



SUMMARY REPORT
PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
HELD ON 29th SEPTEMBER & 6th OCTOBER, 2023

1. The following papers were laid on the Table:

(a) Financial Secretary

- (i) Montserrat Social Security Fund Financial Statements for the Year ended March 31, 2020;
- (ii) Montserrat Port Authority Financial Statements for the Year ended 31st March 2022;
- (iii) Report of the Auditor General on the Audit of the Public Accounts of Montserrat, West Indies and other selected activities for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2022;
- (iv) Performance Audit of the Inland Revenue Division: Governance, Efficiency, Effectiveness & Quality of Service;
- (v) S R & O No. 25 of 2023 Customs Duty (Christiana Howe) (Exemption) Order 2023;
- (vi) S R & O No. 26 of 2023 Customs Duty (Tradewinds Montserrat Limited) (Exemption) Order 2023;
- (vii) S R & O No. 27 of 2023 Customs Duty (White Goods and Emergency Power Supplies) (Exemption) Order 2023;
- (viii) S R & O No. 28 of 2023 Customs Duty (Ryner's Refrigeration Services) (Exemption) Order 2023;
- (ix) S R & O No. 29 of 2023 Customs Duties and Consumption Tax (Enterprise Development Scheme) (Exemption) Order 2023;

(x) S R & O No. 30 of 2023 Customs Duty (White Goods and Emergency Power Supplies) (Exemption) Order 2023.

(a) **Attorney General**

(i) S R & O No. 23 of 2023 Proclamation Proroguing the Legislative Assembly;

(ii) S R & O No. 24 of 2023 Statistics (Population Census) Order 2023;

(iii) S R & O No. 31 of 2023 Proclamation Appointing a Session of the Legislative Assembly;

(iv) Montserrat Complaints Commission Report 1st July 2020 –30th June 2023;

(v) Montserrat: Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Recommended Benchmarks for Democratic Legislatures Final Report.

1. The Introduction and First Reading of the following Bill took place:

‘Financial Intelligence Unit Bill 2023’

First Reading 29th September 2023

The Bill seeks to establish a department of government to be known as the Financial Intelligence Unit to receive reports of suspicious transactions, to gather, store, analyse, investigate and disseminate information to law enforcement authorities and relevant bodies and for connected purposes.

Part 2 of the Bill provides for the establishment and functions of the Financial Intelligence unit as follows: establishes the unit, administration and staff of the unit, functions of the unit, independence and autonomy of the unit, assistance of experts, other investigatory powers not affected, power of the unit to freeze funds or other valuable items. Part 3 provides for the appointment and functions of a Director and covers: the appointment of a Director, functions of the Director and reports. Part 4 provides for a Financial and Intelligence Supervisory Board as follows: establishment of Financial Intelligence Supervisory Board, membership of the Supervisory Board, functions of the Board, disqualification, removal and resignation of members, vacancy in membership, filing of vacancy and publication of change in membership of the Board. Part 5 provides for meetings and procedures of the Supervisory Board as follows: procedures and meetings, disclosure of interest, pecuniary interest,

confidentiality, validity of decisions, Secretary and Deputy Secretary to the Board and civil liability. Part 6 provides for disclosure of information by and to the Financial Intelligence Unit as follows: obtaining information, obligation of secrecy and oath, unauthorized disclosure, referral of matters for investigation, no criminal or civil liability for reporting information to the Unit, national and international cooperation, disclosure of information to the Unit, and offence by body corporate and secrecy obligations overridden. Part 7 provides for miscellaneous matters: indemnity, offences and penalties, regulations and consequential amendments.

The Second and Third Reading of the following Bill took place:

‘Virtual Asset Business Bill 2023’

First Reading 31st July 2023

Second Reading 29th September 2023

Third Reading 29th September 2023

The Bill was passed with no amendment

2. The following Bill had its Introduction, First, Second, and Third Reading:

‘Supplementary Appropriation (2023) (No. 2) Bill 2023’

First Reading 6th October 2023

Second Reading 6th October 2023

Third Reading 6th October 2023

The Bill sought to sanction certain payments from the Consolidated Fund in excess of the sums provided by law for the services of the Government of Montserrat for the period ending on the thirty-first day of March 2024.

3. The Public Accounts Committee was reconfirmed.
4. The Appointment of the House Committee and Privileges Committee was deferred to the next sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

Bills that have had a First Reading can be found in the following places:

Legislature Department #1 Farara Plaza Brades	Legal Department Valley View Brades	Public Library BBC Complex Brades	Montserrat Legislative Assembly’s
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Montserrat	Montserrat	Montserrat	Website www.Parliament.ms
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Sgd. Dr Judith C Baker

CLERK OF THE MONTSERRAT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY