



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Friday, Twenty-ninth Day of July, 2022

1. The House met at 9.30 a.m. pursuant to adjournment.

2. Hon. Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer.

3. MEMBERS PRESENT

All Honourable Members were present except for the Hon. Parveen Bala, Hon. Rosy Akbar, Hon. Adi Litia Qionibaravi, Hon. Peceli Vosanibola, Hon. Pio Tikoduadua, Hon. Salote Radrodro and Hon. Inosi Kuridrani.

Virtual Attendance: Hon. Rohit Sharma.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Inia Seruiratu moved that the Minutes of the sitting of Parliament held on Thursday, 28 July 2022, as previously circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Hon. Speaker welcomed all Honourable Members, those in the public gallery and those watching the live broadcast of the proceedings.

6. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

(a) The Hon. Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development, pursuant to the resolution of Parliament on Friday, 15 July 2022, moved that the following consequential Bills be debated, voted upon and be passed –

1. Tax Administration (Budget Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 28 of 2022);
2. Income Tax (Budget Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 29 of 2022);
3. Value Added Tax (Budget Amendment) (No. 3) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 30 of 2022);
4. Customs (Budget Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 31 of 2022);
5. Customs Tariff (Budget Amendment) (No. 3) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 32 of 2022);
6. Excise (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 33 of 2022);
7. Superyacht Charter (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 34 of 2022);
8. Tertiary Scholarships and Loans (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 35 of 2022);
9. Insurance (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 36 of 2022);
10. Veterinary Surgeons (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 37 of 2022); and
11. Fisheries (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 38 of 2022).

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Votes cast –

Yes	–	28*
No	–	12
Not Voted	–	10

Motion agreed to.

[*Includes the vote from the Virtual Attendee]

The following Bills –

1. A Bill for an Act to amend the Tax Administration Act 2009 (Bill No. 28 of 2022);
2. A Bill for an Act to amend the Income Tax Act 2015 (Bill No. 29 of 2022);
3. A Bill for an Act to amend the Value Added Tax Act 1991 (Bill No. 30 of 2022);

4. A Bill for an Act to amend the Customs Act 1986 (Bill No. 31 of 2022);
5. A Bill for an Act to amend the Customs Tariff Act 1986 (Bill No. 32 of 2022);
6. A Bill for an Act to amend the Excise Act 1986 (Bill No. 33 of 2022);
7. A Bill for an Act to amend the Superyacht Charter Act 2010 (Bill No. 34 of 2022);
8. A Bill for an Act to amend the Tertiary Scholarships and Loans Act 2014 (Bill No. 35 of 2022);
9. A Bill for an Act to amend the Insurance Act 1998 (Bill No. 36 of 2022);
10. A Bill for an Act to amend the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1956 (Bill No. 37 of 2022); and
11. Fisheries (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 38 of 2022),

enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

- (b) The Hon. Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development, pursuant to the resolution of Parliament on Monday, 25 July 2022, moved that the following Bills be debated, voted upon and be passed –

1. Television (Cross-Carriage of Designated Events) (Repeal) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 39 of 2022);
2. Telecommunications (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 40 of 2022);
3. Illicit Drugs Control (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 41 of 2022);
4. Fiji National Provident Fund (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 42 of 2022);
5. Pharmacy Profession (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 43 of 2022); and
6. Medicinal Products (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 44 of 2022).

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Votes cast –

Yes	–	23*
No	–	7
Not Voted	–	20

Motion agreed to.

[*Includes the vote from the Virtual Attendee]

The following Bills –

1. A Bill for an Act to repeal the Television (Cross-Carriage of Designated Events) Act 2014 (Bill No. 39 of 2022);
2. A Bill for an Act to amend the Telecommunications Act 2008 (Bill No. 40 of 2022);
3. A Bill for an Act to amend the Illicit Drugs Control Act 2004 (Bill No. 41 of 2022);
4. A Bill for an Act to amend the Fiji National Provident Fund Act 2011 (Bill No. 42 of 2022);
5. A Bill for an Act to amend the Pharmacy Profession Act 2011 (Bill No. 43 of 2022); and
6. A Bill for an Act to amend the Medicinal Products Act 2011 (Bill No. 44 of 2022),

enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

- (c) The Hon. Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development, pursuant to the resolution of Parliament on Tuesday, 26 July 2022, moved that the following Bills be debated, voted upon and be passed –

1. Media Industry Development (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 45 of 2022); and
2. Water Authority of Fiji (Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (Bill No. 46 of 2022).

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Votes cast –

Yes	–	23*
No	–	6
Not Voted	–	21

Motion agreed to.

[*Includes the 2 votes from the Virtual Attendees]

The following Bills –

1. A Bill for an Act to amend the Media Industry Development Act 2010 (Bill No. 45 of 2022); and

2. A Bill for an Act to amend the Water Authority of Fiji Act 2007 (Bill No. 46 of 2022),

enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

7. PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND CERTAIN DOCUMENTS

The following reports were tabled and referred accordingly to the appropriate Standing Committees –

(a) Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights

- (i) Parliament of the Republic of Fiji – Annual Report 2017-2018; and
- (ii) The Electoral Commission – 2020 and 2021 Annual Reports.

(b) Standing Committee on Social Affairs

- (i) Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji – 2020 Annual Report;
- (ii) Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management – Annual Report 2016-2018; and
- (iii) Land Transport Authority – 2014 to 2017 Annual Reports.

(c) Standing Committee on Economic Affairs

- (i) Fiji Revenue and Customs Service – Annual Report 2018-2019; and
- (ii) Energy Fiji Limited – 2021 Annual Report;
- (iii) Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission – Annual Report 2018-2019; and
- (iv) Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism – Annual Report 2018-2019.

(d) Standing Committee of Foreign Affairs and Defence

- (i) Ministry of Defence and National Security – 2017-2018 Annual Report.

(e) Standing Committee on Natural Resources

- (i) Ministry of Agriculture – 2018-2019 Annual Report.

Hon. Speaker informed Honourable Members that the Third Quarter Appropriation Statement – Actual Expenditure 1 February 2022 – 30 April 2022 was for information only and would not be referred to any Standing Committee.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Inia Seruiratu, moved that Parliament adjourns until Monday, 29 August 2022 at 9.30 a.m.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

Hon. Speaker adjourned Parliament until Monday, 29 August 2022 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 5.18 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

29th July, 2022.