillar of our economy is recovering.

With that being said, Madam Speaker, in order to truly understand the significance of where we are now, I should first take us back to where we were just a year ago. You may recall, Madam Speaker, that this time last year my team, good old Sir Turtle, and I, were on the tarmac of the Owen Roberts International Airport—standing with flags, welcoming back airlines one after the other. JetBlue was the first US-based commercial airline to return, followed by Air Canada, WestJet, United [Airlines], American [Airlines], Southwest [Airlines] and Delta [Air Lines].

Madam Speaker, when JetBlue landed I remember being asked by someone, '*why are we celebrating*', especially since the plane wasn't even full. The question itself totally missed the point. At that time, it wasn't about how many people were on the first flight; the point was that commercial flights were returning for the first time in almost two years, and would be bringing back tourists to our Islands.

Even though our borders were not even fully reopened, Madam Speaker, it was important for us to be out there, because it was a pivotal moment in the industry's recovery. At that point, with travel restrictions still in place, we didn't even know for sure what the path of recovery would look like, or what percentage of the pre-pandemic arrivals we would be able to claw back from the competition.

Thus, at the beginning of this year, I set the Department of Tourism (DoT) a target to deliver at least 40 per cent of the 2019 arrivals by the 31st December, 2022. That equated to having approximately 200,000 visitors arrive on our shores during the course of this year.

In terms of revenue, I set a similar target of 40 per cent of the tourism revenue collected in 2019, as the target to be achieved in 2022. That meant that KY\$15 million had to be collected in tourism taxes and fees in order to meet that goal; 2019 was used as a benchmark for comparison because it was the last full year of travel prior to the pandemic. It was also the industry's best year in recorded history.

After a slow start in 2022, which saw less than 6,000 visitors arrive in January equating to just 14 per cent of 2019 figures, I am pleased to report, Madam Speaker, that stay-over arrivals have consistently increased month after month. In summary, Madam Speaker, for the 10-month period of January to October of this year, we have welcomed 202,230 stay-over

visitors, meaning that the visitor target has already been exceeded. There are still two more months of arrivals to be added to that count, which I will speak to a bit more, later.

The best performing months of this year were June with 26,106 visitors, and July which peaked at 32,356 visitors. The fact that these are normally slow months of summer makes these results even more significant. In terms of revenue targets of \$15 million, I can confirm that tourism taxes and fees collected for the first 10 months of this year amount to KY\$14.5 million; just short of the target but, as I noted earlier, we still have to add the taxes collected in November and December to that figure, Madam Speaker. I am confident that once that is done, we will have surpassed our financial target. I should note though, Madam Speaker, that in keeping in line with the law, tourism accommodation taxes are remitted by the 28th day of the following month, and this is why the revenue earned for the month of November from tourism taxes is not yet available.

With tourism playing such an important role in our economy, the country has every reason to be happy with the industry's performance. Visitation is trending upwards, targets are being met, and the tourism industry is once again making solid contributions to the economy—but it has not always been an easy road, Madam Speaker.

These impressive results did not occur by chance. They are the outcome of bold decision making and willingness to do things differently. Even taking calculated risk at some times. For example, Madam Speaker, our tourism recovery is currently being fuelled by growth from the UK and Canada, which certainly isn't typical, but rather, a result of the DoT's foresight and willingness to leverage opportunities.

Last year, while uncertainty prevailed in the US markets and there was no clear indication of when our own borders would fully reopen, the decision was taken to dramatically increase advertising in the UK and Canadian markets. As a consequence, the UK is the fastest recovering market right now. BA [British Airways] has increased its service from three flights a week when we first reopened, to now having five flights a week; and there is a strong possibility, Madam Speaker, that more will be added in the New Year, signalling that one of the world's largest airlines has confidence in our tourism recovery.

Arrivals from Canada have also trended upwards. For the month of October, both UK and Canada were almost at 2019 levels. The results aligned with Broad Outcome 10(2)(c) of the Government *Strategic Policy Statement 2022-2024*, Madam Speaker, which specified that we should “**expand into emerging and secondary markets**”. That is precisely what we have been doing, Madam Speaker, to the extent where our secondary markets are significantly contributing to the industry's overall recovery.

Aside from Canada, the Department of Tourism is placing emphasis on the Latin American markets with a view to expanding into Panama in the second quarter of the New Year.

Airline connectivity in general has continued to strengthen, and in the fourth quarter of this year, the number of airline seats into our destination increased by 1,253, meaning that in the fourth quarter we had over 1,200 more airline seats than we had in 2019. This increase in capacity, even though just one per cent growth, Madam Speaker, is a positive indication that our tourism industry is entering 2023 in a position of strength.

Airline seat capacity is the single most important factor for achieving growth in our tourism. The more international airlines we have servicing our destination, the faster visitation will grow, Madam Speaker. This is further underscored by the return of Sun Country Airlines, which will offer service from Minneapolis to the Cayman Islands starting this Saturday, December 17th. I invite all Members to come and celebrate with us, as we grow stronger and stronger.

Not only have we increased the number of seats coming into the Cayman Islands in the fall, we have also increased the number of gateways.

Madam Speaker, you may recall that Cayman Airways launched its service to Los Angeles, California on the 5th November, taking advantage of the expanded range of our new Boeing Max 8 aircraft, thanks to the efforts of our former honourable Tourism Minister. The LAX service opens up the air corridor to the west coast of the United States, and is the first direct service to Los Angeles from any Caribbean island.

In its first month of operations, the route is performing in line with expectations, despite only having a minimal advertising budget, and that's merely due to us being smart about our spending, Madam Speaker. As much as we want to give more money to marketing, we thought we would manage our finances and take that risk.

Still with Cayman Airways, Madam Speaker, for the month of October 2022, our national airline announced that it had exceeded pre-pandemic numbers, both for total passenger count and passenger revenue, setting new records in both categories. Cayman Airways transported over 31,000 passengers in October, rising above the 30,000 mark in any October month for the first time in the airline's history. Passenger revenue was also 37 per cent higher than October 2019.

Madam Speaker, the Honourable Members of the House will not have this amendment, but I have good news which I provided to you, Madam Speaker: Cayman Airways similarly achieved new records in November. For the first time in November, Cayman Airways has exceeded \$5 million in passenger revenues and transported over 31,600 passengers, which is the second highest passenger number for any November in the airline's history.

Madam Speaker, we are doing well.

[Desk thumping]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Madam Speaker, the strength of our tourism recovery is welcomed news because it influences all sectors of the industry, including daily room rates charged by hotels.

In October 2022, the Average Daily Rate (ADR) for a hotel room had increased by 35 per cent above 2019 levels, Madam Speaker. Let me repeat that: In October 2022, the average daily rate for hotel rooms had increased above the 2019 levels by 35 per cent.

[Desk thumping]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Confirming that visitors are currently willing to pay more to experience a vacation in the Cayman Islands.

Madam Speaker, turning our attention now to cruise tourism, which represents a significant portion of our tourism product mix. Since the return of cruise ships in March 2022, this sector has been steadily recovering. We have received 165 cruise calls between March and October 2022, carrying 509,205 cruise passengers. This represents 35 per cent of the volume of cruise passengers recorded in 2019.

The month of June was our cruise sector's highest performing month so far for this year, with close to 90,000 passengers landing on our shores. This equated to 86 per cent of the cruise passenger arrivals we received in June of 2019. Although the passenger numbers are considerably lower than 2019, they generally fall in line with the Ministry's projections and are on track to achieve the target of 40 per cent of the 2019 numbers, Madam Speaker.

When considering the cruise passenger account, we must bear in mind though, Madam Speaker, that the numbers are being compared to the 2019 passenger arrivals which are a full year; whereas for 2022 our ports were closed for the first three months of the year. This means that we lost a full quarter of passenger arrivals. Madam Speaker, that's like running a 100-metre race where everyone starts at the 75-metre mark except you, but you are expected to catch up and win the race—and I dare say, Madam Speaker, we will win this race.

You may recall, Madam Speaker, that it was the Government's intention to allow cruise ships to return in December of 2021. Unfortunately, the highly contagious Omicron variant of the coronavirus was discovered around the same time, which delayed the Government's reopening plans by three months; even so, we are still on track to achieve the 40 per cent target.

Looking ahead to 2023 and 2024, I think it's worth mentioning that both the number of cruise calls and the total count of cruise passenger arrivals are expected to still be below the 2019 passenger arrivals. This is because two of our major cruise lines, Carnival [Cruise Line] and Royal Caribbean [International] have

confirmed that they will be reducing the number of calls from their respective ships because of our lack of a berthing facility. These and other cruise lines have moved to operating the Mega Ship classes and they are unwilling to tender them, particularly due to the time it would take to ferry passengers to and from the ships.

To give an example of the type of shortfall anticipated, Madam Speaker, passenger count from Royal Caribbean in 2019 was 400,000. It is expected to reduce to 330,000 passengers in 2023 and further reduce to 300,000 in 2024. For Carnival, we had a combined total of 327 calls from their ships and their respective cruise lines in 2019. This is expected to be reduced to 171 Madam Speaker.

While that is not an accomplishment Madam Speaker, I mention it because it reflects the will of the people of these Islands, who made it very clear that they do not want a berthing facility/cruise pier. The reduction in cruise calls is a consequence of that decision, and it's a reality that we will have to live with unless the people say otherwise.

Not all is lost, Madam Speaker, the Ministry is seeking to make up some of the reduction in calls with lines that have similar ships and higher yielding guests such as MSC [Cruises] and Holland America [Line]. The passengers from these cruise lines are more in line with the Cayman Islands' target demographic, and I am happy to say that our meetings with the decision makers responsible for their operations and itineraries have been encouraging. I am hopeful that their schedules will be maintained, and possibly increased, in the near future.

Additionally, Madam Speaker, as you may be aware, there is a high and low season for the cruise sector, just as there is for stay-over arrivals, and this is particularly true in the Caribbean context. It is my intention to speak with the cruise lines in the New Year, to explore ways in which the seasonality can be flattened out, so that we can maintain a consistent level of cruise ships year-round, or at least for more months of the year than present.

Madam Speaker, supported by thousands and thousands of Caymanian workers and small businesses, our cruise sector is a vital contributor to our tourism industry. Given the number of Caymanians who rely on its success, I consider it too important to play politics with and so, Madam Speaker, I have put politics aside and I have invited the former Minister of Tourism to join me when I engage with the cruise lines, which I believe he is willing to do. I thank him for also being willing to put politics aside, and collaborate in the best interest of the people of the Cayman Islands and those who are affected by cruise tourism.

[Desk thumping]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: The final thing I should mention on the subject of cruise, Madam Speaker, is that earlier this year the Ministry of Tourism entered an

agreement with the Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association (FCCA) which enables our Islands to be marketed directly to member lines, which represent over 90 per cent of the global cruise industry. This platinum-level marketing package offers tremendous opportunities for the Cayman Islands, Madam Speaker, and it will help us to build closer relationships with the Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association member lines, as well as with other travel stakeholders, consumers, and more than 25,000 travel agents.

As a result of this partnership, the Cayman Islands branding, displaying a variety of tourism product offerings, will be showcased at FCCA conferences and events, where it will be visible to thousands of persons in the industry—the *movers and shakers*—keeping the Cayman Islands in the forefront of their minds.

Madam Speaker, another area of importance that I would like to update the Members of Parliament and the public on, is the opportunities that have been implemented to support the Government's goal of developing a highly skilled, Caymanian, tourism workforce. With that being said, Madam Speaker, in my role as the Minister of Tourism there is nothing more important to me, or nothing I'm committed to more, than encouraging more Caymanians to participate in the tourism industry.

I am very pleased to report to you, Madam Speaker, that under the Department of Tourism's National Tourism Training Programme, hundreds of Caymanians have been given the opportunity to attend a variety of training courses which the Ministry and the Department of Tourism have hosted with participation from public and private sector organisations. Not only are the courses fully-accredited but they have been made available free of charge to all Caymanians who wish to launch a career or develop their skills in the tourism and hospitality industry.

In the current fiscal year, the Department of Tourism has budgeted over a million Cayman Islands dollars to train Caymanians through internationally-accredited certification programmes; tertiary level training, and local workshops, Madam Speaker. By way of example, these training opportunities have included:

1. The Aquila Customer Service Training which provides frontline staff, tour guides, public transport operators and drivers, and anyone connected with customers with the skills and confidence needed to deliver excellent service. This course has been offered twice so far, Madam Speaker.
2. The Wineschool3 Accredited Bartending Training, which has been offered three times and we are preparing for a fourth cohort.
3. The Minister has also sponsored 12 full-time and 12 part-time scholarships with Inspire Cayman [Training], for Caymanians seeking certification in boat operations and Emergency First Response. The goal is to

engage more Caymanians to open businesses or take up employment as life-guards, boat operators, or in Emergency First Response-related jobs.

4. A total of 39 PRIDE training workshops and five webinars have been offered through the Department of Tourism. The PRIDE training programmes focus on Caymanians' culture and heritage, and were established to create a culture of service excellence within the tourism industry.
5. The Ministry of Tourism still supports the Ministry of Tourism's Scholarship Programme which enables Caymanians wishing to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in tourism or a tourism-related discipline to realise their dreams.

If anyone is in doubt about the benefits of this opportunity to both individuals and this country, Madam Speaker, I need only mention that our Director of Tourism, the wonderful, most-amazing, Ms. Rosa Harris, was the first recipient of this scholarship and she now leads our Department of Tourism very, very, successfully.

[Desk thumping]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: I am pleased to advise that the application period for the 2023 scholarship programme is now open to Caymanians wishing to study for a Bachelor's or Master's degree in tourism-related disciplines; they are invited to submit their applications. The deadline for submission is Tuesday, 31st January, [2023] which is just over a month away, so make sure you guys take note. I'll say that again: The deadline for submission is Tuesday, 31 January, 2023, and further information is available by calling the Department of Tourism on 949-0623, or visiting scholarships.ourcayman.ky

6. In addition to the efforts of Government, private sector partners have also offered training programmes for Caymanians; for example, the Dart Group recently held a hospitality training programme in collaboration with WORC [Workforce Opportunities & Residency Cayman], which included paid on the job training at three Dart properties, namely: Kimpton Seafire Resort and Spa, the Ritz-Carlton Grand Cayman and the Hampton by Hilton.

Eight of the 12 Caymanians who completed the programme have received job offers within the Dart hospitality portfolio. I am hopeful that these types of programmes will inspire more Caymanians to get involved in our hospitality industry, Madam Speaker. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Dart

Group for their commitment and their investment in our people.

I could go on Madam Speaker, but suffice it to say, that as we continue to work hard to attract visitors back to our Islands, it is imperative that we also continue to upskill our people whether they are current or future employees within the tourism sector. Providing this level of support will help to ensure that more Caymanians become qualified to work in the industry and are able to deliver exceptional tourism experiences to our visitors.

Madam Speaker, as we would all know from our travels, a great vacation experience often starts with great, safe, and licensed accommodations that will live up to expectations. To keep the industry running efficiently behind the scenes, over 2,700 inspections were carried out within the accommodation sector in Grand Cayman, and a further 279 in the Sister Islands. Cayman has a reputation for offering high standards with respect to our tourism product, Madam Speaker, and these inspections are a vital part in ensuring that those standards are maintained.

Moving on now to the film industry, Madam Speaker. To date, under my Ministry, the Film Commission has approved 20 productions in 2022, which include feature films, documentaries, TV shows and commercials. This has increased from 12 productions which were approved in 2021 in the same categories. By way of example, Madam Speaker:

1. Through the efforts of the Department, we had the filming of "Top Chef Canada." It provided a rare opportunity to integrate multi, on-island locations into Canada's most popular prime time TV shows. The one-week film production generated a spend of nearly half a million dollars in the Cayman Islands economy, comprised of \$22,100 in tourism tax revenues for the Government; \$150,000 in revenue for a local hotel; over \$300,000 with a total of 23 local catering, logistics and supplies companies, and the hiring of 27 Caymanians to assist in the production. That's just one, Madam Speaker.
2. The German film company Blue Planet filmed a 30-minute documentary about nature and conservation in the Cayman Islands, which falls in line with the Government's policy. The documentary will be uploaded to Amazon Prime, Apple TV and Samsung TV and aired at least 40 times across Germany's main TV networks.
3. Filming of the production of BBC Planet Earth III took place off Little Cayman. BBC Studios filmed the Sergeant Major fish through their courtship, mating and egg brooding session.
4. The feature films included *Unit 234*, starring Don Johnson, with an estimated production

spend in the Cayman Islands of US\$3 million.

5. *Littlemouth* starring Dennis Quaid with a production spend on our Islands of US\$4 million.

Madam Speaker, these are just five examples of 20 productions which highlight the variety, and the value, of productions being filmed here, which in turn peaks the interest of viewers, making them want to visit here and vacation in the Cayman Islands.

For this reason, while in Los Angeles, I announced the introduction of a government rebate programme to attract the entertainment industry's attention and entice even more production companies to our shores, Madam Speaker. Equally, the Department of Tourism is working with an internationally-based consultancy firm which specialises in the global screen sector to advance that objective.

In addition, Madam Speaker, they will be working with the department to:

1. Provide a comprehensive overview of the sites and services that are available to support the film industry here in the Cayman Islands;
2. Design a framework to more efficiently support the application process for production companies;
3. Identify a list of potential careers in film and outline the employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for Caymanians in this industry, which will include identifying the areas where the Government and the private sector can support Caymanians pursuing these career paths; and finally
4. To identify the areas where there are gaps in capacity and outline where the opportunities might exist to expand into those areas.

Madam Speaker, going off track, I just want to say that two of the specialists were here this morning and met many of the Members in this honourable House, as they asked relevant questions in more detail of the Government policy with respect to the film industry.

On the subject of PR [Public relations] and promotions, Madam Speaker, last month Seven Mile Beach was featured on the front cover of the print edition of *Travel and Leisure* magazine, as well as its online publication, headlined: "An Art Lover's Guide to the Cayman Islands".

The feature included an eight-page spread which explored our country's unique culture and heritage; local art scene; and culinary and accommodation offerings. The combined added value for the print and online publication is over US\$2 million, Madam

Speaker, with a potential audience of 14.7 million online and over 962,000 in print.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to lay a copy of the November issue on the Table of this honourable House, for Members to review at their convenience.

With time being of the essence, Madam Speaker, I highlighted only one such example, but again, Madam Speaker, there are many, many, more including the coverage of our young Caymanian golfer, Mr. Aaron Jarvis, on NBC, BBC World, the Golf Channel and others, ahead of his participation in the US Masters Tournament and The Open in the UK—I think we should all take this opportunity to congratulate him on a job well done.

[Desk thumping]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Madam Speaker, my Ministry has focused heavily on rebuilding the tourism industry so that our people could return to work and provide for their families.

Being closed for 18 months has meant that we've had to fight hard to regain the market share and build back our numbers. This is why, between September and November, I led a campaign to aggressively promote the Cayman Islands at high-profile travel and trade shows and engaged with the principal decision makers from the world's major airlines, cruise lines, and other industry stakeholders.

There was Cayman Islands' presence, Madam Speaker, at the Caribbean Infrastructure Forum in September; the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association Marketplace in October; the Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association Conference in October; the Routes World Conference, which deals with all the world's airlines, which also happened in October; the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, Madam Speaker, which also happened in October; and the Caribbean Hotel Investment Conference & Operations Summit, (better known as CHICOS), in November.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my two Parliamentary Secretaries who accompanied me on either one or more of these appearances.

Each of these events gave the Cayman Islands tremendous visibility within the highly competitive and crowded tourism arena, Madam Speaker. I should also note, Madam Speaker that at all of those events other than the boat show, I took part in panel discussions to further promote our Islands.

In the new year, it will be necessary to revisit some of these trade shows and promotional events to maintain relationships and establish new ones with lucrative stakeholders. In order to keep building visitor arrivals, my team and I plan to continually stimulate the market so that key players, potential partners, and other critical stakeholders have no opportunity, Madam Speaker, to forget the Cayman Islands.

Madam Speaker, given the considerable discussions in this honourable Parliament last week, I

want to turn my attention now to public transportation. I think it would be beneficial to the Members of this House for me to provide a little more detail on the public transportation strategy commissioned by my Ministry and what is expected to be accomplished.

As has already been mentioned just a few days ago, Deloitte has been engaged to conduct an analysis of the current public bus system and to provide recommendations for transitioning to a national, government-run, public bus system.

While that is the primary focus, the scope of work extends beyond those parameters and includes recommendations for:

1. The provision of a defined operational framework for Government's consideration which includes a transitional roadmap with examples of best-practice bus systems within the region and elsewhere;
2. An outline of the amendments that would be required to address the impact that any changes would have on current legislation;
3. A report defining how to transition the current omnibus service to a community-based service, including a transitional roadmap, which will incorporate community routes and scheduling, as well as the recommended rates to ensure financial viability; and
4. A summary report detailing a phased programme to convert the Government bus fleet to a low or zero emissions fleet, as well as a transition plan to introduce zero emissions buses into the privately-owned omnibus fleet.

The Deloitte report is due early in the New Year and I look forward to updating the public further, once it has been reviewed by my Ministry and my colleagues in Caucus and Cabinet.

As well as revising the country's ground transportation system, Madam Speaker, I am also in the process of updating the national Airport's Master Plan. The Airport Master Plan is a document that looks at the airport's infrastructure and processes in terms of our current and future demands, and maps out what is required in order for the airport facility to operate as efficiently as possible.

It is also strongly recommended in the aviation sector that all airport master plans should be updated or renewed every five to seven years. The Cayman Islands' current plan was approved by Cabinet back in 2014. Since we are well beyond the recommended timeframe, KPMG and a company called Stantec Inc. have been contracted to update the plan and develop an outline business case to guide the potential next phases of improving the airports in our three Islands.

Public consultation took place in all three Islands and options for each airport are currently being

drafted. I am advised that this process is nearing completion and the options will be submitted for consideration by Caucus and Cabinet early in the New Year.

Madam Speaker, despite the fact that the country has only been fully reopened to tourism since 24th August this year, I think you will agree that the Ministry and the Department of Tourism have achieved an impressive list of accomplishments; and there is still so much more that I haven't mentioned, such as our success hosting the first, in-person CTO [Caribbean Tourism Organisation] and IATA [International Air Transport Association] Conference in two years in the Cayman Islands—and it's the first time to be hosted in the Cayman Islands.

We also engaged in partnership with Porsche, the luxury carmaker, to highlight the luxury, adventure, culture and beauty of the Cayman Islands to Porsche owners and race enthusiasts across North America. Fifteen rounds of racing known as the *Porsche Visit the Cayman Islands Sprint Challenge GB* took place from May-October of 2022 and was broadcast to over 350,000 viewers and streamed to 35,000 people. The championship was featured across the Porsche social and digital channels reaching over 40 million followers. Let me say that again, Madam Speaker: The Porsche social and digital channels reaching over 40 million viewers.

[Desk thumping]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: We will be hosting the first Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association Platinum Associate Membership Advisory Council Conference to be held in the Cayman Islands in June of next year, which yet again brings more conference tourism. Madam Speaker, it is also the first time that the Cayman Islands has held the Chairmanship of the Caribbean Tourism Organisation Council of Ministers, which we are all aware that I have been elected as the Chairman; with our Director of Tourism chairing the regional Board of Directors.

[Desk thumping]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: Once again, these are just a few of the many, many examples I could list but with time being of the essence, I will leave it there for now.

Madam Speaker, this is just a basic review of some of the work that has been undertaken by the Ministry and the Department of Tourism during this year.

As there are many more achievements and initiatives that I have not mentioned, I plan to update the country in more detail in the first quarter of next year. My intention at this point is merely to provide a snapshot of where we are now to provide assurances that our tourism recovery strategies are working and the industry is regaining strength. So, Madam Speaker, while we have not yet returned to 100 per cent

normalcy, we are well on our way and we have much reason to be optimistic.

I have led the charge to bring us back to the point where we are able to have a viable industry that is making a decent contribution to the economy of this country. People have gone back to work, visitation across several months is climbing back to 90 per cent of where they were in our best pre pandemic year, air arrivals are increasing, air capacity is growing, traveller confidence is returning, more Caymanians are becoming qualified to enter the industry, and we will continue to work hard to drive growth from the markets that deliver the most positive impact, Madam Speaker.

Although there will surely be challenges ahead, my team and I are working flat out and around the clock, to get the industry back to where it was and beyond. Not only back to where it was, Madam Speaker, we want to go further than that. Are we there yet? No, Madam Speaker, but we are moving in the right direction and the tourism industry is putting money back into the economy. We have come a long way in a short few months since being fully reopened Madam Speaker, and if there is anything that I can give this country for Christmas, it is the promise of a vibrant, stable and successful tourism industry filled with hope for the future.

Madam Speaker, you heard me speak earlier about the results from January to October; well, Madam Speaker, here come more good news. I am happy to report that the November arrivals *are in* Madam Speaker, and they show that year-to-date arrivals from January to November stand at 236,348 stay-over passengers, which equates to 53 per cent of the 2019 arrival numbers. The 40 per cent, 200,000 visitors year-end target that I set has already been exceeded by over 36,000 people, and that doesn't even include the December arrivals.

[Desk thumping]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: November was the best performing month in 2022 registering 34,118 visitors. Visitor arrivals in October and November were at 91 per cent and 89 per cent of the same period in 2019 respectively, showing vast improvements from January, when visitor arrivals were just at 14 per cent of the 2019 numbers. In fact, for the last quarter of this year, air arrivals have been running at close to 90 per cent average.

Madam Speaker, with respect to cruise, there were 206 cruise ship calls with 614,959 passengers between March and November of 2022. Passenger arrivals peaked in November with 105,754 passengers. Year-to-date cruise passenger arrivals represent 38 per cent; just 2 per cent less than the projections for 2019 arrivals, and Madam Speaker, the December numbers are just weeks away and are sure to take us over the 40 per cent threshold.

Before I end on this very positive note, Madam Speaker, the message I would like to leave with our

people is one of confidence and positivity. Our tourism results clearly demonstrate that confidence in our destination is rebounding—both from travellers and industry partners who are increasing their operations in our Islands. For decades, Tourism has been a significant part of our nation's identity. Tourism is our past, our present and definitely it's going to be our future.

As we head into 2023, it is time for us to once again dream big, Madam Speaker, where tourism is concerned. We have the will, we have the way, and we must have the passion to make it bigger, brighter and bolder than we've ever done before. I have the confidence that 2023 will not just be a good year for tourism, but it will be a great year and I am committed to doing everything possible to make that prediction a reality, Madam Speaker.

I would like to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to my team at the Ministry and Department of Tourism, because without the commitment and dedication of those men and women, coupled with the efforts of the staff in our overseas offices, our tourism industry would not be doing as well as it is today.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Members of this House and the public for their kind words with respect to my recent award as the Caribbean Tourism Minister 2023. Madam Speaker, this award was primarily due to the team that I lead.

[Desk thumping]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: I know that every Minister says that they have the best staff and I am always happy to hear that, but the team that I am privileged to lead in my Ministry and departments are not only hard-working and dedicated; they are not only focused and committed, *they are exceptional*, Madam Speaker, and that's why I was in a position to be considered for this prestigious award, and I graciously accept it on their behalf.

No matter what I ask them to do, they deliver and go beyond—by several hundred extra miles; so I would like to thank each and every one of them, for their tireless, tireless, efforts.

[Desk thumping]

Hon. Kenneth V. Bryan: I would like to also thank the industry partners, the hoteliers, restaurant owners, water sports operators, the retailers, dive masters, taxi drivers, artisans, all the workers at our attractions, and everyone who works in or supports the tourism industry. I know that they have gone through tough times and have weathered this incredibly difficult storm, but I want them to know that the sun is starting to shine again and things are improving, Madam Speaker.

I also wish to recognise the civil servants, board members and private citizens who serve in the various boards that fall under my Ministry and thank

them for giving up all their time for the benefit of our people.

Finally, Madam Speaker, it would be remiss of me not to thank my colleagues in the PACT Administration. Every time I came to Caucus with my vision for tourism they have supported me, particularly, the Deputy Premier, who understood the vision from the very beginning and has always been willing to find the finances necessary to accomplish the goal.

Madam Speaker, as a matter of fact, they all, each and every one of the Members have supported me and I would like to thank them for the trust and belief they have shown in me, to lead one of the most important pillars of this country's economy.

Madam Speaker, I haven't forgotten you. Before you became Speaker, you were one of the biggest supporters of the tourism sector and its benefits to the good people of West Bay Central and I promise you to continue to support them with respect to this industry.

With that being said, Madam Speaker, I thank you for allowing me to give the country this update on our tourism industry's performance.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

[Desk thumping]

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

The Speaker: None.

OBITUARY AND OTHER CEREMONIAL SPEECHES

The Speaker: I have given leave to the Elected Member for George Town West to make a ceremonial speech.

Mr. David C. Wight:
Best wishes for Jordan and Jillian Crooks

Mr. David C. Wight, Elected Member for George Town West: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Before I get to saying what I am going to say, I just want to also, on behalf of the Opposition, wish Madam Clerk - Mrs. Zena Merren-Chin a happy birthday. That was a very special moment with her staff on the balcony; that was goose bumps, so we're going to have some more goose bumps right now.

Madam Speaker, I thank you for allowing me to make this brief statement today to celebrate a young Caymanian. I have followed the swimming career of Jordan Crooks, as well as his sister Jillian [Crooks], who have both represented Cayman in swimming at many international events for quite a few years. They are now both representing the Cayman Islands on the world stage at the 16th FINA World Swimming Championships 2022, in Melbourne, Australia.

Jordan is making waves and making Cayman proud at the University of Tennessee. Earlier today, Madam Speaker, Jordan beat the world record holder and former champion to take the top time at the semi-finals and to be in pole position for the final tomorrow.

[Desk thumping]

Mr. David C. Wight: In doing so, he held off a late charge from record holder, Australian Kyle Chalmers in the second semi-final. In the final, Jordan is seated first and will be in Lane 4 alongside Kyle Chalmers who will be in Lane 3. I do not doubt that Jordan will likely be world champion.

My heart warmed to hear the glowing terms in which the sports caster spoke about him when he was introduced: *"From being a fisherman/free diver in the Cayman Islands to a South Eastern Conference [SEC] Champion as a freshman, Jordan Crooks' journey through life has always been one consistent theme: Water."* UNVERIFIED QUOTE.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Opposition and all my colleagues, and indeed the Cayman sporting family, I congratulate Jordan and Jillian on their accomplishments to date, and wish them both well in the future.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

[Desk thumping]

RAISING OF MATTERS OF PRIVILEGES

The Speaker: None.

[Pause]

The Speaker: Members, before we go into Government Business, I think it's probably a good time for us to break for lunch, so we will suspend until 2.00 pm.

Proceedings suspended at 12.52 pm.

Proceedings resumed at 2.21 pm.

The Speaker: Proceedings are now resumed. Please be seated.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

BILLS

The Speaker: The House will now go into Committee to consider the bills.

House in Committee at 2.22 pm.

COMMITTEE ON BILLS

The Chairman: The House is now in Committee.

With the leave of the House, may I assume that, as usual, we should authorise the Honourable Attorney General to correct any minor errors and suchlike in these Bills?

IDENTIFICATION REGISTER BILL, 2022

The Clerk:

Clause 1 Short Title and Commencement

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clause 1? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 1 does stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 1 passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 2 Interpretation

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister of Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 2 as follows –

- (a) by inserting after the definition of the words **"delegated authority"** the following definition- **"emergency contact information"**, in relation to a person, means the name, residential address, telephone number and email address of the emergency contact nominated by the person;";
- (b) in the definition of the words **"identity facts"**, by deleting paragraph (a) and substituting the following paragraph – **"(a) the persons full name;"; and**
- (c) in the definition of the words **"related facts"** –
 - (i) in paragraph (i), by deleting the words "if applicable;" and substituting the words "if applicable; and";
 - (ii) in paragraph (j), by deleting the words "date of death; and" and substituting the words "date of death."; and
 - (iii) by deleting paragraph (k).

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any other Member wish to speak thereto?

[Pause]

The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 2 passed.

The Chairman: Does any other Member wish to speak on the Amendment? *[Pause]*

The question is that clause 2, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 2, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 3 Establishment of Identification Register

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 3 as follows:

- (a) in subclause (2), by deleting the words “the following persons shall be enrolled in the register” and substituting the words “and upon approval by the Registrar of the application for such entry, the following persons may be enrolled in the register.”
- (b) In subclause (4) –
 - (i) in paragraph (d), by deleting the words “work or employment;” and substituting the words “work or employment; and”;
 - (ii) in paragraph (e), by deleting the words “national security; and” and substituting the words “national security.”; and
 - (iii) by deleting paragraph (f).

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto? *[Pause]*

The question is that the amendments stand part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 3 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Just briefly, Madam Chair.

I would just like to point out that this amendment was moved to take account of public consultation feedback so that registration in the register is not mandatory, but voluntary.

The Chairman: The question is that clause 3, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 3, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 4 Form of register

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on clause 4? *[Pause]*

The question is that clause 4 does stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 4 passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 5 Entry of a person in the register

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you again, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 5 by deleting subclause (1) and substituting the following subclauses

–

“(1) An eligible person may apply to the Registrar, in the prescribed manner, to be entered into the register.

(1A) Where the Registrar approves an application for entry of the eligible person under subsection (1), the Registrar shall make an entry into the register in respect of that person and the entry shall include the identity facts in relation to that person where such information is known to the Registrar, and the Registrar is satisfied as to its accuracy.”.

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak there to?

The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 5 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put to the question.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Very, very briefly Madam Chair.

This again takes account of public consultation feedback and accompanies the amendment made in clause 3 to allow for registration to be voluntary rather than mandatory.

The Chairman: The question is that clause 5, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 5, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 6 Accessing identification information

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

I move in accordance with Standing Order 52 that the Bill be amended in clause 6 by deleting the clause heading and substituting the following clause heading **"Accessing a copy of identification information"**.

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto?

The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 6 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 6, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 6, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 7 Changes to the register

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 7 as follows –

- (a) in subclause (1), by deleting the words "found to be incomplete," and substituting the word "found to be";
- (b) in subclause (3), by deleting the words "as soon as practicable" and substituting the words "within 10 business days after taking action under paragraph (a) or (b)";
- (c) in subclause (7) –
 - (i) In paragraph (a), by deleting the words "identity facts and related facts" and substituting the words "identification information"; and
 - (ii) by deleting paragraph (b) and substituting the following paragraph –

"(b) notify the registered person of the change to the registered person's identification information that is recorded –

 - (i) by the public authority; and
 - (ii) in the register by the Registrar in the form and manner prescribed by regulations.";

In subclause (9), by deleting the words "accessed under sections 29 and section 31" and substituting the words "accessed either by a registered person or in accordance with sections 29 and section 31".

[Pause]

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Just to confirm, Madam Chair, in subclause (9) the change would be by deleting the words "accessed under sections 29 and section 31" and substituting the words "accessed either by a registered person or in accordance with sections 29 and 31".

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto?

The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 7 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 7, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 7, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 8 Duty to notify the Registrar of changes to identification information

Clause 9 Authentication and verification

Clause 10 Assurance of data in register

The Chairman: Are there any questions on these clauses? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 8, 9 and 10 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 8, 9 and 10 passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 11 Delegated authority

The Chairman: Are there any questions on Clause 11? The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 11, in the chapeau, by deleting the words "shall grant authorization" and substituting the words "shall grant authorization to".

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak there to?

The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 11 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 11, as amended, now stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 11, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 12 Appointment of Registrar of the Identification Register

Clause 13 Powers of the Registrar

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 12 and 13? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 12 and 13 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 12 and 13 passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 14 Duties of the Registrar

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 14 by deleting subclause (1)(h).

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto?

The question is that the amendment now stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

(b) the right to reside or remain in the Islands.”.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 14 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 14, as amended, now stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 14, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 15	Cabinet to issue general policy directions	di-
Clause 16	Accountabilities of the Registrar	
Clause 17	Registrar may delegate duties	
Clause 18	Conflict of interest	
Clause 19	Termination of appointment of Registrar	of
Clause 20	Assignment of identification code	
Clause 21	Use of identification code	

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 15 through 21? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 15 through 21 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 15 through 21 passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 22	Enrolment in the Register not conferral of immigration status or right to reside
-----------	--

The Chairman: Is there any question on clause 22? If not, I will put the question. The Honourable Minister for Financial Services.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended by deleting clause 22 and substituting the following clause –

“Enrolment in the Register not conferral of immigration status or right to reside.

22. The enrolment in the register shall not confer on a registered person any right of having –
(a) the immigration status of a Caymanian or any other immigration status; or

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto?

The question is that the amendment now stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 22 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 22, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 22, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 23	Responsibility of public authority to co-operate with the Registrar
Clause 24	Obligations of persons submitting data
Clause 25	Ensuring of accuracy of identification information
Clause 26	Correction of inaccurate data
Clause 27	Right to access identification information in register
Clause 28	Access to identification information on a registered person

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 23 through 28? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 23 through 28 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 23 through 28 passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 29	Access to the register and use of information by public authorities.
-----------	--

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister of Financial Services.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 29 by inserting after subclause (4) the following subclause –

“(5) A public authority shall not withhold the provision of its services to a person on the basis that the person is not a registered person.”.

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto?

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Very briefly, Madam Chair. This is taking account, again, of public consultation feedback to ensure that those who opt not to be in the register would not have services withheld from them by a public authority, just because they are not in the register.

The Chairman: The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 29 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put to the question. The question is that clause 29, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 29, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 30 Record of access to information

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister of Financial Services.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 30 as follows –

(a) in subclause (4) –

(i) by renumbering paragraph (d) where it appears for a second time, as paragraph (e); and

(ii) by renumbering paragraph (e) as paragraph (f); and

(b) in subclause (5)(b), by deleting the words “under subsection (4)(e)” and substituting the words “under subsection (4)(f).”

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto?

The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 30 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 30, as amended, now stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 30, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 31	Disclosure in certain cases
Clause 32	Unauthorized disclosure of information
Clause 33	Duty of confidentiality
Clause 34	Registrar to implement security measures
Clause 35	Offences relating to personation
Clause 36	Unlawfully collecting identification information
Clause 37	Misleading, impeding or obstructing the Registrar
Clause 38	Offences relating to the register
Clause 39	Tampering with the register
Clause 40	Registration offences
Clause 41	Liability for offences
Clause 42	Incompatibility of other legislation
Clause 43	No personal liability except for bad faith
Clause 44	Appeals from decisions of the Registrar
Clause 45	Regulations

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 31 through 45? If not, I will put the question.

The question is that clauses 31 through 45 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 31 through 45 passed.

The Clerk: A Bill for an act to provide for the establishment, management and oversight of a register for the identification of persons; and for incidental and connected purposes.

The Chairman: The question is that the title does stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Title passed.

CAYMAN ISLANDS IDENTIFICATION CARD BILL, 2022

The Clerk:

Clause 1 Short title and commencement
Clause 2 Interpretation

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 1 and 2? If not, I will put the question.

The question is that clauses 1 and 2 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 1 and 2 passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 3 Cayman Islands Identification Card

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 3 (3)(e) by deleting the words "electronic signature" and substituting the words "digital signature."

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak there to? If no

Member wishes to speak, I put the question. The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 3 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 3, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 3, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 4 Eligibility for issuance of a Cayman Islands Identification Card
Clause 5 Application for the issuance, renewal or replacement of Cayman Islands Identification Card
Clause 6 Identification of person and verification of identity

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 4 through 6? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 4 through 6 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 4 through 6 passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 7 Issuance and renewal of Cayman Islands Identification Card

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 7 by deleting subclause (10) and substituting the following subclause

–

“(10) The issue of a Cayman Islands Identification Card shall not confer on its holder any right of having –

- (a) the immigration status of a Caymanian or any or any other immigration status; or
- (b) the right to reside or remain in the Islands.”.

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto?

The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 7 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put to question.

The question is that clause 7, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 7, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 8 Refusal to issue Cayman Islands Identification Card

Clause 9 Issuance of Cayman Islands Identification Card in certain circumstances

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 8 and 9? If not, I will put the question.

The question is that clauses 8 and 9 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 8 and 9 passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 10 Features of Cayman Islands Identification Card

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 10 as follows –

(a) in subclause (1)

- (i) In paragraph (a), by deleting the words “given names and surname” and substituting the words “full name”; and
- (ii) in paragraph (h), by deleting the words “facial image” and substituting the words “facial image; and”; and
- (iii) in paragraph (i), by deleting the words “of signature; and” and substituting the words “of signature.”; and
- (iv) by deleting paragraph (j); and

(b) in subclause (2) –

- (i) in paragraph (d), by deleting the words “or guardian” and substituting the words “or guardian; and.”; and
- (ii) by deleting paragraph (e) and substituting the following paragraph –
“(e) nationality.”; and
- (iii) by deleting paragraph (f).

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto?

The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 10 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 10, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 10, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 11 Validity of Cayman Islands Identification Card

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister of Financial Services.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 11(3) by deleting the

words “five years” and substituting the words “ten years”.

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto?

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

Very briefly, to acknowledge that this amendment comes about from the Ministry team having consultation with the Opposition following publication of the Bill. It allows for a card to be issued for a longer period of time and reduces the need to renew cards on a frequent basis which cuts down on the cost to Government and the frequency with which residents will have to go through the renewal process. I thank them for that helpful amendment.

The Chairman: The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 11 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 11, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 11, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 12	Rectification of errors
Clause 13	Cayman Islands Identification Card not transferable
Clause 14	Notification of Registrar of change in circumstances or inaccuracy
Clause 15	Notification of Registrar of loss or damage of Cayman Islands Identification Card
Clause 16	Surrender of Cayman Islands Identification Card
Clause 17	Suspension of Cayman Islands Identification card
Clause 18	Cancellation of Cayman Islands Identification Card
Clause 19	Restoration of Cayman Islands Identification Card

The Chairman: Are there any questions in relation to clauses 12 through 19? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 12 through 19 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 12 through 19 passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 20	Destruction of Cayman Islands Identification Card
-----------	---

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 20(6) by deleting the word “maybe” and substituting the words “may be”.

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto? The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 20 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 20, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 20, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 21	Authentication of identity of a holder of a Cayman Islands Identification Card
-----------	--

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 21(3) by deleting the word “require” and substituting the words “rely on”.

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak thereto?

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Just very briefly.

This also takes into account public consultation feedback in relation to whether or not public authorities could compel individuals to have a card by requiring it. This relaxes the language in the legislation that they may rely on it, but not require it.

The Chairman: The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 21 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 21, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 21, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 22 Seizure of Cayman Islands
 Identification Card for verification.

The Chairman: Are there any questions on the clause? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 22 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 22 passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 23 Registrar to implement security
 measures

The Chairman: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Chair.

In accordance with Standing Order 52, I move that the Bill be amended in clause 23(1) by deleting the words “data base” and substituting the word “database”.

The Chairman: The amendment has been duly moved. Does any Member wish to speak there to?

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Just very briefly, Madam Speaker. I'd like to thank legal drafting for confirming to anybody who had any doubt that “database” is one word.

The Chairman: The question is that the amendment stands part of the clause.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Amendment to clause 23 passed.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak on the clause as amended? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clause 23, as amended, stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 23, as amended, passed.

The Clerk:

Clause 24 Disclosure in certain cases
Clause 25 Duty of confidentiality
Clause 26 Offences relating to personation
Clause 27 Unauthorized collecting of
 identification information
Clause 28 Misleading, obstructing or impeding
 the Registrar
Clause 29 Unlawfully manufacturing, etc.
 document purporting to be a Cayman
 Islands Identification Card
Clause 30 Providing misleading information
Clause 31 Offences relating to the Cayman
 Islands Identification Card
Clause 32 Offences relating to the card
 database
Clause 33 Interpretation of this Part
Clause 34 Liability for offences

Clause 35	Protection of individuals exercising functions under this Act
Clause 36	Appeals from decisions of the Registrar
Clause 37	Regulations

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 24 through 37? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 24 through 37 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 24 through 37 passed.

The Clerk: A Bill for an Act to provide for the issuance and use of an official identification document in the Cayman Islands; and for incidental and connected purposes.

The Chairman: The question is that the title do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Title passed.

MUSIC AND DANCING (CONTROL) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Clerk:

Clause 1	Short title
Clause 2	Amendment of section 2 of the Music and Dancing (Control) Act (2019 Revision) - definitions
Clause 3	Amendment of section 3 - certain premises require to be licensed for music and dancing
Clause 4	Repeal and substitution of section 14 - regulations

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 1 through 4? If not, I will put the question.

The question is that clauses 1 through 4 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 1 through 4 passed.

The Clerk: A Bill for an Act to amend the Music and Dancing (Control) Act (2019 Revision) to change the prescribed conditions to be observed in relation to dancing and the playing of music at certain premises on specified days; to permit dancing and the playing of music at standalone retail bars and on sea-going vessels on Sunday, subject to prescribed conditions; and for incidental and connected purposes.

The Chairman: The question is that the Title does stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Title passed.

NATIONAL ROADS AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Clerk:

Clause 1	Short title
Clause 2	Amendment of section 19 of the National Roads Authority Act (2016 Revision) - revenue to be placed into Road Fund and transferred to the Authority to fund its operating costs

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 1 and 2? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 1 and 2 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 1 and 2 passed.

The Clerk: A Bill for an act to amend the National Roads Authority Act (2016 Revision) in order to amend the basis of funding for the National Roads Authority; and for incidental and connected purposes.

The Chairman: The question is that the Title does stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Titled passed.

**UTILITY REGULATION AND COMPETITION
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022**

The Clerk:

Clause 1	Short title
Clause 2	Amendment of section 2 of the Utility Regulation and Competition Act (2021 Revision) - interpretation
Clause 3	Amendment of section 14 - structure of Board
Clause 4	Amendment of section 18 - appointment of non-executive members
Clause 5	Amendment of section 19 - reappointment of non-executive members
Clause 6	Amendment of section 21 - resignation
Clause 7	Amendment of section 23 - procedure and meetings
Clause 8	Amendment of section 26 - the Risk and Audit Subcommittee
Clause 9	Amendment of section 110 – indemnity

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 1 through 9? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 1 through 9 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 1 through 9 passed.

The Clerk: A Bill for an Act to amend the Utility Regulation and Competition Act (2021 Revision) to change the structure and constitution of the Board in order to improve the governance of the office; to amend the constitution of the nominating committee; to amend the indemnification provision to provide that only claims caused by bad faith will not be indemnified by the Government; and for incidental and connected purposes.

The Chairman: The question is that the Title stands part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Title passed.

**CUSTOMS AND BORDER CONTROL
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022**

The Clerk:

Clause 1	Short title
Clause 2	Amendment of section 5 of the Customs and Border Control Act (2022 Revision) - duties of Director
Clause 3	Amendment of section 111 – application for asylum
Clause 4	Insertion of section 111A – determination of “well-founded fear”
Clause 5	Insertion of new section when 111B - offences relating to false or misleading information
Clause 6	Amendment of section 112 - Refugee Protection Appeals Tribunal
Clause 7	Amendment of section 114 – procedure for appeals
Clause 8	Repeal and substitution of section 116 - limitation on right to appeal under section 111
Clause 9	Transitional

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 1 through 9? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 1 through 9 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 1 through 9 passed.

New Clause 2A

The Clerk: New clause 2A - amendment of section 6 - Officers

The Chairman: I call on the Member in whose name the new clause stands. The Honourable Deputy Premier.

Hon. Christopher S. Saunders, Deputy Premier, elected Member for Bodden Town West: Thank you, Madam Chair.

Madam Chair, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 52(1) and (2), I, the Honourable Christopher Saunders, Minister of Border Control and Labour give notice to move the following amendments to the Customs and Border Control (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

That the Bill be amended by inserting after clause 2 the following clause –

“Amendment of section 6 - officers

2A. The principal Act is amended in section 6 by inserting after subsection (3) the following subsections –

“(4) The following persons, namely –

(a) a member of the Regiment under the Defence Act, 2020;

- (b) a prison officer appointed under section 5 of the Prisons Act (2021 Revision); or
- (c) a public servant as defined under the Public Service Management Act (2018 Revision),
may assist, at the request of the Director, in any assigned matter as the need arises, and, for this purpose shall -
 - (i) Subject to subsection (5), have the entitlement of an officer under section 11(4); and
 - (ii) have the power of an officer to detain under section 99(1),
and at all times shall be under the direction of the Director or the Director's delegate when carrying out those assignments.
- (5) Where the person under subsection (4) is a public servant, the entitlement under subsection (4)(c)(i) is limited to those public servants who already have an entitlement to carry arms in the performance of their duties.”.

The Clerk:

Clause 2A Amendment of section 6 - Officers

The Chairman: The new Clause 2A having been read a first time, the question now is that this clause be read a second time.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 2A was given a second reading.

The Chairman: The clause is deemed to have been read a second time. Does any other Member wish to speak thereto? If there are no questions, I will put the question. The question is that this [new] clause be added to the Bill as Clause 2A and that the subsequent clauses be renumbered accordingly.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 2A passed.

New Clause 6A

The Clerk: New clause 6A

The Chairman: The Honourable Deputy Premier.

Hon. Christopher S. Saunders, Deputy Premier:
Thank you, Madam Chair.

Madam Chair, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 52(1) and (2), I, the Hon. Christopher Saunders, Minister for Border Control and Labour give notice to move the following amendments to the Customs and Border Control (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

That the Bill be amended by inserting after clause 6, the following clause –

“Amendment of section 113 - remuneration of members of the Refugee Protection Appeals Tribunal; immunity; confidentiality

6A. The Principal Act is amended in section 113(1) by deleting the words “in respect of each meeting attended, and the chairperson and deputy chairperson shall receive such additional remuneration”.

Thank you.

The Clerk:

Clause 6A Amendment of section 113 - remuneration of members of the Refugee Protection Appeals Tribunal; immunity; confidentiality

The Chairman: The new clause 6A having been read a first time. The question now is that this clause be read a second time.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 6A was given a second reading.

The Chairman: Does any other Member wish to speak? I will then put the question. The question is that this clause be added to the Bill as clause 6A and that the subsequent clauses be renumbered accordingly.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clause 6A passed.

The Clerk: A Bill for an Act to amend the Customs and Border Control Act (2022 Revision) to, among other things, adjust procedures under Part 7 to enable more expeditious processing of applications for asylum; and for incidental and connected purposes.

The Chairman: The question is that the title do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Title passed.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (OFFENDERS ASSISTING INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS) BILL, 2022

The Clerk:

Clause 1	Short title and commencement
Clause 2	Interpretation
Clause 3	Declaration of certain existing rights
Clause 4	Assistance by offender - immunity from prosecution
Clause 5	Assistance by offender – undertakings as to use of evidence
Clause 6	Assistance by defendant - reduction in sentence
Clause 7	Assistance by defendant - review of sentence
Clause 8	Proceedings under section 7 – exclusion of public
Clause 9	Legal representation
Clause 10	Sealing of records of negotiations
Clause 11	Obligation for secrecy
Clause 12	Victim to be informed of notice, agreement, etc.
Clause 13	Court not bound by immunity notice, undertaking or agreement
Clause 14	Regulations

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 1 through 14? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 1 through 14 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 1 through 14 passed.

The Clerk: A Bill for an Act to provide for immunity from prosecution and for reduced sentences in certain circumstances; and for incidental and connected purposes.

The Chairman: The question is that the Title do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Title passed.

CONTEMPT OF COURT BILL, 2022

Clause 1	Short title
Clause 2	Interpretation
Clause 3	The strict liability rule
Clause 4	Limitation of scope of strict liability rule
Clause 5	Proceedings: when active
Clause 6	Defence of innocent publication or distribution
Clause 7	Contemporary reports of proceedings held in public
Clause 8	Discussion of public affairs
Clause 9	Savings
Clause 10	Consent required for institution of proceedings
Clause 11	Publication of information relating to proceedings in private
Clause 12	Procedure
Clause 13	Penalties for contempt
Clause 14	Repeal of section 7 of the Grand Court Act (2015 Revision)
Clause 15	Transitional provisions

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 1 through 15? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 1 through 15 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 1 through 15 passed.

The Clerk: A Bill for an Act to codify certain contempt of court offences; and for incidental and connected purposes.

The Chairman: The question is that the Title do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Title passed.

PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Clerk:

Clause 1	Short title
Clause 2	Amendment of section 3 of the Penal Code (2022 Revision) - definitions
Clause 3	Amendment of section 107- conspiracy to defeat justice and interference with witnesses
Clause 4	Repeal and substitution of section 111 - offences relating to judicial proceedings
Clause 5	Repeal of section 39 of the Summary Jurisdiction Act (2019 Revision) - power to deal with misbehaviour in court, etc.
Clause 6	Transitional provisions

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 1 through 6? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 1 through 6 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 1 through 6 passed.

The Clerk: A Bill for an Act to amend the Penal Code (2022 Revision) in relation to offences against the administration of lawful authority; and for incidental and connected purposes.

The Chairman: The question is that the Title do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Titled passed.

ANTI-CORRUPTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Clerk:

Clause 1	Short title and commencement
Clause 2	Amendment of section 2 of the Anti-Corruption Act (2019 Revision) - definitions
Clause 3	Amendment of section 3 - establishment of the Commission
Clause 4	Amendment of section 3A - appointment of staff of the Commission
Clause 5	Insertion of section 3DA - power of search upon arrest

Clause 6	Amendment of section 4 - powers, duties and functions of the Commission under this Act
Clause 7	Repeal and substitution of section 17 - abuse of office
Clause 8	Amendment of section 20 - duty of a public officer and member of the Parliament to whom a bribe is offered, etc.
Clause 9	Amendment of section 22 - bribing a foreign public officer
Clause 10	Insertion of section 25A - refusal of an ICT licensee to produce records to a senior investigating officer
Clause 11	Amendment of section 28 - operations of the Commission
Clause 12	Amendment of section 30 - order to make material available
Clause 13	Insertion of a section 31A - offence in relation to an investigation under section 31
Clause 14	Amendment of heading of PART VI - application of the Proceeds of Crime Act (2018 Revision) to this Act
Clause 15	Amendment of section 35 - orders of the court in relation to the proceeds of a corruption offence

The Chairman: Are there any questions on clauses 1 through 15? If not, I will put the question. The question is that clauses 1 through 15 do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Clauses 1 through 15 passed.

The Clerk: A Bill for an Act to amend the Anti-Corruption Act (2019 Revision) in order to designate the Anti-Corruption Commission as a law enforcement agency in the Islands; to provide for additional powers of investigating officers; to clarify the circumstances in which the Commission shall investigate reports; and for incidental and connected purposes.

The Chairman: The question is that the Title do stand part of the Bill.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Title passed.

The Chairman: The question now is that the Bills be reported to the House.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Chairman: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Bills to be reported to the House.

House resumed at 3.37 pm

The Speaker: Proceedings are now resumed.

REPORT ON BILLS

IDENTIFICATION REGISTER BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I am pleased to report that a Bill shortly entitled the Identification Register Bill, 2022, was considered by a Committee of the whole House and passed with amendments.

The Speaker: The Bill has been duly reported and is set down for a third reading.

CAYMAN ISLANDS IDENTIFICATION CARD BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I am pleased to report that a Bill shortly entitled the Cayman Islands Identification Card Bill, 2022, was considered by a Committee of the whole House and passed with amendments.

The Speaker: The Bill has been duly reported and is set down for a third reading.

MUSIC AND DANCING (CONTROL) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I am pleased to report that a Bill shortly entitled the Music and Dancing (Control) (Amendment) Bill, 2022, was considered by a Committee of the whole House and passed without amendments.

The Speaker: The Bill has been duly reported and is set down for a third reading.

NATIONAL ROADS AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister for Planning.

Hon. Johany S. Ebanks, Minister of Planning, Agriculture, Housing & Infrastructure, Elected Member for North Side: Madam Speaker, a Bill entitled the National Roads Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2022, has been considered by the Committee of the whole House and passed without amendments.

The Speaker: The Bill has been duly reported and is set down for a third reading.

UTILITY REGULATION AND COMPETITION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Deputy Premier.

Hon. Christopher S. Saunders, Deputy Premier: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to report that a Bill shortly entitled the Utility Regulation and Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2022, was considered by a Committee of the whole House and passed without amendments.

The Speaker: The Bill has been duly reported and is set down for a third reading.

CUSTOMS AND BORDER CONTROL (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Deputy Premier.

Hon. Christopher S. Saunders, Deputy Premier: Madam Speaker, I am pleased to report that a Bill shortly entitled the Customs and Border Control (Amendment) Bill, 2022, was considered by a Committee of the whole House and passed with amendments.

The Speaker: The Bill has been duly reported and is set down for a third reading.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (OFFENDERS ASSISTING INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS) BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Attorney General.

The Attorney General, Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to report that a Bill shortly entitled the Criminal Justice (Offenders

Assisting Investigations and Prosecutions) Bill, 2022, has been considered by a Committee of the whole House and passed without amendments.

The Speaker: The Bill has been duly reported and is set down for a third reading.

CONTEMPT OF COURT BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Attorney General.

The Attorney General, Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to report that a Bill shortly entitled the Contempt of Court Bill, 2022, has been considered by a Committee of the whole House and passed without amendment.

The Speaker: The Bill has been duly reported and is set down for a third reading.

PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Attorney General.

The Attorney General, Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to report that a Bill shortly entitled the Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2022, has been considered by a Committee of the whole House and passed without amendment.

The Speaker: The Bill has been duly reported and is set down for a third reading.

ANTI-CORRUPTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Attorney General.

The Attorney General, Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin: I thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to report that a Bill, shortly entitled the Anti-Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2022 has been considered by a Committee of the whole House and passed without any amendments.

The Speaker: The Bill has been duly reported and is set down for a third reading.

THIRD READINGS

IDENTIFICATION REGISTER BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I beg to move that a Bill shortly entitled the Identification Register Bill, 2022, be given a third reading and passed.

The Speaker: The question is that a Bill shortly entitled the Identification Register Bill, 2022, be given a third reading and passed.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: The Identification Register Bill, 2022, given a third reading and passed.

CAYMAN ISLANDS IDENTIFICATION CARD BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I beg to move that a Bill shortly entitled the Cayman Islands Identification Card Bill, 2022, be given a third reading and passed.

The Speaker: The question is that a Bill shortly entitled the Cayman Islands Identification Card Bill, 2022, be given a third reading and passed.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Cayman Islands Identification Card Bill, 2022, given a third reading and passed.

MUSIC AND DANCING CONTROL (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister for Financial Services and Commerce.

Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I beg to move that a Bill shortly entitled the Music and Dancing (Control) (Amendment) Bill, 2022, be given its third reading and passed.

The Speaker: The question is that a Bill shortly entitled the Music and Dancing (Control) (Amendment) Bill, 2022, be given a third reading and passed.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: The Music and Dancing (Control) (Amendment) Bill, 2022, given a third reading and passed.

**NATIONAL ROADS AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2022**

The Speaker: The Honourable Minister for Planning.

Hon. Johany S. Ebanks: Thank you, Madam Speaker.
I beg to move the Bill entitled the National Roads Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2022 to be given its third reading and passed.

The Speaker: The question is that a Bill shortly entitled the National Roads Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2022 be given a third reading and passed.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: The National Roads Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2022 given a third reading and passed.

**UTILITY REGULATION AND COMPETITION
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022**

The Speaker: The Honourable Deputy Premier.

Hon. Christopher S. Saunders, Deputy Premier:
Madam Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill shortly entitled the Utility Regulation and Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2022, be given a third reading and passed.

The Speaker: The question is that a Bill shortly entitled the Utility Regulation and Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2022, be given a third reading and passed.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: The Utility Regulation and Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2022, given a third reading and passed.

**CUSTOMS AND BORDER CONTROL
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022**

The Speaker: The Honourable Deputy Premier.

Hon. Christopher S. Saunders, Deputy Premier:
Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill shortly entitled the Customs and Border Control (Amendment) Bill, 2022, be given a third reading and passed.

The Speaker: The question is that a Bill shortly entitled the Customs and Border Control (Amendment) Bill, 2022 be given a third reading and passed.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: The Customs and Border Control (Amendment) Bill, 2022 given a third reading and passed.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE (OFFENDERS ASSISTING
INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS) BILL,
2022**

The Speaker: The Honourable Attorney General.

The Attorney General, Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin:
Thank you Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to move that the Criminal Justice (Offenders Assisting Investigations and Prosecutions) Bill, 2022 be given a third reading and passed.

The Speaker: The question is that a Bill shortly entitled the Criminal Justice (Offenders Assisting Investigations and Prosecutions) Bill, 2022 be given a third reading and passed.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: The Criminal Justice (Offenders Assisting Investigations and Prosecutions) Bill, 2022 given a third reading and passed.

CONTEMPT OF COURT BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Attorney General.

The Attorney General, Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin:
Thank you Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to move that the Contempt of Court Bill, 2022 be given a third reading and passed.

The Speaker: The question is that a Bill shortly entitled Contempt of Court Bill, 2022 be given a third reading and passed.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: The Contempt of Court Bill, 2022 given a third reading and passed.

PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Attorney General.

The Attorney General, Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to move that the Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2022 be given a third reading and passed.

The Speaker: The question is that a Bill shortly entitled the Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2022 be given a third reading and passed.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: The Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2022, given a third reading and passed.

ANTI-CORRUPTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

The Speaker: The Honourable Attorney General.

The Attorney General, Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I beg to move that the Anti-Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2022 be given a third reading and passed.

The Speaker: The question is that a Bill shortly entitled the Anti-Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2022 be given a third reading and passed.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: The Anti-Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2022, given a third reading and passed.

The Speaker: Colleagues, we'll just take a five minute suspension. I ask that you remain in your seats for a few minutes.

House suspended at 3.52 pm

House resumed at 4.17 pm

The Speaker: Proceedings are now resumed. Please be seated.

I call on the Honourable Premier to move the adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

The Premier, Hon. G. Wayne Panton: Madam Speaker, thank you very much.

Madam Speaker, today we accomplished the Committee, Report on Bills and the Third Readings. We had intended to move to Finance Committee to deal with the two Appropriation Bills, but there was a slight delay in getting the necessary documentation completed with respect to that, Madam Speaker.

At this point, I would indicate that the Government would propose to have Finance Committee first thing tomorrow morning, and then come back to the House to deal with the remaining business of the House, which is the report and the Private Members' Motions.

With that, Madam Speaker, I move the adjournment of this honourable House until the completion of Finance Committee, which will start at 9.00a.m. tomorrow, as usual.

Thank you.

The Speaker: The question is that this honourable House adjourn until tomorrow after the completion of Finance Committee.

All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

This honourable House is now adjourned until after Finance Committee has ended.

At 4.19 pm the House stood adjourned until Thursday, 15th December, 2022.