

PROVISIONAL LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2006/2007

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY					
Title of Bill	Purpose of Bill	Sitting*	Priority	Length	Status
The Petroleum (Conveyance) Bill	To provide for safety measures for conveyance of Petroleum	Winter	1	Short	The Bill was received by the Ministry and comments were submitted to CPC on March 27, 2006. Awaiting response from CPC.
The Petroleum Quality Control (Amendment) Regulations 2000	To better regulate the Petroleum Sector in particular the Licensing regime	Winter	1	Medium	CPC is presently redrafting. Awaiting response from CPC.
The Petroleum and Oil Fuel (Landing & Storage) (Amendment) Act	To provide for regulation of the Petroleum Sector as it pertains to the storage of petroleum.	Winter	1	Short	Latest draft received by Ministry from CPC and is presently being reviewed by the Attorney General Chambers.
The Companies (Amendment) Bill	To improve transitional arrangements for companies registered under the Companies Act 1965(repealed)	Winter	1	Short	Awaiting draft Bill from CPC. Bill to be submitted to Legislation Committee upon receipt. A comprehensive review of the Act is being undertaken by the Management Advisory Board of COJ and will be submitted at a later date.

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Title of Bill	Purpose of Bill	Sitting*	Priority	Length	Status
Registration of Business Name (Amendment) Bill	To give recognition to developments in e-commerce (relating to registration), provide for increase in penalties, provide for registration of business name by Company, provision for disposal of records, disclosure of information.	Summer	3	Medium	Bill passed in both Houses of Parliament.
Copyright (Amendment) Bill	Jamaica's accession to the WIPO Copyright Treaty.	Winter	2	Medium	Bill is presently being reviewed by the Ministry, the Attorney General's Chambers, the Jamaica Bar Association and other relevant stakeholder. Ministry is awaiting comments.
Electricity Act	The diversification of Jamaica's energy base while ensuring stable and adequate energy supplies at the least economic cost.	Winter	3	Medium	Consultants have presented Final Report. Report has been submitted to relevant stakeholders for comments. Committee to examine Report and the comments received.

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Title of Bill	Purpose of Bill	Sitting*	Priority	Length	Status
Protection of New Plant Varieties Bill	For consistency with bilateral Intellectual Property Agreement with USA and WTO TRIPS	Winter	2	Long	Drafting instructions to be prepared. Working group has been formed to expedite preparation of drafting instructions.
Electronic Transactions Bill	To provide environment for e-commerce in Jamaica.	Spring	1	Medium	Bill passed in both Houses of Parliament
Patent and Industrial Designs Bill	To replace and repeal Patent Act.	Winter	1	Long	Awaiting comments from relevant stakeholders.
Amendment to Fair Competition Act	To address the issue of natural justice and structure of the FTC.	Winter	3	Long	Drafting Instructions have been submitted to CPC.

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Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) (Amendment) Bill	Bring the legislation in conformity with international standards	Spring	3	Medium	Latest draft received by Ministry form CPC is being reviewed by AG.
Amendment to Radio and Telegraph Control 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, before this matter can move forward.
Amendment to Trade Act	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.
Amendments to Trade Marks Act and Trade Marks Rules	Improve the efficiency of the Act and amend typographical errors.	Winter	2	Short	Drafting Instructions submitted to CPC. Awaiting discussion draft of the Bill.

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Amendment to The Consumer Protection Act	To empower the CAC to bring proceedings on behalf of complainants	Summer	2	Short	Act came into effect on June 1, 2005. Further amendments to be made to empower the CAC to bring proceedings on behalf of complainants.
Telecommunications Act	Widen the scope of the existing Legislation	Winter	3	Long	Drafting instructions to be prepared Cabinet to approve instructions.
Post Office Bill	To repeal Post Office Act. Facilitate modernization and commercialization of post offices by transferring the Postal Corporation into a statutory body, Jamaica Post.	Winter	2	Medium	Drafting Instructions to be submitted to CPC shortly.
Weights and Measures Act	Review of standards related legislation under NQI Project.	Winter	1	Long	Policy review being undertaken.
Processed Foods (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.

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The Standards Act	Amendments are needed to ensure compliance with the guidelines as contained in the NQI.	Winter	3	Long	Policy review being undertaken by the Ministry.
National Commission on Science and Technology	To establish the NCST as an umbrella organization responsible for among other things fostering and advancing the national policy and strategy for science and technology	Spring	3	Medium	Bill was passed in the House of Representative and has been laid in the Senate for debate.

KEY

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