

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL, 2020

FINAL REPORT

FIRST SESSION (2020/2021) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT



Committee Mandate

Pursuant to resolutions of the House of Representatives on Monday November 09, 2020 and of the Senate on Tuesday November 17, 2020, a Joint Select Committee was established to consider the Representation of the People (Amendment) (No.2) Bill, 2020.

Committee Membership

Mrs. Camille Robinson-Regis, MP Chairman Mr. Colm Imbert, MP Member Mr. Fitzgerald Hinds, MP Member Member Ms. Shamfa Cudjoe, MP Member Mr. Davendranath Tancoo, MP Mr. Saddam Hosein, MP Member Mr. Clarence Rambharat Member Mr. Nigel de Freitas Member Mr. Randall Mitchell Member Mr. Wade Mark Member Mr. Paul Richards Member Mr. Deoroop Temal Member

Secretariat Support

Ms. Chantal La Roche, Senior Legal Officer Secretary

Ms. Sharla Elcock, Legal Officer I Assistant Secretary

Ms. Candice Ramkissoon, Legal Research Intern

Mrs. Susannah Gittens, Business Operations Assistant II

Contact

Secretary

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Date Laid in HOR: Date Laid in Senate:

HOR Paper No.: Senate Paper No.:

PARL No.: 14/3/86

INTERIM REPORTS

1. The Committee's Interim Report was presented in the Senate on Tuesday December 15, 2020. Your Committee requested and was granted a six (6) month extension to Wednesday June 30, 2021 in order to complete its work.

MEETINGS

2. Since the presentation of the Interim Report, your Committee has been unable to hold any meetings.

WORK TO DATE

- 3. Due to its inability to hold meetings, the Committee has been unable to advance its work schedule. However, the Committee agreed, at the request of stakeholders, to extend the deadline for written submissions from its stakeholders to March 1, 2021.
- 4. Submissions on the Bill were received from:
 - The Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute (TTTI);
 - The Progressive Party;
 - The Movement for Social Justice (MSJ);
 - The Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT);
 - The Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago (FIUTT);
 - The Media Association of Trinidad and Tobago (MATT);
 - The National Joint Action Committee (NJAC);
 - The Trinidad & Tobago Publishers & Broadcasters Association (TTPBA);
 - CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (CARICOM IMPACS);
 - The Organisation of the American States (OAS).
 - Mr. Allan Karim;
 - Mr. Dan Russell Ethan Martineau, BSc, MBA; and
 - Mr. Nigel Henry.
- Submissions are still outstanding from major political parties, as well as other key stakeholders such as The Election and Boundaries Commission (the 'EBC') and the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago.

REPORT

6. The Committee wishes to report that it is desirous of receiving submissions from a wider cross section of stakeholders, as well as input from key stakeholders who will be directly affected by the proposed legislation, particularly major political parties and the EBC.

- 7. Moreover, your Committee will require additional time to solicit stakeholders' submissions and comments in order to conduct a fulsome clause-by-clause analysis of the Bill.
- 8. Consequently, in accordance with Standing Orders 114(1) and 104(1) of the House of Representatives and the Senate respectively, your Committee wishes to report that due to the imminent prorogation of the First Session of the Twelfth Parliament, it is unable to complete its work. However, your Committee has made considerable progress in advancing the Committee's work schedule.

RECOMMENDATION

- Your Committee therefore recommends the resumption of proceedings on the Representation of the People (Amendment) (No.2) Bill, 2020, in the Second Session, Twelfth Parliament.
- 10. Your Committee also asks that the House take note of the work achieved and the progress made by the Committee thus far and that a Committee be appointed in the Second Session to continue work on the Bill and adopt as part of its records, all work completed to date.

Respectfully submitted,

SGD.

Mrs. Camille Robinson-Regis, MP

Chairman

June 28, 2021