

CAYMAN ISLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



10th December 2019

Hon. Alden McLaughlin, MBE, JP, MLA

Premier of the Cayman Islands
Office of the Premier
Cayman Islands
KY1-9000

Hon. Premier,

RE: CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

I am writing on behalf of the Council to express support for the Draft Cayman Islands Constitution (Amendment) Order 2019 that was passed by legislators unanimously in the Legislative Assembly last week which includes constitutional reform proposals that have been agreed between the Cayman Islands and United Kingdom Governments in November. The mandatory consultation on laws directly affecting the Cayman Islands, the removal of the Governor's power to write legislation, the removal of the Governor's power to write Standing Orders for the Legislative Assembly, the renaming of the Legislative Assembly as Parliament, the creation of Parliamentary Secretaries and the creation of a Police Service Commission are positive steps, we believe, in the constitutional development of the Cayman Islands. Since the final proposed amendments were released, we have received no negative comments from any of the Chamber's 647 corporate and associate members or the more than 20,000 workers that these businesses employ. Nevertheless, we intend to share the amendments with our members and will ask them to submit any comments in the weeks ahead which we can share with you. While we appreciate that the Government and the Opposition has reached agreement on what has been described as minor but important amendments, we recommend that any future proposed constitutional changes include a public consultation process so that everyone's voice is considered.

Sincerely,



Christopher Kirkconnell
President