

BELIZE

No. HR29/1/12

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, 21st June 2019

10:00 A.M.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. **Prayers.**
2. Oath of Allegiance of a New Member.
3. Announcements by the Speaker.
4. Bills brought from the Senate.
5. Petitions.
6. **Papers.**

No. HR196/1/12 - Report of the Auditor General – Annual Report for the Year April 2014 to March 2015.

(The Right Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Labour, Local Government, Rural Development, Energy, Public Utilities, Public Service and Elections and Boundaries)

7. **Presentation of Reports from Select Committee.**

No. HR197/1/12 - Report from the Finance and Economic Development Committee on the Customs and Excise Duties (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

No. HR198/1/12 - Report from the Finance and Economic Development Committee on the Inter-American Development Bank Multilateral Investment Fund III Motion, 2019.

No. HR199/1/12 - Report from the Finance and Economic Development Committee on the Tax Administration and Procedure Bill, 2019.

(The Honourable Chairman of the Finance and Economic Development Committee)

8. Questions to Ministers.
9. Requests for leave to move the adjournment of the House on definite matters of urgent public importance.
10. Statement by Ministers.
11. Personal Explanations.
12. **Introduction of Bills.**

1. **University of Belize (Amendment) Bill, 2019.**

Bill for an Act to amend the University of Belize Act, Chapter 37 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011, to increase the age for compulsory retirement; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(The Honourable Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports)

2. **Land Tax (Partial Remission of Arrears) Bill, 2019.**

Bill for an Act to provide for the partial remission of arrears of land tax and speculation tax; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(The Honourable Minister of Natural Resources)

13. **Motions relating to the Business or Sittings of the House.**
14. **Public Business.**

- A. **Government Business**

- I **MOTION** *(For Text of Motion see Notice Papers attached)*

1. Inter-American Development Bank Multilateral Investment Fund III Motion, 2019.

(referred 26th March 2019)

(The Right Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Labour, Local Government, Rural Development, Energy, Public Utilities, Public Service and Elections and Boundaries)

II BILLS FOR SECOND READING

1. Customs and Excise Duties (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

Bill for an Act to amend the Customs and Excise Duties Act, Chapter 48 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011; to implement the fifth and sixth phase of reduction of duties in accordance with the Economic Partnership Agreement; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

2. Tax Administration and Procedure Bill, 2019.

Bill for an Act to establish the Belize Tax Service Department; to facilitate the official and effective administration and collection of domestic taxes; to provide for tax procedures; to provide civil and criminal penalties for violating tax laws; and to provide for connected and incidental matters.

(The Right Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Labour, Local Government, Rural Development, Energy, Public Utilities, Public Service and Elections and Boundaries)

III COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON BILLS

IV BILLS FOR THIRD READING



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NOTICES OF QUESTIONS AND MOTIONS

MOTION

1. Inter-American Development Bank Multilateral Investment Fund III Motion, 2019.

(referred 26.03.19)

WHEREAS, Belize is a member of the Inter-American Development Bank (the “Bank”);

AND WHEREAS, by virtue of its membership, Belize has the right to benefit from the Bank’s Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) which was established for the purpose of supporting economic growth and poverty reduction in its member countries;

AND WHEREAS, there has been the successful establishment and implementation of MIF I, which was later replaced with MIF II, which is currently ongoing;

AND WHEREAS, the member countries of the Bank, in an effort to ensure the continuation of the MIF’s activities and provide for an enhanced MIF II, have agreed to the establishment of a third Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF III) in the total sum of US \$317.2 million to ensure the continuation of the activities of MIF II;

AND WHEREAS, the Board of Governors of the Bank on 2nd April 2017, adopted Resolution MIF/DE-13-7 which approved the replenishment of the Multilateral Investment Fund, the MIF III, of US \$317.2 million, which will now replace MIF II and govern all assets and liabilities of MIF II;

AND WHEREAS, as per the norm, this replenishment of the MIF will be made up of contribution commitments by donor member countries of the Bank to continue activities during the period 2019-2023 under a renewed mandate, guiding principles and strategic framework;

AND WHEREAS, Belize’s contribution to MIF III amounts to US \$1,000,000.00 which will be paid in three equal annual installments of US \$333,333.33, of which the first installment is now due and payable;

AND WHEREAS, there is no specific provision in the International Financial Organizations Act, Chapter 265 of the Laws of Belize, or any other law to enable the Minister of Finance to make such contributions;

AND WHEREAS, consequently, the Government of Belize is desirous of obtaining the approval of the National Assembly by way of a resolution before making such contributions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Honourable House being satisfied that the above-mentioned contributions to MIF III would be beneficial to the interests of Belize, authorizes the Minister of Finance to sign an Instrument of Contribution and all other documents associated therewith.

*(The Right Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,
Labour, Local Government, Rural Development, Energy, Public Utilities,
Public Service and Elections and Boundaries)*

