



Statement by Hon Roy McTaggart, The Leader of the Opposition

Refusal of the Lack of Confidence in the Speaker Motion

October 5th, 2022

This afternoon I received a notice from the Clerk of Parliament notifying me that the Deputy Speaker of Parliament disapproved the motion on “Lack of Confidence in the Speaker” filed by myself and seconded by Ms. Barbara Conolly the Parliamentary Representative for George Town South. This motion was to be tabled in the upcoming sitting of Parliament on Friday October 7, 2022.

Despite calls for the resignation of the Speaker of House from various individuals in the Cayman Islands, including the Premier and the Governor, no reason was given for not allowing this important motion for debate. I, along with my colleagues, believe that this motion deals with a matter which is of grave concern to all those who are resident in the Cayman Islands, but also to those who do business here.

The motion complies in every material respect with the Standing Orders of the House, and it is therefore surprising and alarming that it appears to have been disapproved arbitrarily as no reason was given.

This action in my experience is unprecedented. As a result, we have written to the Deputy Speaker, Mrs. Kathryn Ebanks-Wilks, requesting her to provide the substantive reasons for not accepting the motion on “Lack of Confidence in the Speaker”.

The Cayman Islands over the years has been a sound democracy. It should be noted that in the Westminster Parliamentary systems an official like the Speaker should remain in office only so long as he/she enjoys the confidence of the majority of the elected members.

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