

BELIZE

No. HR11/1/13

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, 4th February 2022

10:00 AM

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S U P P L E M E N T A R Y (1)

ORDERS OF THE DAY

6. Papers.

- No. HR91/1/13 - Supplementary Appropriation (No.3) Schedule for Fiscal Year 2021/2022.
- No. HR92/1/13 - Supply Agreement for Petroleum Products - Sol Belize Limited and the Government of Belize.
- No. HR93/1/13 - Central Bank of Belize Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2022.

(The Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment)

8. Questions to Ministers. (See Notice Papers Attached)

12. Introduction of Bills.

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

Bill for an Act to appropriate further sums of money for the use of the Public Service of Belize for the financial year ending on the thirty-first day of March, two thousand and twenty-two.

2. Development Finance Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

Bill for an Act to amend the Development Finance Corporation Act, Chapter 279 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020; to widen the scope of the Corporation's purpose; to provide for a period of limitation; to provide for penalties and punishments for Directors and Officers of the Corporation; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(The Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment)

3. Defamation Bill, 2022.

Bill for an Act to repeal the Libel and Defamation Act and to make new provisions relating to the tort of defamation; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

4. Inferior Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

Bill for an Act to amend the Inferior Courts Act, Chapter 94 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020; to allow for hearings or trials before the court to be conducted virtually; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(The Honourable Minister of Education, Culture, E-Governance, Science and Technology)

5. Protection of Witnesses Bill, 2022.

Bill for an Act to provide for the protection of witnesses in criminal proceedings, by enhancing the ability of a witness to give testimony in judicial proceedings and to cooperate with law enforcement authorities; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(The Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries)

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 Paper attached)*

- 1. Inter-American Development Bank - Program for Strengthening Public Expenditure Management in Belize - US\$8 Million Loan Motion, 2022.

Cabinet’s recommendation to be signified.

(The Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment)

II BILL FOR SECOND READING

III COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON BILL

IV BILL FOR THIRD READING



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S U P P L E M E N T A R Y (1)

N O T I C E S O F Q U E S T I O N S A N D M O T I O N S

Q U E S T I O N S

[For Oral Answer]

Notice given on 27th January 2022.

- *1. Will the Minister of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries please update this Honourable House as to the Marijuana Industry legislation passed in the House but stalled in the Senate?

- *2. Will the Minister of Labour please tell this Honourable House what steps have been taken to get the 120,000 Belizeans who lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency back to work?

- *3. Will the Minister of Environment please tell this Honourable House as to what steps were or are being taken to address the complaints of corruption made by the Waterloo group?

(The Honourable Leader of the Opposition)

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S U P P L E M E N T A R Y (1)

N O T I C E S O F Q U E S T I O N S A N D M O T I O N S

M O T I O N

1. **Inter-American Development Bank - Program for Strengthening Public Expenditure Management in Belize - US\$8 Million Loan Motion, 2022.**

Notice given on 1st February 2022.

WHEREAS, Belize, as a member of the Inter-American Development Bank (the “Bank”), is eligible for development assistance in the form of loans, grants, and technical assistance from the Bank on such terms and conditions as may be agreed between Belize and the Bank from time to time;

AND WHEREAS, the Government of Belize, in an effort to increase the efficiency of the use of public resources, has approached the Bank for financial assistance to execute a Program to strengthen Public Expenditure Management in Belize;

AND WHEREAS, the Program consists of the following four sub-component objectives which aim at strengthening public financial management: (i) improve the efficiency of key expenditure functions; (ii) promote economies of scale and competitiveness among suppliers in the acquisition of all goods and services; (iii) promote a more sustainable technological infrastructure enabling processes to be more reliable and faster; (iv) improve institutional capacity for personnel to carry out processes and operate systems efficiently;

AND WHEREAS, it is intended that the execution of the project shall be carried out on behalf of the Government by the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment, acting as Executing Agency;

AND WHEREAS, the Bank has offered financing of up to US\$8,000,000.00 from its Ordinary Capital Resources for the said purpose under the following terms and conditions:

Lender:	The Inter-American Development Bank;
Loan Principal Amount:	US\$8,000,000.00 Flexible Financing Facility Loan;

Disbursement Schedule:	Over a period of five (5) years from the date of signature of Loan Contract;
Loan Term:	Twenty-five (25) Years inclusive of sixty-six (66) months Grace Period on Principal Repayments;
Repayment Period:	To be repaid in 39 approximately equal, semi-annual, and consecutive installments of about US\$205,128.21;
Purpose:	To execute a project that will increase the efficiency of public resources by strengthening public financial management;
Rate of Interest:	Interest will be charged on the daily outstanding balance of the loan, as per the LIBOR-Based Interest Rate, plus the applicable lending spread for the Bank's ordinary capital loans, currently at 1.31% per annum;
Credit Fee:	A Credit Fee will be at a percentage to be established by the Bank on a periodic basis, not exceeding 0.75% per annum;

AND WHEREAS, under the provisions of section 7 (2) of the Finance and Audit (Reform) Act, 2005, the Government of Belize is required to obtain the prior authorisation of the National Assembly, by way of a Resolution, for such a borrowing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House, being satisfied that the Loan proceeds would significantly assist the Government of Belize in its continued efforts to promote the fiscal sustainability of Belize, approves and confirms that the Government may enter into a Loan Contract with the Inter-American Development Bank on the terms and conditions set out above, and further authorizes the Minister of Finance to execute and deliver the said Loan Contract and all other documents associated therewith.

Cabinet's recommendation to be signified.

(The Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment)