

**PROVISIONAL LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2004/2005**  
**AS AT JULY 8, 2004**

**MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

<b>Title of Bill</b>	<b>Purpose of Bill</b>	<b>Sitting*</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>The Petroleum and Oil (Conveyance) Bill</b>	To provide for safety measures for conveyance of Petroleum	Winter	1	Short	Amendments to Act completed. To be sent to CPC. Legislation Committee submission to be done.
<b>The Petroleum Retail (Marketing) Franchise Act</b>	To provide for regulation of relationship between marketing companies and retailers				No further work to be done as the parties are negotiating a Code of Conduct. The Code has not been signed.
<b>The Petroleum and Oil Fuel (Landing &amp; Storage) Act</b>	To provide for the regulation of the Petroleum sector as it pertains to storage of Petroleum emphasis being on safety.	Winter	1	Short	Amendments have been completed and will be sent to the Office of the CPC.

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<b>The Petroleum Quality Control (Amendment) Regulations 2000</b>	Amendments to be done for safety purposes.	Winter	1	Medium	Amendments are presently being worked on.
Copyright Act (Amendments)	To incorporate provisions of the WCT and WPPT.	Winter	2	Medium	CPC drafting amendments.
The Electricity Act	The diversification of Jamaica's energy base while ensuring stable and adequate energy supplies at the least economic cost.	Summer	2	Medium	Consultants have presented preliminary Report. Committee formed to examine Report.
Amendments to the Safeguard Act 2001	To strengthen the provisions of the Act related to the collection of safeguard duties.	Spring	1	Medium	Recommendations to be submitted by the Anti-Dumping and Subsidies Commission.
Geographical Indications Bill	TRIPS & US Bilateral obligations	Winter	1	Short	Bill was passed in both Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament.

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Protection of New Plant Varieties Bill	Protecting New Plant Varieties TRIPS obligation	Spring	2	Long	Cabinet Submission prepared and comments are being done by JIPO.
<b>Electronic Transaction Act</b>	To provide environment for electronic commerce	Winter	1	Medium	Awaiting final comments from AG's.
Patent and Industrial Designs	Amendment of existing legislation consistent with the provisions of the bilateral Intellectual Property Agreement with the USA and the provisions of the WTO	Winter	1	Medium	Comments from AG's incorporated in revised Bill, which is to be resubmitted to the AG's with inserted recommendations.
Amendments to the Fair Competition Act	To address the issue of natural justice and structure of the FTC.	Spring	3	Long	Meeting held with Hon. Minister to determine policy approach. Cabinet Submission being prepared by Legal Department.

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Amendment to the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act	Bring the Act into close harmony with the World Trade Organization Anti-Dumping Agreement	Spring	3	Medium	ADSC reviewing the Legislation, particularly enforcement provisions, with a view to making additional proposals for amendment.
Radio and Telegraph Control Amendment Act	Repeal the Radio and Telegraph Control Amendment Act.	Winter	3	Short	The provisions of this Act will be incorporated in the new Telecommunications Act and therefore we have to await the drafting instructions of the latter Act.
Trade (Amendment) Bill	Change of function and name of Trade Board. It is allied to Consumer Protection Bill	Winter	2	Medium	Trade Board now doing comprehensive review to make proposals to the Ministry for overall reform of the Legislation.
The CARICOM Regional Organization for Standards and Quality Act	To give legal effect to the provisions of the Agreement establishing CROSQ	Spring	1	Short	Passed in both Houses of Parliament.

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The Consumer Protection Legislation	<p>Consolidation of the various laws relating to sale of goods, hire purchase and unfair contract terms, and to establish principles of consumer rights and regularize the operations of the Consumer Affairs Commission.</p> <p>To bring legislation in line with international laws and to ensure ability to protect consumers in the area of Electronic Commerce.</p>	Summer	2	Long	Tabled in Parliament on April 15, 2004.
Telecommunications Act	Widen the scope of the existing Legislation	Spring	3	Long	Drafting instructions done.
Post Office Act	Regularise Post Office and Repeal the Post Office Act	Winter	2	Medium	The Office of the Parliamentary Counsel is drafting the Bill.

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Weights and Measures Act	Review of standards related legislation under NQI Project.	Spring	1	Long	Policy review to be undertaken.
National Accreditation Body Act	To establish a National Accreditation Body	Winter	2	Long	Drafting instructions being prepared.
Processed Foods Act (Amendment) Act	To repeal the processed Foods Act	Winter	3	Long	Cabinet approved amendment of the Act. Drafting instructions was sent to CPC who needed clarifications on certain objects. We are awaiting same from the Bureau of Standards.
Trade Marks Act and Rules	To amend the Trade Marks Act and Rules	Winter	2	Long	AG's reviewing proposed amendments.

## MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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Business Name Registration Bill	To strengthen and modernize Bill	Spring	3	Long	Bill should be in Parliament by the third quarter.
The Standards Act	Amendments are needed to ensure compliance with the guidelines as contained in the NQI.	Spring	3	Long	Policy review being undertaken by the Ministry.

**KEY**

- 1* - *Very High Priority*
- 2* - *High Priority*
- 3* - *Medium*

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