

**BELIZE**

**No.12/1/14**

## **SENATE**

**Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**10:00 A.M.**

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### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**1. Prayers.**

**2. Oath of Allegiance of new Senators.**

**3. Announcements by the President.**

**4. Bill brought from the House of Representatives.**

1. *General Revenue Supplementary Appropriation (2021/2022) (No. 3) Bill, 2022.*

*(Leader of Government Business and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration)*

**6. Papers.**

- 19/1/14 - Supplementary Appropriation (No.3) Schedule for Fiscal Year 2021/2022.
- 20/1/14 - Supply Agreement for Petroleum Products - Sol Belize Limited and the Government of Belize.
- 21/1/14 - Central Bank of Belize Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2022.

*(Leader of Government Business and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration)*

**13. Motions relating to the Business or Sitzings of the Senate.**

**14. Public Business.**

#### **A. GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

##### **I MOTIONS *(For Text of Motions see Notice Papers attached)***

1. Resolution Authorizing the Ratification by Belize of the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Motion, 2022.

2. Domestic Violence in Belize Motion, 2022.

*(Leader of Government Business and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration)*

**II BILL FOR SECOND READING**

**III COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SENATE ON MOTIONS AND BILL**

**IV BILL FOR THIRD READING**



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### **NOTICES OF QUESTIONS AND MOTIONS**

#### **MOTIONS**

- 1. Resolution Authorizing the Ratification by Belize of the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Motion, 2022.**

**WHEREAS**, the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (hereafter “the Convention”) was adopted in Paris, France, on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016, and signed by the Government of Belize on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019, with a provisional list of expected reservations and notifications;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Convention intends to ensure that existing agreements for the avoidance of double taxation on income are interpreted to eliminate double taxation with respect to the taxes covered by those agreements without creating opportunities for non-taxation or reduced taxation through tax evasion or avoidance and to provide an effective mechanism to implement agreed changes in a synchronised and efficient manner across the network of existing agreements for the avoidance of double taxation on income without the need to bilaterally renegotiate each such agreement;

**AND WHEREAS**, Belize is presently a Party to agreements for the avoidance of double taxation on income that are in force with the following Parties to the Convention – *Austria, Canada, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates*, and the *United Kingdom* – and some or all of which may be affected upon entry into force of the Convention in Belize;

**AND WHEREAS**, section 61A(2)(a) of the Belize Constitution, as amended by the Belize Constitution (Sixth Amendment) Act (No. 13 of 2008), provides that the Senate shall authorize the ratification of any agreement by the Government of Belize;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate authorizes the Government of Belize to ratify the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting, a full text of which is hereto annexed.

- 2. Domestic Violence in Belize Motion, 2022.**

**WHEREAS**, Domestic Violence is recognized as a widespread international public health and human rights issue which, in all its forms, has tremendous physical, mental and emotional consequences on its victims, children and other family members and has far reaching detrimental social, health and economic impacts on nations;

**AND WHEREAS**, Domestic Violence constitutes abuse including physical, psychological, sexual, emotional, financial or other aggressions, inflicted by people in the family environment or in intimate partner relationships, which generally targets the most vulnerable populations, namely girls, women and older adults, and almost always occurs inside a residence and most often at the home of the victim or the perpetrator;

**AND WHEREAS**, it is established that Domestic Violence is a crime and a violation of human rights which affects every member of our community and if the cycle is not broken it continues to tear apart our families and our social fabric;

**AND WHEREAS**, as reported by the Belize Crime Observatory, at least 60% of Domestic Violence cases registered during 2020, were the result of intimate partner violence;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Belize Crime Observatory reported that during January to November 2021, there were 2,155 reports of Domestic Violence to the police where 78% of these reports were made by females and 32% of these cases are open cases;

**AND WHEREAS**, an effective response to Domestic Violence requires a multi-sectoral approach to ensure prevention, protection, and provision of services for survivors and successful prosecution of perpetrators;

**AND WHEREAS**, Plan Belize, through the implementation of a progressive Women's Agenda, aims to strengthen and expand measures to ensure the safety and security of women and children by, inter alia:

- holding a zero-tolerance position on violence against women;
- financially supporting the operation of emergency shelters and transitional homes for women and their children;
- implementing the domestic violence and sexual violence laws and protocols for the protection of women and children;
- providing free counselling and legal aid service for survivors of violence; and
- supporting mandatory counselling for perpetrators of domestic violence;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House:

1. Denounces and condemns Domestic Violence, in all its forms, as a crime and a violation of fundamental human rights;
2. Supports the call for additional resources to further strengthen the interventions, safeguards and public awareness required to effectively address Domestic Violence in Belize;
3. Will undertake legislative review aimed at filling gaps and putting in the necessary reforms for the response to Domestic Violence;
4. As national leaders, takes a zero-tolerance position with regard to Domestic Violence;
5. Prioritizes Domestic Violence as a national issue of significance and pledges to take individual and collective actions to end this plague in our constituencies.

*(Leader of Government Business and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration)*

