

1) What was the original basis/context of the Draft constitution (Amendment) (Tobago Self Government) 2020 and the Draft Tobago Island Administration Bill 2021? I asked this question because it appears that the "**Motion of Signal Hill**" in 2014 as highlighted by Mr. Hochoy Charles was not utilized by the Joint Select Committee to draft the bill in the Consultation. Is it of the committee's view that the minutes of the meeting of "**Motion of Signal Hill**" should be utilized in order to draft the Draft constitution (Amendment) (Tobago Self Government) 2020 and the Draft Tobago Island Administration Bill 2021? If this is the case point 2) should be considered.

2) The Draft constitution (Amendment) (Tobago Self Government) 2020 and the Draft Tobago Island Administration Bill 2021 bill should attach the minutes of the "**Motion of Signal Hill**" and the draft bill that was sent to Parliament by former Chief Secretary Orville London in 2016 and attached in an "**Appendix**" or "**Preamble**" to give context of how the bill was redrafted.

3) Based on the consultation from the Tobagonian public on Saturday 1st May 2021, it appears that Tobagonians wanted independence from Trinidad rather than Tobago be a federated entity as highlighted in resolution 3 in the "**Motion of Signal Hill**". The details of a federal entity should be defined in the preamble to indicate the difference between Tobago Self Government as a federated entity vs. an independent entity if the Joint Select Committee believes that the "**Motion of Signal Hill**" be utilized to redraft the "**Draft constitution (Amendment) (Tobago Self Government) 2020 and the Draft Tobago Island Administration Bill 2021**".

4) The bill should include a glossary where new terms are reflected for old terms e.g. Premier - has been changed from the "**Chief Secretary of Tobago**" based on legal framework etc. The legal framework should indicate why the old term is necessary for change in drafting the bill.

5) Clause 3 (2) "**A reference to Tobago means**" - The Joint Select Committee should consider a more comprehensive delineation of the boundaries of Tobago according to resolution 4 in the "**Motion of Signal**".

6) Clause 14 (1) "**In addition to any other Select Committee which the House of Assembly is empowered to appoint under this Act and its Standing Orders, the House of Assembly shall, within one calendar month after the—**". The Joint Select Committee should consider how much members there should be in each of the four committees

7) Clause 14 (2) (c) "**Appoint specialist advisers to assist in their deliberations**". The Joint Select Committee should consider how much members should be in this committee.

8) Clause 23 (1) (d) Fiscal Review Committee: Two members appointed by the Cabinet might be viewed by the Tobago population as too much Cabinet interference. Is it possible that the Joint Select Committee consider that the premier selects at least one assemblyman and the Prime Minister and the Leader of Opposition selects one member of Parliament each to be part of this committee so that the fiscal review committee in the eyes of the Tobago population be more partisan.

Miss Chairman, from the 30th April 2021 public consultation, Mr. Hochoy Charles indicated that he will provide a revised draft of the bill in two (2) weeks. Is it possible that another public consultation be held after the Joint Select committee considers Mr. Hochoy Charles team's draft and redraft the bills so that Trinbagonans public can make possible final comments to the committee?

I would like to congratulate the Joint Select Committee on the work done thus far and I hope that the bills be redrafted for another public consultation in the near future.

Regards,

Claudius Stewart