



Press Statement

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) public update

Nassau, Bahamas – 23rd October, 2016 – The Hon. Jerome K. Fitzgerald, Minister with responsibility for the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) wishes to advise the public, particularly civil society that the Freedom of Information committee met with the Minister of Education early last week and provided him with a copy of a report following their wide consultations.

It was initially intended to have the bill tabled in the House of Assembly late October 2016. However due to the unforeseen setbacks caused by Hurricane Matthew, it is likely that the bill will be tabled before the end of the year.

Minister Fitzgerald thanks all persons involved in the development of this bill; and especially acknowledges the level of interest and involvement by civil society and the private sector. He also applauds the citizens who took an interest in the town hall meetings in Nassau, Freeport, Abaco, Eleuthera and Exuma, as well as those individuals who submitted written suggestions. The Government will continue to seek to elevate the level of transparency and accountability in governance as it works in the best interest of the Bahamian people.

For more information on The Bahamas Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, visit www.ministryofeducationbahamas.com.

About The Bahamas Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

The Bahamas' Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) has responsibility for more than 50,000 K-12 students in approximately 170 educational institutions in The Commonwealth of The Bahamas, which are dispersed over 14 districts in the major islands. Our goal is to increase the graduation rate from 50% to 80% by 2030. The MoEST aims to create an educational system that is technologically sound and competitive and that develops the strengths of each child, whether academic or otherwise, towards the maximum contribution that he/she is able to make to the national development of The Bahamas.

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