



National Assembly of Belize

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Report from The Office of the Speaker–13th Parliamentary Session, 2021,

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At the House of Representatives meeting held on March 15th 2022, the Honourable Valerie Woods, Speaker of the House of Representatives, announced the completion of the **Report from The Office of the Speaker, House of Representatives –13th Parliamentary Session, 2021**. Copies of the report were officially presented to the Leader of the House of Representatives, the Prime Minister of Belize, Hon. John Briceño and to the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives, Hon Shyne Barrow. The presentation was made in the Speaker's chamber.

In her introduction of the Report, Speaker Woods states that the "*The purpose is to foster the principle of open parliament by providing an end of year summary report to the members and to the public on the House's accomplishments, challenges and the recommendations from the Office of the Speaker to allow for greater public engagement and enhanced legislative openness*".

The Report provides a summary of the activities of the House of Representatives during the year 2021, which consist of the following:

- The House met 10 times during the year;
- 62 Bills were introduced but only 55 Bills became Acts of Parliament;
- 32 Motions were introduced and ratified in the House of Representatives.

Additionally, work on the parliament's administration management as well as several recommendations for the improvement of the parliamentary work were included in the summary.

The report also noted some of the various diplomatic relations and inter-parliamentary exchanges that the Office of the Speaker engages with various organizations. These include the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for the Caribbean, Americas and the Atlantic Region (CPA CAA), The Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP), The Forum of Presiding Officers of National Parliaments/Congresses of Central America, the Caribbean Basin and Mexico (FOPREL), and ParlAmericas, among other local organizations.

It is the intention of the Speaker that the summary report becomes an annual exercise. For more information, a copy of the Report can be found on the National Assembly's website (www.nationalassembly.gov.bz).

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