

GOJ LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2025/2026
(as at end of the Legislative Year February 2026)

PASSED			
No.	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
1.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining	The Praedial Larceny (Prevention) (Amendment) Act, 2025	To make provision for the appointment of agricultural wardens to detect the commission of any offences under the Act and to otherwise carry out the functions prescribed under the Act, and for other matters connected therewith or incidental thereto; and strengthen the penalties to be imposed upon an offender for committing any offence under this Act.
2.	Ministry of Education, Skills, Youth and Information	The Child Care and Protection (Amendment) Act, 2025	To allow for a tiered approach that allows the court a wider choice of sentencing options, and in certain cases to specify the period of imprisonment that must be served before eligibility for parole arises. This Act is a companion measure to the Offences Against the Person (Amendment) Act, 2025.
3.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	The Public Procurement (Amendment) Act, 2025	To create greater efficiencies in public procurement.
4.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	The Appropriation (Amendment) Act, 2025	To amend The Appropriation Act, 2024, to remove expenditure classified as statutory expenditure in the 2024/2025 Estimates of Expenditure.
5.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	The Bretton Woods Agreements (Amendment) Act, 2025	To provide for the exemption of the emoluments of specified Jamaican nationals employed to the office of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank) in Jamaica from income tax.
6.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	The Large-Scale Projects and Pioneer Industries (Tax Relief) Act, 2025	To create a coherent and self-contained legislative framework for the granting of fiscal incentives in respect of large-scale projects qualifying for treatment.
7.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	The Pensions (Public Service) (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2025	To allow public officers born between 1 August 1961 and 28 February 1963, the option to retire before attaining the normal retirement age of 65, under the conditions of normal retirement.
8.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	The Tax Administration of Jamaica (Amendment) Act, 2025	To effect amendment of the Act, in respect of the requirements for the appointment to the Advisory Board.
9.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	The Income Tax (Amendment) Act, 2025	To clarify the rate of income tax applicable to companies engaged in both the provision of trust and corporate services; reduce the income tax applicable to Independent Power Producers that produce more than a specified amount of energy from specified energy

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			sources; support low-income earners as well as pensioners; and increase the allowance offered to pensioners and persons over the ages of 55 to 65.
10.	Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs	The Criminal Justice (Administration) (Amendment) Act, 2025	To amend the Criminal Justice (Administration) Act, in section 42F, to provide that, where the offence is murder, a term of life imprisonment shall be deemed to be a term of fifty years for the purposes of calculating a reduction of sentence pursuant to Part 1A of the Act, upon a plea of guilty by the defendant. This Act is a companion measure to the Offences Against the Person (Amendment) Act, 2025.
11.	Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs	The Offences Against the Person (Amendment) Act, 2025	To increase the mandatory minimum penalty specified for murder under section 3 (1) (b) of the Act and to increase the minimum periods that must be served before an offender is eligible for parole, as specified in section 3 (IC) of the principal Act.
12.	Ministry of Local Government and Community Development	The Counties and Parishes (Amendment) Act, 2025	To grant parish status to the Portmore City Municipality.
13.	Ministry of Energy, Transport and Telecommunications	The Law Reform (Amendment of Penalties) Act, 2025	To effect amendments to relevant legislation falling under the portfolio of the Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport by way of an increase in monetary penalties and term limits for custodial sentences.
14.	Ministry of Energy, Transport and Telecommunications	The Road Traffic (Amendment) Act, 2025	To create a new period of validity of the fitness and registration certificates of motor vehicles; and to facilitate the use of electronic and registration certificates for motor vehicles, and for connected matters.
15.	Ministry of Water, Environment and Climate Change	The Wild Life Protection (Amendment) Act, 2025	To amend the fines and custodial sentences.
16.	Ministry of Water, Environment and Climate Change	The Natural Resources Conservation Authority (Amendment) Act, 2025	To amend the fines and custodial sentences.

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BEFORE PARLIAMENT			
No.	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
17.	Ministry of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development	Registration (Shared Communities) Bill	To establish a legal framework for the ownership of common or shared areas, outline the roles and responsibilities of the parties pursuant to the legal framework, and determine the administrative framework.
18.	Ministry of Education, Skills, Youth and Information	Jamaica Teaching Council Bill	To formalize and advance teaching as a profession; to contribute to improving the quality of teaching and learning in Jamaica by regulating the entry and standing of members of the teaching profession; to establish and maintain the registers of teachers and the Roll of Instructors; to establish and maintain professional standards for teacher competence and practice; to regulate the professional conduct of teachers to ensure, in the interest of the students and in the general public interest, that teachers are fit and proper persons to teach; to create an enabling environment for the continuing professional development of teachers; and for those purposes to establish a body to be called the Jamaica Teaching Council; and to provide for connected matters.
19.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	Assets Tax (Specified Bodies) (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Assets Tax (Specified Bodies) Act to change the date for the filing of the annual declaration of the value of assets and payment of assets tax to April 15.
20.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	Income Tax (Amendments) Bill	To facilitate a relief-support regime that allows for a non-taxable treatment of disaster-relief honorarium made by employers to employees during periods in which a declaration of disaster had been issued pursuant to section 20 of the Constitution of Jamaica and/or section 26 of the Disaster Risk Management Act.
21.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	Financial Administration and Audit (Amendment) Bill	To remove the cap of \$10 billion on the amount that could be held in the National Disaster Reserve Fund (NNDRF); and cease mandatory annual transfers from the Consolidated Fund into the NNDRF once the balance in the NNDRF reached the amount of \$10 billion.
22.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	Financial Investigations Division (Amendment) Bill	To ensure the operational independence and autonomy of the Financial Investigations Division and related matters.
23.	Ministry of Health and Wellness	Tobacco Control Bill	To enable Jamaica to be in compliance with its international obligations under the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control by making provisions for the restriction of the use of tobacco products and relevant products and the adoption and implementation of tobacco control policies.
24.	Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs	Constitution (Amendment) (Republic of Jamaica) Bill	To establish the Republic of Jamaica and other matters.

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BEFORE PARLIAMENT			
No.	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
25.	Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs	Criminal Records (Rehabilitation of Offenders) (Amendment) Bill	To: among other things, delete reference to the Dangerous Drugs Act in the Third Schedule of the Criminal Records (Rehabilitation of Offenders) Act; empower the Criminal Records (Rehabilitation of Offenders) Board ("the Board") to consider applications for expungement of offences for which the sentence imposed was greater than five years but less than ten years; and automatically expunge convictions for which non-custodial sentences were given and completed prior to 1 January 2005.
26.	Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs	Jury (Amendment) Bill	To adjust the framework governing the payment made to persons summoned to participate in the jury selection and trial by jury process for criminal and civil matters in Jamaica, as well as provide for a mechanism of continuation of trials in the absence of a jury in instances of jury tampering.
27.	Ministry of Tourism	Jamaica Tourist Board Bill	To repeal and replace the Tourist Board Act and to repeal the River Rafting Act.
28.	Office of the Prime Minister	Cybercrimes (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Cybercrimes Act in keeping with recommendations made by a Joint Select Committee (JSC) of Parliament, established to review the Act, and approved by the Houses of Parliament.
29.	Office of the Prime Minister	Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill	To allow for the holding of local government elections at the same time as the holding of a general election.

APPROVED BY CABINET FOR TABLING			
No.	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
30.	Ministry of Education, Skills, Youth and Information	Education (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Act to enable the Minister to make regulations to ensure that there is an adequate number of persons trained for appointment as principals, vice principals, heads of department and teachers with special responsibility in public educational institutions (PEIs); with the exception of tertiary institutions (i.e. tertiary-level PEIs) and to amend the Education Regulations, 1980 in relation to the criteria for appointment as principal.
31.	Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce	Jamaica Promotions Corporation (Amendment) Bill	To validate and confirm as lawful all Orders made by the Minister declaring a person to be a recognised motion picture producer; special film licences granted by the Minister to engage in film and motion picture production; fees imposed and collected by the Jamaica Film Commission (JFC) for the granting of special licences; and all other official acts done by the Minister, the Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO), the JFC and all other persons acting on behalf of the Minister, the JAMPRO and the JFC in good faith and inadvertent as to their being without statutory authority to do so, during the period from 1 January 2014 and ending on the date of coming into operation of this Act; and indemnify the Minister, the JAMPRO, the JFC and all other persons from liability in relation thereto.

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APPROVED BY CABINET FOR TABLING			
No.	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
			Also, to amend the Jamaica Promotions Corporation Act to provide for the implementation of a regulatory regime for the film and screen based audio-visual content production industry.
32.	Ministry of Local Government and Community Development	National Solid Waste (Validation and Indemnification) Bill	To validate and confirm the deductions of contributions from employees of the Authority and the payment of these contributions to the MPM Waste Management Limited Pension Plan.

BEING CONSIDERED/APPROVED BY LEGISLATION COMMITTEE			
No.	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
33.	Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce	Jamaica Consumer and Competition Authority Bill	To merge the functions of the Fair Trading Commission and the Consumer Affairs Commission and vest these functions in a new entity, the Jamaica Consumer and Competition Authority.
34.	Ministry of Energy, Transport and Telecommunications	Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill	To exempt drivers of public passenger vehicles from a requirement to transport or convey a child by use of a child restraint system.

BILLS BEING DRAFTED			
No.	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
35.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining	Conch (Export Levy) Bill	To include a facility by which the period for making the payment of the levy may be established or extended, and for payment by instalment; and provide for the retroactivity of the instrument effecting the establishment or extension of time and payment by instalment.
36.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining	Plant Health Bill	To repeal the present Plants (Quarantine) Act and replace it with legislation in line with modern phytosanitary best practices and Jamaica's international obligations under the International Plant Protection Convention.
37.	Ministry of Water, Environment and Climate Change	Forest (Amendment) Bill	To address current deficiencies in the legislation as well as the requirements set out in the Forest Policy of Jamaica and the National Forest Management and Conservation Plan.
38.	Ministry of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development	Port Authority (Validation and Indemnification) Bill	To clarify the duties and powers of the Port Authority; increase fines; and confirm previous decisions and investments of the Authority.

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BILLS BEING DRAFTED			
No.	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
39.	Ministry of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development	Quantity Surveyors (Registration) Bill	To regulate the practice of quantity surveying in Jamaica.
40.	Ministry of Water, Environment and Climate Change	Wildlife Protection (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate Jamaica's ratification of the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW Protocol) of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the wider Caribbean Region, as well as to address issues related to the illegal trade in wildlife, enforcement and other legal issues.
41.	Ministry of Education, Skills, Youth and Information	Jamaica Tertiary Education Commission Bill	To establish a body called the Jamaica Tertiary Education Commission to promote and regulate tertiary education in Jamaica; and for connected matters.
42.	Ministry of Education, Skills, Youth and Information	National Archives and Records Management Bill	To repeal and replace the Archives Act, 1982 and modernise the legislative and regulatory framework for records and information management systems across the Government of Jamaica.
43.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	General Consumption Tax (Amendment) Bill	To give effect to revenue measures for fiscal year 2025/2026.
44.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill	To give effect to the revenue measures for fiscal year 2025/2026.
45.	Ministry of Health and Wellness	Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill	To allow for the effective regulation of Natural Health Products, including nutraceuticals.
46.	Ministry of Health and Wellness	Nurses and Midwives (Amendment) Bill	To allow for the regulation of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.
47.	Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce	Limited Liabilities Companies (Amendment) Bill	To create more business options for entrepreneurs and facilitate the ease of doing business within Jamaica.
48.	Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce	Partnership (General) Bill	To create more business options for entrepreneurs and facilitate the ease of doing business within Jamaica.
49.	Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce	Partnership (Limited) Bill	To create more business options for entrepreneurs and facilitate the ease of doing business within Jamaica.
50.	Ministry of Justice and	Mediation Bill	To establish a regulatory framework for the conduct of mediation in Jamaica.

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BILLS BEING DRAFTED			
No.	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
	Constitutional Affairs		
51.	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	National Insurance (Validation, Indemnification, and Amendment) Bill	To provide for an increase in benefits payable under the Act and to validate and indemnify the actions of the officers of the Ministry and/or its agents who paid out the increases in said benefits from 1 April 2023 to 1 June 2023.
52.	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	Occupational Safety and Health Bill	To provide for the establishment of safety and health standards for all places in which economic activity is undertaken.
53.	Ministry of Local Government and Community Development	Human Services Bill	To repeal and replace the Poor Relief Act. Additionally, it seeks to abolish the Board of Supervision, transfer its functions to the Ministry with responsibility for local government and introduce new concepts reflective of a modern human services approach to poor relief.
54.	Ministry of Local Government and Community Development	National Solid Waste Management (Amendment) Bill	To increase the maximum consecutive years an appointed member may serve on the Authority, from six consecutive years to nine consecutive years. The opportunity is also being taken to amend certain provisions relating to offences and fixed penalties for greater clarity and accuracy.
55.	Office of the Prime Minister	National Housing Trust (Amendment) Bill	To make new provision for National Housing Trust contributions and related matters such as developing housing schemes for sale to contributors.
56.	Ministry of Energy, Transport and Telecommunications	Petroleum (Downstream Activities) Bill	To consolidate all existing downstream legislation and to amend the Office of Utilities Regulation Act to provide the Office with jurisdiction in respect of the regulation of the downstream natural gas sector in Jamaica.
57.	Ministry of Energy, Transport and Telecommunications	Civil Aviation (Amendment) Bill	To ensure compliance with the current International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs).
58.	Ministry of Tourism	Travel Agencies Regulation (Amendment) Bill	To reflect changes in the tourism sector, between 1956 and the present.
59.	Ministry of Tourism	Bath of St. Thomas the Apostle (Amendment) Bill; Milk River (Amendment) Bill	To pursue a long-term development lease as the divestment modality for the Bath Fountain Hotel and Spa and the Milk River Hotel and Spa.

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CABINET APPROVAL OF DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS			
No.	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
60.	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	Minimum Wage (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate compliance with the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention Concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers (C189), which Jamaica has already ratified.
61.	Ministry of National Security and Peace	Firearms (Prohibition, Restriction and Regulation) (Amendment) Bill	To improve the efficiency and administration of the legislation; streamline the penalties for specific offences under Parts II and IV; and strengthen the sentence reduction scheme to incentivise the provision of assistance to the Crown.
62.	Ministry of Energy, Transport and Telecommunications	Telecommunications (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Act in accordance with section 47(1) of the Telecommunications Act; and correct an error in the Act.
63.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement Bill	To fulfil obligations that arise under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement which were not covered by existing legislation or by amending existing legislation.
64.	Ministry of Energy, Transport and Telecommunications	Maritime Areas (Amendment) Bill	To provide that activities under Jamaica's jurisdiction or control that take place in areas beyond national jurisdiction were conducted consistently with obligations under the BBNJ Agreement.
65.	Ministry of Energy, Transport and Telecommunications	Shipping (Amendment) Bill	To provide that activities under Jamaica's jurisdiction or control that take place in areas beyond national jurisdiction were conducted consistently with obligations under the BBNJ Agreement.
66.	Ministry of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development	Natural Resources Conservation Authority (Amendment) Bill	To provide that activities under Jamaica's jurisdiction or control that take place in areas beyond national jurisdiction were conducted consistently with obligations under the BBNJ Agreement.
67.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	General Consumption Tax (Amendment) Bill	To adjust the Cost, Insurance and Freight value thresholds for Assigned Government-Owned Vehicles in furtherance of policy changes proposed to the Government of Jamaica Revised Comprehensive Motor Vehicle Policy for the Public Sector and to correctly reflect section references in the Road Traffic Act.
68.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	Customs (Amendment) Bill	To adjust the Cost, Insurance and Freight value thresholds for Assigned Government-Owned Vehicles in furtherance of policy changes proposed to the Government of Jamaica Revised Comprehensive Motor Vehicle Policy for the Public Sector and to correctly reflect section references in the Road Traffic Act.
69.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining	Geological Survey Bill	To make provisions for the definition and protection of the geological survey mandate of the Government of Jamaica; empower the Governor-General to appoint a Director of Geological Surveys as the official authority

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CABINET APPROVAL OF DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS			
No.	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
			concerning geological surveys and geological information pertaining to Jamaica and to guide the management of the country's geological information; and authorise government geologists to enter on private lands for the purpose of conducting geological surveys; and provide for matters incidental thereto.
70.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	Excise Duty Bill	To repeal and replace the Excise Duty Act.