

**GOJ Priority Legislation Programme 2024-2025  
(At Start of Legislative Year, as Submitted by Ministries)**

<b>BEFORE PARLIAMENT</b>				
<b>#</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>NAME OF LEGISLATION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
1.	1.	Ministry of Education and Youth	Jamaica Teaching Council Bill	To recognise and promote 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 register of teachers and the Roll of Instructors; to establish the Jamaica Teaching Council; and for connected matters.
2.	2.	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.
3.	3.	Ministry of Legal and Constitutional Affairs	Constitution (Amendment of Section 61) Bill	To amend section 61 of the Constitution of Jamaica to remove reference to the British Monarch in the Words of Enactment.
4.	4.	Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport	Road Traffic (Reprieve and Nullification of Prescribed Notices) (Amendment) Bill	To clarify provisions to ensure the interpretation of the Act is consistent with the original policy intent.

<b>APPROVED FOR TABLING</b>				
<b>#</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>NAME OF LEGISLATION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
5.	1.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	Financial Institutions (Resolution) Bill	To establish a framework for the recovery and orderly resolution of non-viable financial institutions and for connected matters.
6.	2.	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.

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<b>DRAFT BILL BEING REVIEWED</b>				
<b>#</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>NAME OF LEGISLATION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
7.	1.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining	Plant Health Bill	To repeal the 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.
8.	2.	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation	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.
9.	3.	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation	Port Authority (Validation and Indemnification) Bill	To clarify the duties and powers of the Port Authority of Jamaica (PAJ); increase fines; and confirm previous decisions and investments of the Authority.
10.	4.	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation	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.
11.	5.	Ministry of Education and Youth	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 leaders in public educational institutions and to amend the Education Regulations, 1980 in relation to the criteria for appointment as principal.
12.	6.	Ministry of Education and Youth	Overseas Examination Commission (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate the conduct of tests by the National Council on Technical and Vocational Education and Training as part of its broader administration of examinations processes to be performed by the OEC.
13.	7.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	Income Tax (Large Scale Projects and Pioneering Industries) Bill	To create a coherent and self-contained legislative framework for the granting of fiscal incentives in respect of large scale projects qualifying for treatment.
14.	8.	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	Public Procurement (Amendment) Bill	To create greater efficiencies in public procurement.
15.	9.	Ministry of Health and Wellness	Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill	To allow for the effective regulation of Natural Health Products, including nutraceuticals.
16.	10.	Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce	Insolvency (Amendment) Bill	To simplify the procedures relating to insolvency as well as facilitate compliance with international best practices.

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17.	11.	Ministry of Justice	Legal Aid (Amendment) Bill	To integrate the functions of the Legal Aid Council into a Department under the Ministry of Justice, in accordance with the Public Sector Transformation Action Plan.
18.	12.	Ministry of Justice	Mediation Bill	To establish a regulatory framework for the conduct of mediation in Jamaica.
19.	13.	Ministry of Justice	Notaries Public Bill	To repeal and replace the Act with one with provisions for the appointment, functions and jurisdiction of Notaries Public, and for connected matters.
20.	14.	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.
21.	15.	Ministry of Local Government and Community Development	Human Services Bill	To abolish the Board of Supervision and transfer its functions to the Ministry with responsibility for local government; and introduce concepts that are reflective of modern human services approach to poor relief, and the strengthening of the administration of human services.
22.	16.	Ministry of Local Government and Community Development	National Solid Waste (Amendment) Bill	To provide for members of the National Solid Waste Management Authority Board to be eligible to serve for a maximum of nine (9) consecutive years and to amend certain provisions relating to offences and fixed penalties, for greater accuracy and clarity.
23.	17.	Ministry of Local Government and Community Development	Counties and Parishes (Amendment) Bill	To give effect to the proposal to make Portmore Jamaica's fifteenth parish.
24.	18.	Ministry of National Security	Immigration Restriction (Commonwealth Citizen) (Amendment) Bill; Aliens (Amendment) Bill	To amend the immigration laws to address current and emerging border security issues.
25.	19.	Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport	Civil Aviation Bill	To amend the Act to ensure compliance with the current International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs).
26.	20.	Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport	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.

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27.	21.	Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport	Telecommunications (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Act in accordance with section 47(1) of the Telecommunications Act; and correct an error in the Act.
28.	22.	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.
29.	23.	Ministry of Tourism	Tourist Board (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Act in order to transfer the licensing function from the Tourist Board to Ministry of Tourism and repeal the River Rafting Act.
30.	24.	Ministry of Tourism	River Rafting (Repeal) Bill	To repeal the Act and to transfer the licensing functions for rafts and raft captains to the Tourist Board Act.
31.	25.	Office of the Prime Minister	National Housing Trust (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Act to make new provision for National Housing Trust contributions and related matters such as developing housing schemes for sale to contributors.

<b>BEING DRAFTED/DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED</b>				
<b>#</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>NAME OF LEGISLATION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
32.	1.	Ministry of Health and Wellness	Nurses and Midwives (Amendment) Bill	To allow for the regulation of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.
33.	2.	Ministry of Health and Wellness	Pharmacy (Amendment) Bill	To provide prescriptive rights to Advance Practice Registered Nurses.
34.	3.	Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce	Companies (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Act to provide for Jamaica's compliance with the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

<b>CABINET APPROVAL OF DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS</b>				
<b>#</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>NAME OF LEGISLATION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
35.	1.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining	Conch (Export Levy) Bill	To amend the Act 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.

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36.	2.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining	Praedial Larceny (Prevention) Bill	To amend the Act to increase the penalties attached to the relevant offences which falls under the jurisdiction of agricultural wardens.
37.	3.	Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce	Partnership (General) Bill; Partnership (Limited) Bill; Limited Liabilities Companies Bill; Segregated Accounts Companies Bill	To create more business options for entrepreneurs and facilitate the ease of doing business within Jamaica.
38.	4.	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.