



Unity of The People

Unity, Transparency, Accountability and Equality for ALL

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The Chairman
Joint Select Committee on The Constitution (Amendment)
(Tobago Self Government) Bill 2020
Office of the Parliament
Parliament Complex,
Cabildo Building,
St. Vincent Street,
Port of Spain,
Trinidad.
04/05/2021.

Dear Committee,

Greetings to all members of the committee from the Political Leader Nickocy Phillips and Executives to Unity of the People.

On the second meeting of the JSC in Tobago, Political Leader Nickocy Phillips expressed some concerns in regards to The Tobago Amendment Bill along with other stakeholders. Most of the concerns raised by the PDP, PNM, and other entities are jointly an expression of the same concerns we had. To reiterate these concerns in writing will just be made to be repetitive. I believe that Tobago always gets the bad end of the stick and we are always subjected to laws made that don't represent what we the people of Tobago desire.

It's very unfortunate Tobago only had three days of consultation with the JSC for us to address our concerns in such a short period and we are hereby joining with the other Political Leader's, Stakeholders and others to request that the JSC postpone it's submission for Monday 31st May, 2021 to the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. We are of the firm view that the JSC should give the following entities the time to hold meetings and come together to agree on a drafted bill that will benefit the people of Tobago. And the entities are listed as follows:

1. The 12 Assemblymen
2. All Political Leaders old and new
3. Stakeholders
4. The Business Sector
5. Non Partisan and Government Committee.

Our Major concerns in addition from the bill presented to us are:

- a. A clearer definition of Tobago.
- b. Lingering Authority the Cabinet still has over the THA.
- c. Equality of Stocks
- d. Tobago and Border line adjustments. (Nautical Miles removed, why?)



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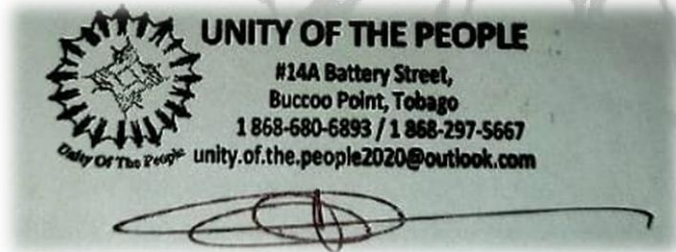
- e. The Financial Provisions / Budgetary Allocations for Tobago (inclusive of a better formula to arrive at our financial autonomy)
- f. Why no control over the met office but with the Public Utilities?

In Closing the Political Leader will like to thank the committee for its continued service not only on behalf of the Government, but to the people of Tobago for at least attempting such initiative to trying to make Tobago achieve its autonomy and self governance Through this proposed bill. This pandemic has shown us that we are not above the law, enemies come in different shape and forms and fighting amongst each other will not make us achieve the greater goal, which is to give Tobago what it deserves. Presenting this bill and not giving us the Tobagonian Leaders and people time, will only come as another thief in the night to us. This Covid Pandemic has already put the people of Tobago through a mental state, not having a THA Constituted Assembly.

The true engine of growth in our nation is not the Government; it's the ingenuity of the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. And the ignorance of one style of leadership and authority impairs the security of all. This is why we the Executive and Political Leader to Unity of the People is requesting that on Monday 31st May, 2021 you the committee will join us and postpone this debate until further discussions and a final approved draft can be made and approved by all sectors of the Tobago society to be done and finally be put forward to you the committee to be debated and approved by the parliament.

Thanking you in advance and we do hope that you accept our request and favor us Tobagonians with a fruitful response on Monday in the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago.

Yours Respectfully



Political Leader Nickocy Phillips
Unity of the People