

SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION (1992-1994)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

RESOLUTION NO. 20

WHEREAS the present Government is committed to a process of open and transparent consultation in seeking to formulate legislation for the sensitive issue of the medical termination of pregnancy;

AND WHEREAS in pursuit of that process the Government facilitated an extensive public debate since May of 1993;

AND WHEREAS a Medical Termination of Pregnancy Bill 1993 was presented to the National Assembly on 3rd December, 1993;

AND WHEREAS there have continued to be calls for further consultation and specifically for multi-party consultation;

AND WHEREAS Standing Order No. 49(1) of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly requires that before any Bill be referred to a Committee, it has to be considered and read a second time;

AND WHEREAS in response to the calls for further consultation, it is proposed to have the Bill considered by a Special Select Committee of the National Assembly before its second reading;

RESOLVED,

- (i) that Standing Order No. 49(1) be suspended in order to facilitate the placing of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Bill 1993 before a Special Select Committee without recourse to a substantive debate at this time;
- (ii) that in the exercise of its functions the Select Committee be empowered to invite and receive memoranda from members of the public or from organizations; and to co-opt into its service any persons who are deemed to have special skills relevant to the conduct of its business;
- (iii) that the Select Committee, having examined the Bill and considered the submissions received, propose such recommendations and/or amendments to the Bill as it sees fit;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that after the submission of the report of the Special Select Committee, the National Assembly should proceed with the second reading and the remaining stages of the Bill in accordance with the Standing Orders.

Passed by the National Assembly on 20th January, 1994.



F.A. NARAIN

Clerk of the National Assembly