

BELIZE

No. 29/1/13

SENATE

Monday, 15th April 2019

10:10 A.M.

Pursuant to the direction of Mr. President, in writing, dated 26th March 2019, the Senate met in the National Assembly Chamber in Belmopan on Thursday, 28th March 2019, at 10:09 A.M.

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Members Present:

Senator, the Honourable Lee Mark Chang – President
Senator, the Honourable Godwin Hulse – Leader of Government Business and Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment, Sustainable Development, Immigration Services and Refugees
Dr. Senator, the Honourable Carla Barnett – Vice-President and Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Labour, Local Government, Rural Development, Energy, Public Utilities, Public Service, and Elections and Boundaries
Senator, the Honourable Michael Peyrefitte – Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs
Senator, the Honourable Macario Coy Sr.
Senator, the Honourable Stephen Duncan
Senator, the Honourable Herbert Panton – Temporary Senator
Senator, the Honourable Eamon Courtenay
Senator, the Honourable Valerie Woods
Senator, the Honourable Paul Thompson
Senator, the Honourable Markhelm Lizarraga
Senator, the Honourable Elena Smith
Senator, the Honourable Rev. Ashley Rocke
Senator, the Honourable Osmany Salas

Members Absent:

Senator, the Honourable Aldo Salazar

MR. PRESIDENT *in the Chair*.

PRAYERS *by Senator Rev. Ashley Rocke*.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OF A NEW SENATOR

The Clerk administered the Oath, in accordance with section 65 of the Belize Constitution, to the new Senator, the Honourable Herbert Panton.

BILL BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Leader of Government Business and Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment, Sustainable Development, Immigration Services and Refugees signified his willingness to take charge of the Belize Territorial Dispute Referendum Bill, 2019.

The Leader of Government Business and Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment, Sustainable Development, Immigration Services and Refugees moved that the Bill be taken through all its stages forthwith.

Question was put and agreed to.

MOTION RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE SENATE

The Leader of Government Business and Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment, Sustainable Development, Immigration Services and Refugees moved that, at its rising, the Senate adjourn to a date to be fixed by the President.

Question was put and agreed to.

I BILL FOR SECOND READING

1. Belize Territorial Dispute Referendum Bill, 2019.

The Leader of Government Business and Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment, Sustainable Development and Immigration moved that the above-mentioned Bill be read a second time:

Bill for an Act to provide for a referendum to determine whether any legal claim of Guatemala against Belize, relating to land and insular territories and to any maritime areas pertaining to these territories, should be submitted to the International Court of Justice for final settlement, and for the International Court of Justice to determine finally the boundaries of the respective territories and areas of Belize and Guatemala; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Suspension of the debate on the Belize Territorial Dispute Referendum Bill, 2019.)

In accordance with Standing Order 10 (8), the Leader of Government Business and Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment, Sustainable Development, Immigration Services and Refugees moved that the proceedings on

the matter on the Order Paper be entered upon and proceeded with at the sitting at any hour though opposed.

Question was put and agreed to.

(Resumption and continuation of the debate on the Belize Territorial Dispute Referendum Bill, 2019.)

After the debate thereon, question was put, and a division was requested by Senator Godwin Hulse.

The Senators voted as follows:

Senator Godwin Hulse	-	Aye	Dr. Senator Carla Barnett
Barnett	-	Aye	
Senator Michael Peyrefitte	-	Aye	
Senator Macario Coy Sr.	-	Aye	Senator
Stephen Duncan	-	Aye	Senator Herbert Panton
	-	Aye	Senator Eamon Courtenay
No			
Senator Valerie Woods	-	Abstain	
Senator Paul Thompson	-	No	
Senator Markhelm Lizarraga	-	No	
Senator Rev. Ashley Rocke	-	Aye	
Senator Elena Smith	-	No	
Senator Osmany Salas	-	Aye	

Thereon, the result was that eight (8) Senators voted “Aye”; four (4) Senators voted “No”; and one (1) abstained.

Question was put and agreed to.

Bill was accordingly read a second time and, pursuant to Standing Orders, was committed to a Committee of the whole Senate.

II COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SENATE ON BILL

In accordance with Standing Order 54, the Senate, without question put, resolved itself into the Committee of the whole Senate to examine and consider the Bill that was read a second time.

(In the Committee of the whole Senate)

MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair.

1. Belize Territorial Dispute Referendum Bill, 2019.

Clauses 1 to 12 agreed to.

Bill was reported back to the Senate without amendment.

III REPORTING AND THIRD READING OF BILL

1. Belize Territorial Dispute Referendum Bill, 2019.

The Leader of Government Business and Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment, Sustainable Development, Immigration Services and Refugees reported that the Committee of the whole Senate has considered the above-mentioned Bill, clause by clause, and has agreed upon it without amendment.

Whereupon the Senator moved that the Bill be read a third time.

Question was put and agreed to.

Bill was read a third time.

ADJOURNMENT

The Leader of Government Business and Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment, Sustainable Development, Immigration Services and Refugees moved that the Senate be adjourned.

The Senate adjourned at 5:45 P.M. to a date to be fixed by the President.

PRESIDENT

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