

26/7/21

21st June 2021
CHIEF CLERK
House of Assembly



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Article 129(1) of the Constitution requires the Minister of Finance, before the end of each financial year, to cause to be prepared annual estimates of revenue and expenditure for public services during the succeeding financial year, which shall be laid before the House of Assembly and which estimates have been laid before the House of Assembly;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to undertake additional borrowings to finance the deficiency of revenue over expenditure in the 2021/2022 estimates of revenue and expenditure which have been laid before the House of Assembly;

AND WHEREAS section 4 of The Bahamas Registered Stock Act (*Ch. 362*) prescribes the conditions under which the Minister of Finance may raise any sum of money or part thereof by the creation and issue of registered stock;

AND WHEREAS from time to time the House of Assembly has approved borrowing by way of loan agreements with banks to finance approved expenditure;

AND WHEREAS section 3 of the Development Loans Act (*Ch. 382*) prescribes the conditions under which the Minister of Finance may borrow monies externally or internally in currency of the United States of America effected and secured by the issue and sale of bonds;

AND WHEREAS by section 18 of the Financial Administration and Audit Act, 2010 (*No. 26 of 2010*), it is provided that no loans shall be raised by the Government and no guarantees involving a financial liability shall be binding upon the Government unless entered into with the prior approval, signified by resolution, of the House of Assembly thereof:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House —

- (1) authorizes the Minister of Finance to raise the sum of eight hundred seventy one million six hundred and forty five thousand three hundred and seventy one dollars (\$871,645,371) in such currency as the Minister may determine by way of loan or loans;
- (2) authorizes the Minister to raise such amount by way of —
 - (a) creation and issue of registered stock under section 4 of The Bahamas Registered Stock Act (*Ch. 362*);
 - (b) loan agreements with banks, including commercial banks and international financial institutions on such terms as are mutually agreed; and
 - (c) the issue and sale of bonds under section 3 of the Development Loans Act (*Ch. 382*);

subject to the provisions that the total sum borrowed under paragraphs (a) - (c) does not exceed the sum of eight hundred seventy one million six hundred forty five thousand three hundred and seventy one dollars (\$871,645,371) except such amounts as may be necessary to amortize or refinance existing debt and the House receives communication from the Minister of Finance at the earliest opportunity after the apportionment among paragraphs (a), (b) and (c); and

- (3) approves the proceeds of the said loans being used for the purposes of defraying expenditure in the 2021/2022 estimates of revenue and expenditure, in excess of revenue.