



SECOND INTERIM REPORT OF
THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE
APPOINTED TO CONSIDER AND REPORT ON THE
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
(LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM) BILL, 2019

PARLIAMENT
REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
FIFTH SESSION (2019/2020) OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

Committee Mandate

Pursuant to resolutions of the House of Representatives on Wednesday October 2, 2019 and of the Senate on Friday October 25, 2019, a Joint Select Committee was established to consider and report on the Miscellaneous Provisions (Local Government Reform) Bill, 2019, to adopt the work of the Joint Select Committee in the Fourth Session, Eleventh Parliament and report by Tuesday December 31, 2019.

Committee Membership

Mr. Clarence Rambharat	-	Chairman
Mrs. Camille Robinson-Regis, MP	-	Member
Mr. Anthony Garcia, MP	-	Member
Mr. Esmond Forde, MP	-	Member
Dr. Surujrattan Rambachan, MP	-	Member
Mr. Rudranath Indarsingh, MP	-	Member
Ms. Marlene McDonald, MP	-	Member
Mr. Kazim Hosein	-	Member
Ms. Khadijah Ameen	-	Member
Mr. Paul Richards	-	Member
Mr. Deorooop Teemal	-	Member
Mr. Daniel Dookie	-	Member

Secretariat Support

Ms. Candice Skerrette	-	Secretary
Ms. Vanna Jankiepersad	-	Assistant Secretary
Ms. Aaneesa Baksh	-	Graduate Research Assistant

Publication

An electronic copy of this report can be found on the Parliament website using the following link:

Contact

The Secretary
Joint Select Committee on the Miscellaneous Provisions (Local Government Reform) Bill, 2019
Red House
Abercromby Street
Port of Spain
Tel: (868) 624-7275 Ext 2288; 2402 Fax: (868) 625-4672
Email: jsclocalgovernmentref@ttparliament.org

Date Presented in HOR: March 25, 2020

Date Presented in Senate: March 26, 2020

HOR Paper No.:

Senate Paper No.:

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CHAIRMANSHIP

1. At its First Meeting on Wednesday December 04, 2019, your Committee elected Mr. Clarence Rambharat to be its Chair, in accordance with House of Representatives Standing Order 97(3) and Senate Standing Order 87(3).

MEETINGS

2. Since its appointment, your Committee held five (5) meetings on the undermentioned dates.

- Wednesday December 4, 2019;
- Friday February 7, 2020;
- Tuesday February 11, 2020;
- Friday February 14, 2020; and
- Tuesday March 3, 2020.

REPORTS PRESENTED

3. During the Fifth Session, Eleventh Parliament, the First Interim Report of the Committee was presented in the House of Representatives and the Senate on Friday December 6, 2019 and Saturday December 7, 2019 respectively. This Report recommended that your Committee be granted a further extension until Tuesday March 31, 2020 to complete its clause by clause examination of the Bill.

WORK TO DATE

4. At the First to Fourth Meetings, your Committee reconvened its work and commenced clause by clause consideration of the Bill alongside consideration of the matrix of concerns/recommendations with comments from Ms. Ida Eversley, Deputy Chief Parliamentary Counsel, whom was appointed to support the work of the Committee.
5. At the Fifth Meeting, your Committee commenced consideration of its (Final) Report. However, it was agreed that one (1) additional week was required for a detailed review of the (Final) Report and to permit officials from the Ministry of Finance to provide clarification at the next meeting on Part V of the Bill, Property Taxes as well as on any other key issues of the Bill.

REPORT

6. Your Committee wishes to report that although all stakeholder comments were reviewed, it is unable to submit its final report by the deadline of Tuesday March 31, 2020 due to the suspension of Committee meetings as a result of the Parliament's collective fight against the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). Accordingly, the Committee requires additional time to review its (Final) Report and to examine the unofficial consolidated version of the Bill.

RECOMMENDATION

7. Your Committee therefore requests a further extension of one (1) month to complete its work and to submit a final report to Parliament by Thursday April 30, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Sgd.

Mr. Clarence Rambharat

Chairman

March 24, 2020