

forfeit the amount of the value of the fee, compensation, gift or reward accepted by him.

Journals printed by order of the Assembly to be admitted as evidence.

21. Upon any enquiry touching the privileges, immunities and powers of the Assembly or of any member, any copy of the journals printed or purporting to be printed by any printer authorised by the Governor shall be admitted as evidence of such journals in all courts and places without any proof being given that such copy was so printed.

Penalty for printing false copy of Law, Journals, etc.

22. Whoever prints or causes to be printed a copy of any Law now or hereafter in force, or a copy of any report, paper, minutes or votes and proceedings of the Assembly as purporting to have been printed by any printer authorised by the Governor or by the President, and the same is not so printed, or tenders in evidence any such copy as purporting to be so printed knowing that the same was not so printed, is guilty of an offence and liable upon summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years.

Protection of persons responsible for publications authorized by the Assembly.

23. Whoever being a defendant in any civil or criminal proceedings instituted for or on account or in respect of the publication by such person or by his servant, by order under the authority of the Assembly, of any reports, papers, minutes, votes or proceedings, may, on giving to the plaintiff or prosecutor, as the case may be, twenty-four hours' written notice of his intention, bring before the court in which such civil or criminal proceedings are being held a certificate under the hand of the President stating that the reports, papers, minutes, votes or proceedings in respect whereof such civil or criminal proceedings have been instituted were published by such person or by his servant by order or under the authority of the Assembly together with an affidavit certifying such certificate, and such court shall thereupon immediately stay such civil or criminal proceedings and the same and every process issued therein shall be deemed to be finally determined.

Publication of proceedings without malice.

24. In any civil or criminal proceedings instituted for publishing any extract from or abstract of any report, paper, minutes, votes or proceedings referred to in section 23, if the court or jury, as the case may be, be satisfied that such extract or abstract was published bona fide and without malice, judgment or verdict, as the case may be, shall be entered for the defendant or accused.

Powers of President supplementary to powers under Constitution.

25. The powers of the President under this Law are supplementary to the powers conferred on him by the Cayman Islands (Constitution) Order in Council, 1972 and by Standing Orders.

Courts not to exercise jurisdiction over acts of President and members.

26. Neither the President nor any member is subject to the jurisdiction of any court in respect of the exercise of any power conferred on or vested in him by this Law.

Civil process not to be served within precincts of Assembly.

27. Notwithstanding anything provided by any other Law to the contrary, no process issued by any court of the Islands in exercise of its civil jurisdiction may be served or executed within the precincts of the Assembly while it is sitting or through the President, the Clerk or any member.

Published in revised form this 22nd day of November, 1976.

**JENNY MANDERSON**  
Clerk of the Executive Council.

CAYMAN ISLANDS



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**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
**(IMMUNITIES, POWERS AND PRIVILEGES)**  
**LAW**  
**(Law 24 of 1965)**  
**(Revised)**

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (IMMUNITIES, POWERS AND PRIVILEGES) LAW**  
**(No. 24 of 1965)**

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etc.

*Legislative Assembly [Immunities, Powers and Privileges] Law [R]* — 7

unless such attendance or production be excused as hereinbefore provided; or

(b) refuses to be examined before, or to answer any lawful and relevant question put by the Assembly or a committee unless such refusal be excused as hereinbefore provided; or

(c) offers to any member of the Assembly any bribe, fee, compensation, gift or reward in order to influence him in his conduct as such member, or for or in respect of the promotion of or opposition to any bill, resolution, matter, rules or things submitted to or intended to be submitted to the Assembly; or

(d) assaults, obstructs or insults any member coming to or going from the precincts of the Assembly, or endeavours to compel any member by force, insult or menace to declare himself in favour of or against any proposition or matter pending or expected to be brought before the Assembly; or

(e) assaults, interferes with, resists or obstructs the Clerk while in the execution of his duty; or

(f) creates or joins in any disturbance which interrupts or is likely to interrupt the proceedings of the Assembly while the Assembly is sitting; or

(g) presents to the Assembly or a committee any false, untrue, fabricated or falsified document with intent to deceive the Assembly,

is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$100 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or both.

(2) Whoever —

- (a) publishes any statement, whether in writing or otherwise, which falsely or scandalously defames the Assembly or any committee, or which reflects on the character of the President or the chairman of a committee in the discharge of his duty as such; or
- (b) publishes any writing containing a gross, wilful or scandalous misrepresentation of the proceedings of the Assembly or a committee or of the speech of any member in the proceedings of the Assembly or a committee; or
- (c) publishes any writing containing any false or scandalous libel on any member touching his conduct as a member; or
- (d) publishes any report or statement purporting to be a report of the proceedings of the Assembly in any case where such proceedings have been conducted after exclusion of the public by order of the Assembly,

is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$800 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months or both.

19. No prosecution for an offence under this Law shall be instituted except with the written sanction of the Attorney-General.

20. A member who accepts or receives either directly or indirectly any fee, compensation, gift or reward for or in respect of the promotion of or opposition to any bill, resolution, matter or thing submitted or intended to be submitted for the consideration of the Assembly is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction upon indictment before the Grand Court to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or both and in addition shall

- (a) the right or power of the Assembly or a committee to hear, admit or receive oral evidence; or
- (b) the right or power of the Assembly or a committee to peruse or examine any paper, book, record, or document or to summon, direct or call upon any person to produce any paper, book, record or document before the Assembly or committee; or
- (c) the right or privilege of any person (including a member of the Assembly or committee) to refuse to produce any paper, book, record or document or to lay any paper, book, record or document before the Assembly or committee,

that question shall, subject to the foregoing provisions of this Law, and except in so far as express provision is made in these provisions for the determination of that question, be determined in accordance with the usage and practice of the Commons House of Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Right to enter Assembly.

13. No stranger is entitled, as of right, to enter or to remain within the precincts of the Assembly.

Power of appropriate authority to regulate admittance to the Assembly.

14. (1) The President may issue such orders as he deems necessary for the regulation of the admittance of strangers to the precincts of the Assembly.  
(2) Copies of orders made by the President under this section shall be duly authenticated by the Clerk and exhibited in a conspicuous position in the precincts of the Assembly to which they relate; and such copies, when so authenticated and exhibited, shall be sufficient notice to all persons affected thereby.

Power of President to order withdrawal from Assembly.

15. The President may at any time order any stranger to withdraw from the precincts of the Assembly.

False evidence

16. Whoever before the Assembly or any committee intentionally gives a false answer to any question material to the subject of enquiry put to him during the course of any examination is guilty of an offence —

Law 12 of 1975.

- (a) if such answer was given on oath, against section 92 of the Penal Code; or
- (b) if such answer was given otherwise than on oath, against section 91 of the Penal Code.

Law 12 of 1975.

Offences relating to admittance to the Assembly.

17. Whoever —  
(1) being a stranger enters or attempts to enter the precincts of the Assembly in contravention of any order of the President; or  
(2) being a stranger fails or refuses to withdraw from the precincts of the Assembly when ordered to withdraw therefrom by the President; or  
(3) being a stranger contravenes any rule made by the President under the Standing Orders; or  
(4) attends any sitting of the Assembly as the representative of any journal after the general permission granted under Standing Orders to the representative or representatives of that journal has been revoked,

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is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$50 or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three months, or both.

Other offences.

18. (1) Whoever —  
(a) disobeys an order made by the Assembly or a committee for attendance or for production of papers, books, documents or records,

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (IMMUNITIES, POWERS AND PRIVILEGES) LAW

(Consolidated with Law 35 of 1965 and revised under the authority of the Law Revision Law ).

Originally enacted

Law 24 of 1965

5 June 1965.

Law 35 of 1965

18 October 1965.

Published in revised form the 22nd day of November, 1976.

Short title.

1 — This Law may be cited as the Legislative Assembly (Immunities, Powers and Privileges) Law (Revised).

Interpretation.

2 — In this Law unless the context otherwise requires —

“Assembly” means the Legislative Assembly of the Islands;

“Clerk” means the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly;

“committee” means a standing, select, special or other committee appointed by a resolution of the Assembly;

“journals” means the minutes of the Assembly and the official record of the votes or proceedings thereof;

“meeting” means the whole or any part of a session, irrespective of adjournments, at which the business set out in the Business Paper for the meeting is disposed of;

“member” means a member of the Assembly;

“officer of the Assembly” means a person appointed to the staff of the Assembly whether permanently or temporarily and includes the Clerk and the Sergeant at Arms on duty within the precincts of the Assembly;

“precincts of the Assembly” means the entire building in which the Assembly sits in session for the transaction of business, together with the offices and galleries provided for the use and accommodation of strangers, members of the public and representatives of the press;

“President” means the President of the Legislative Assembly and includes the Deputy President and any other member when such other member is presiding at a meeting of the Legislative Assembly;

“Session” means the meetings of the Assembly commencing when the Assembly first meets after being constituted, or after its prorogation or dissolution at any time, and terminating when the Assembly is prorogued or is dissolved without having been prorogued;

“Standing Orders” means the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly in force from time to time;

“stranger” means a person other than a member or officer of the Assembly.

Immunity from legal proceedings.

3. No civil or criminal proceedings may be instituted against any member for words spoken before, or written in a report to, the Assembly of which he is a member or to a committee thereof or by reason of any matter or things brought by him therein by petition, bill, resolution, motion or otherwise.

Privileges.

4. No member is liable for arrest for any civil debt (except a debt the contracting of which constitutes a criminal offence) whilst going to, attending at or returning from a meeting of the Assembly or any committee.

Power to procure attendance of witness.

5. (1) The Assembly or any standing committee may, subject to sections 9 and 12, or any person to attend before and give evidence or produce any paper, book, record or document in his possession or control.

(2) The powers conferred by subsection (1) on a standing committee may be exercised by any other committee which is specially authorised by a resolution of the Assembly by which such committee is appointed to exercise such powers in respect of any matter or question specified in the resolution.

Order to attend to be notified by summons.

6. (1) Any order to attend to give evidence or to produce documents before the Assembly or a committee shall be notified to the person required to attend or to produce documents by a summons under the hand of the Clerk issued by the direction of the President.

(2) In every summons under subsection (1) there shall be stated the time when and the place where the person summoned is required to attend and the particular documents which he is required to produce and the summons shall be served on him either by delivering to him a copy thereof or by leaving a copy thereof at his usual or last known place of abode in the Islands, with some adult person; and there shall be paid or tendered to the person so summoned, if he does not reside within four miles of the place of attendance specified in the summons, such sum for his expenses as may be prescribed by Standing Orders or authorised by order of the Assembly.

(3) A summons under this section may be served by a constable.

Witnesses may be examined on oath.

7. The Assembly or any committee may require that any facts, matters and things relating to the subject of enquiry before such Assembly or such committee be verified or otherwise ascertained by the oral examination of witnesses, and may cause any such witnesses to be examined upon oath which the President or the chairman of the committee, as the case may be, or other person specially appointed for that purpose, is hereby authorised to administer.

Objection to answer questions or to produce papers.

8. (1) Where any person ordered to attend, to give evidence or to produce any paper, book, record or document before the Assembly refuses to answer any question put to him or to produce any such paper, book, record or document on the ground that it is of a private nature and does not affect the subject of enquiry, the President may excuse the answering of such question or the production of such paper, book, record or document, or may order the answering or production thereof.

(2) Where any person ordered to attend or to give evidence or to produce

Privileges of witnesses.

9. (1) Every person summoned to attend to give evidence or to produce any paper, book, record or document before the Assembly or a committee is entitled, in respect of such evidence or the disclosure of any communication or the production of any such paper, book, record or document, to the same right or privilege as before the Grand Court.

(2) Except with the consent of the Governor no public officer shall —

(a) produce before the Assembly or a committee any such paper, book, record or document; or

(b) give before the Assembly or a committee evidence on any such matter,

as relates to or forms part of the correspondence of any naval, military, air force or civil department or to any matter affecting the public service: nor shall secondary evidence be received by or produced before the Assembly or a committee of the contents of any such paper, book, record or document.

Certificate issued to witnesses making full disclosure to be a bar to proceedings.

10. (1) A witness before the Assembly or a committee who answers fully and faithfully any questions put to him by the Assembly or such committee to its satisfaction is entitled to receive a certificate stating that he was upon his examination so required to answer and did answer any such question.

(2) A certificate under subsection (1) of this section shall, in the case of a witness before the Assembly, be under the hand of the President, and in the case of a witness before any committee be under the hand of the chairman thereof.

(3) On production of such certificate to any court of law such court shall stay any proceedings, civil or criminal, except for a charge under sections 91 or 92 of the Penal Code, against such witness by reasons of anything which he may have said in such evidence, and may, in its discretion, award to such witness such expenses as he may have been put to.

(4) Except in proceedings under sections 91 or 92 of the Penal Code no statement made by any person in evidence given before the Assembly or a committee is admissible in evidence against that person in any civil or criminal proceedings.

Evidence of proceedings in Assembly or committee not to be given without leave.

11. (1) No evidence relating to any of the following matters, that is to say —

(a) debates or proceedings in the Assembly;

(b) the contents of the minutes of evidence taken or any document laid before the Assembly or a committee or any proceedings of or before, or any examination had before, the Assembly or any such committee, is admissible in any proceedings before a court or a person authorised by law to take evidence unless the court or such last mentioned person is satisfied that permission has been granted by the President for such evidence to be given.

(2) The permission referred to in subsection (1) may be given during a recess or adjournment by the President.

Certain questions to be determined in accordance with usage of Parliament.

12. Where at any time a question arises in the Assembly or in committee in regard —