



PARLIAMENT
REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

SECOND SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT (2016/2017)

SECOND INTERIM REPORT
OF
THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE
APPOINTED TO CONSIDER AND REPORT ON THE GAMBLING (GAMING AND
BETTING) CONTROL BILL, 2016

Ordered to be printed

TOGETHER WITH THE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

PARL: 14/3/70

HOR PAPER NO: / 2017

SENATE PAPER NO: /2017

MANDATE

1. Pursuant to resolutions of the House of Representatives on Friday February 3, 2017 and Senate on Tuesday February 7, 2017, a Joint Select Committee was established:

“to consider and report on a Bill entitled the “Gambling (Gaming and Betting) Control Bill, 2016”; and...to report within six weeks, that is to say, on or before March 17, 2017.”

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

2. The following persons were appointed to serve on the Committee:

- Mr. Colm Imbert, MP
- Mr. Faris Al-Rawi, MP
- Mr. Stuart Young, MP
- Ms. Nicole Olivierre, MP
- Mr. Ganga Singh, MP
- Mr. Rudranath Indarsingh, MP
- Ms. Melissa Ramkissoon
- Mr. Foster Cummings
- Mr. W. Michael Coppin
- Mr. Wade Mark
- Mrs. Paula Gopee-Scoon
- Mr. Paul Richards

CHAIRMANSHIP

3. At its first meeting on Monday February 13, 2017, your Committee elected **Mr. Colm Imbert** to be its Chair, in accordance with Standing Order 97(3) (House of Representatives) and 87(3) (Senate).

SECRETARIAT AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

4. Ms. Chantal La Roche, Legal Officer II, was assigned as Secretary to the Committee and Ms. Vahini Jainarine, Legal Officer I, Assistant Secretary.

INTERIM REPORT

5. An Interim Report of your Committee was adopted in the House of Representatives on Wednesday March 15, 2017 and in the Senate on Tuesday March 21, 2017. Your Committee requested and was granted a ten (10) week extension to complete its mandate. This extension will expire on May 19, 2017.

MEETINGS

6. Since the adoption of the Interim Report, your Committee held one (1) meeting on Wednesday April 5, 2017.

7. The Minutes of the Meeting is attached at **Appendix I**.

WORK TO DATE

8. At its Fourth meeting held on Wednesday April 5, 2017, your Committee reviewed and discussed stakeholder submissions and agreed to grant an extension of time to the following stakeholders:
 - Instant Winner's Members Club;
 - Commissioner of Police of Trinidad and Tobago; and
 - The Banker's Association of Trinidad and Tobago.
9. To date written submissions on the Bill have been received from twenty (20) stakeholders and eight (8) members of the public.
10. During discussions your Committee recognised that it would be a challenge to satisfactorily consider and report to Parliament on the Bill without the assistance of an expert consultant to assist the Committee with its deliberations on the Bill.

REPORT

11. The Committee wishes to report that the process of compilation and consideration of stakeholder submissions on the Bill and draft Regulations is still in progress.
12. However, due to the intensity of the schedule of Parliamentary sittings since its last report, the work of the Committee has not progressed as expected.
13. As such, the Committee requires additional time to complete this exercise, commence a clause by clause analysis of the Bill and to compile its proposed amendments, and is therefore unable to submit its final report by the deadline of May 19, 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

14. Your Committee humbly requests a further period of six (6) weeks to complete its work and to submit a final report to Parliament by **June 30, 2017**.
15. During this period, the Committee proposes to continue its work by meeting with the various stakeholders and commencing the clause by clause analysis of the Bill in collaboration with the Chief Parliamentary Counsel Department of the Ministry of the Attorney General.

Respectfully submitted,

Sgd.
Mr. Colm Imbert, MP
Chairman
May 19, 2017

APPENDIX I



**JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE GAMBLING (GAMING AND BETTING)
CONTROL BILL, 2016**

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING HELD IN THE A.N.R ROBINSON
MEETING ROOM (WEST), LEVEL 9, PARLIAMENT, TOWER D, PORT OF SPAIN
INTERNATIONAL WATERFRONT CENTRE, #1A WRIGHTSON ROAD, PORT OF
SPAIN ON April 5, 2017 AT 10:30A.M.**

PRESENT

Committee Members

Mr. Colm Imbert, MP	-	Chairman
Mr. Faris Al-Rawi, MP	-	Vice-Chairman
Mr. Ganga Singh, MP	-	Member
Mr. Rudranath Indarsingh, MP	-	Member
Ms. Nicole Olivierre, MP	-	Member
Mr. Paul Richards	-	Member
Mr. W. Michael Coppin	-	Member
Ms. Melissa Ramkissoon	-	Member
Mr. Stuart Young, MP	-	Member

Secretariat

Ms. Chantal La Roche	-	Secretary
Ms. Vahini Jainarine	-	Assistant Secretary

ABSENT/EXCUSED

Mrs. Paula Gopee-Scoon	-	Member
Mr. Wade Mark	-	Member
Mr. Foster Cummings	-	Member

COMMENCEMENT

1.1 The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 10:45 a.m.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 The Committee considered the Minutes of the Third Meeting held on March 13, 2017.

- 2.2 The motion for the confirmation of the Minutes was moved by Ms. Nicole Olivierre and seconded by Mr. Rudranath Indarsingh and the Minutes were confirmed by the Committee.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- 3.1 As per Items 3.8 and 3.10 the Chairman informed the Committee that the draft Regulations were circulated to all Members and uploaded on the Parliament's website.
- 3.2 As per Item 4.5 the Chairman informed the Committee that the Gambling Laboratories International (GLI) Report was also circulated to all Members.

Item 4.6

- 3.3 The Chairman informed Members that written submissions had been received from twenty-three (23) stakeholders.
- 3.4 The Committee agreed to grant an extension of time to April 12, 2017 for the following stakeholders to submit written submissions:
- Instant Winner's Members Club;
 - Commissioner of Police of Trinidad and Tobago; and
 - The Banker's Association of Trinidad and Tobago.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 4.1 Discussions ensued on the way forward.
- 4.2 The Committee agreed to examine stakeholders who made written submissions to the Committee and further agreed to schedule dates and times for public hearings at a subsequent meeting.
- 4.3 The Secretariat was directed to circulate the following reports to Members:
- The Economic Assessment of a Regulated Casino Gaming Sector; and
 - Regulating Gaming in Ireland – Report of the Casino Committee.
- 4.4 The Committee recognised that it would be a challenge to satisfactorily review and consider the Bill without the assistance of an expert. The Committee therefore agreed to consider the engagement of an expert to assist the Committee with its deliberations on the Bill.

4.5 It was agreed that Members should submit nominations for a specialist expert and/or proposed qualifications of the expert to the Secretariat on or before April 12, 2017.

4.6 The Committee agreed that its next meeting date and time would be determined by round robin.

ADJOURNMENT

5.1 The Chairman thanked Members and adjourned the meeting.

5.2 The adjournment was taken at 11:08 a.m.

I certify that these Minutes are true and correct.

Chairman

Secretary

April 5, 2017