



Statement by Hon Roy McTaggart, The Leader of the Opposition

Speaker Bush Again Promises To Resign.

October 5th, 2022 (8:00 pm)

A statement from the Speaker to Radio Cayman late Wednesday evening stating that he is resigning effective November 30th is unacceptable to the Opposition and should be unacceptable to every member of Parliament. We are of the view that it will also be unacceptable to the majority of the public.

Further, this is the second pronouncement of the Speaker that he will resign. Where is the resignation letter?

The Deputy Speaker wrote to me at 4:55 pm this afternoon advising that she has been too busy with constituents matters to provide reasons for her refusal to approve our lack of confidence in the Speaker motion. She has said that she “will provide the detailed explanation for refusing the motion of lack of confidence in the Speaker no later than 12:00pm on Thursday 6th October 2022. “

We look forward to her response.

I again confirm that the motion of a Lack of Confidence in the Speaker complies in every material respect with the Standing Orders of Parliament.

One media house inaccurately suggested that the lack of confidence motion against the speaker that we filed on Friday, September 30, was filed out of time. In fact, the motion was filed timely within the “five clear days” allowed under the standing orders. Clear



days exclude the day the motion is filed, and the day Parliament would meet. Section 8 of the Interpretation Act states that only Sundays and Public holidays are 'excluded' days and cannot be included when computing notice period of 6 days or less. As such counting from Saturday Oct 1, skipping Sunday, to Thursday Oct 6, provides for the five clear days necessary to be in time.

In addition, our motion was filed in accordance with the letter from the Clerk advising that the Parliament would be meeting on Friday October 7, 2022, at 10am. Further the Clerk's letter stated that "the deadline for submission of Motions is now 5pm on Friday 30 September 2022." The same date we filed our motion.

We insist that our motion of a lack of confidence in the Speaker must be heard. It would be both an affront to democratic principles and a breach of good governance for our motion to be hi-jacked by the Deputy Speaker.

It should be noted that the purported resignation of the Speaker will not take effect for another two months, if at all.

The lack of confidence motion will bring clarity and certainty to this unfortunate situation as well as ensure confidence in the Parliament.

~END~