

BELIZE

No. HR16/1/13

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, 15th July 2022

10:00 AM

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

- 1. Prayers.**
2. Oath of Allegiance of a New Member.
- 3. Announcements by the Speaker.**
4. Bill brought from the Senate.
5. Petitions.
6. Papers.
- 7. Presentation of Reports from Select Committees.**

No. HR114/1/13 - Report from the Finance and Economic Development Committee on the Central American Bank for Economic Integration - Expansion and Rehabilitation of the Philip Goldson Highway Loan Motion, 2022.

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

No. HR115/1/13 - Report from the Constitution and Foreign Affairs Committee on the Defamation Bill, 2022.

No. HR116/1/13 - Report from the Constitution and Foreign Affairs Committee on the Married Persons (Protection) (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

(The Honourable Chairman of the Constitution and Foreign Affairs Committee)

No. HR117/1/13 - Report from the National Security and Immigration Committee on the Belizean Nationality (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

(The Honourable Chairman of the National Security and Immigration 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. **Public Sector Emoluments and Allowances Reduction (Repeal) Bill, 2022.**

Bill for an Act to repeal the Public Sector Emoluments and Allowances Reduction Act, Act No. 14 of 2021; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

2. **Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill, 2022.**

Bill for an Act to amend the Trade Marks Act, Chapter 253 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020; to give effect to the Protocol relating to the Madrid Agreement concerning the International Registration of Marks (“the Madrid Protocol”); and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

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

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

- A. **Government Business**

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

1. Central American Bank for Economic Integration - Expansion and Rehabilitation of the Philip Goldson Highway Loan Motion, 2022.

(Referred 3rd June 2022.)

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

II BILLS FOR SECOND READING

1. **Belizean Nationality (Amendment) Bill, 2022.**

Bill for an Act to amend the Belizean Nationality Act, Chapter 161 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020; to provide for an amnesty program for irregular migrants; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

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

2. **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.

3. **Married Persons (Protection) (Amendment) Bill, 2022.**

Bill for an Act to amend the Married Persons (Protection) Act, Chapter 175 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020; to remove the fault grounds for application for judicial separation, and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

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

III COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON BILLS

IV BILLS FOR THIRD READING

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10:00 AM.

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**NOTICES OF QUESTIONS AND MOTIONS**

**MOTION**

1. **Central American Bank for Economic Integration - Expansion and Rehabilitation of the Philip Goldson Highway Loan Motion, 2022.**

*(Referred 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022.)*

**WHEREAS**, Belize being a member of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), 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 has requested assistance from CABEI to partially finance the expansion and rehabilitation of a 25.75-kilometer (16.0 mile) section of the Philip Goldson Highway from miles 8.5 to 24;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of CABEI has approved financing in the sum of US\$24,000,000;

**AND WHEREAS**, the approved CABEI financing will include the following scope of works: (i) Resealing approximately 25.75 km of the highway; (ii) Base failure repairs; (iii) Construction of new paved shoulders, 1.5m wide on both sides; (iv) Improvement of both vertical and horizontal alignments to address and improve road safety; (v) Revision and enhancement of drainage infrastructure to reduce vulnerability to flooding; and (vi) Installation of road safety furniture, which includes pedestrian crossings, signs, road markings and studs, guard rails and lighting; the approved financing will also include the procurement of consulting services, engineering software, and project vehicles;

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

**AND WHEREAS**, the terms and conditions of the CABEI Loan Offer are as follows:

Lender: The Central American Bank for Economic Integration;

Loan Principal Amount: US\$24,000,000.00;

Disbursement Schedule: Withdrawals shall be made from time to time beginning with the effective date of the loan and ending thirty-six (36) months thereafter;

Loan Term: Twenty (20) years inclusive of a thirty-six (36) months grace period, starting from the date of the first disbursement;

Repayment Period: To be repaid in equal, semi-annual, and consecutive installments in the amounts and dates determined by CABEI;

Purpose: To partially finance the expansion and rehabilitation of a 25.75-kilometer (16.0 mile) section of the Philip Goldson Highway;

Rate of Interest: Six (6) month Libor, currently at 2.05429% plus a margin of two hundred and forty basis points (240 bps), variable, revisable, and adjustable quarterly by CABEI;

Other Charges: A monitoring and administration fee of one-quarter of one percent (0.25%) on the loan amount, to be paid once only, at the latest at the time of the first disbursement;

**AND WHEREAS**, under the provisions of section 7 of the Finance and Audit (Reform) Act 2005, the Government of Belize is required to obtain the prior authorization 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 reduce transportation costs and accident rates, increase access to services, increase employment opportunities and improve climate resilience, approves and confirms that the Government of Belize may enter into a Loan Agreement with the Central American Bank for Economic Integration on the terms and conditions set out above, and further authorizes the Minister of Finance to execute and deliver the said Loan Agreement and all other documents associated therewith.

**Cabinet’s recommendation to be signified.**

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

