

4. BILL FOR THIRD READING

**4.1. Medicines (Amendment) Bill 2020 –
Third Reading approved**

Mr Ashford to move:

That the Medicines (Amendment) Bill 2020 be read a third time.

The Speaker: Item 4, Bill for Third Reading – Medicines (Amendment) Bill 2020. I call on Mr Ashford to move.

Mr Ashford: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

I am pleased to move the Third Reading of the Medicines (Amendment) Bill 2020, and in doing so, Mr Speaker, I am sure Hon. Members will be delighted and also somewhat relieved to know that I will be a lot briefer than I was at clauses stage. (**Several Members:** Hear, hear.)

To recap briefly, this Bill will amend the Medicines Act 2003 to ensure that the Island's laws regulating the sale, supply and administration of prescription-only medicines operate in the manner intended by the Department. These amendments being made will make it clear on the face of the Act itself that, as general rules, no person shall sell or supply prescription medication otherwise than in accordance with a prescription issued by an appropriate practitioner, and no person shall administer otherwise to himself a prescription medicine unless he is an appropriate practitioner or acts in accordance with the directions of one.

I am grateful to Hon. Members for their support in the passage of this Bill and to the Hon. Member for Douglas Central, Mrs Corlett for seconding the Bill, Mr Speaker.

I beg to move that the Medicines (Amendment) Bill 2020 be read for a third time.

The Speaker: I call on Mrs Corlett.

Mrs Corlett: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I beg to second.

The Speaker: Mr Thomas.

Mr Thomas: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

I just would like a reassurance from the mover about the timing of the Legislative Council consideration of this Bill and also bringing it into force with an Appointed Day Order, because obviously in Tynwald last week we passed some quite fundamental changes to the Medicines Act, which we obviously discussed with representatives of the people involved, but as yet, not widely known, it seems, with my engagement with people over the weekend, real pharmacists and so on. So is there any likelihood or chance even that this legislation might need amendment upstairs in the light of the quite profound changes that were made by secondary legislation in Tynwald last week?

The Speaker: Mover to reply.

Mr Ashford: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

As far as I am aware, there is nothing that was passed in Tynwald that will interfere or need amendment for this Bill. In terms of its passage through Legislative Council, it will be the normal timescale. There has been no attempt to rush this Bill as has been seen in this House.

The Speaker: I put the question that the Medicines (Amendment) Bill 2020 be read for a third time. Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.