

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT, 2004

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A BILL

for

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Enacted by the Parliament of The Bahamas.

PART I
PRELIMINARY

Short title 1. (1) This Act may be cited as the Weights and
and commence- Measures Act, **2004**.
ment. (2) This Act shall come into operation on such day
as the Minister may, by notice published in the Gazette,
appoint.

Interpre-
tation.

2. In this Act -

"Bureau" means the Bureau of Standards established by section 3 of the Standards Act;

"container" includes any form of packaging of goods for sale as a single item, whether by way of wholly or partly enclosing the goods or by way of attaching the goods to or winding the goods round some other article and in particular includes a wrapper or confining band;

"inspector" means a person appointed as an inspector of weights and measures under section 17 of this Act;

"mark" includes label;

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for the Bureau of Standards;

"occupier" in relation to any stall, vehicle, vessel or aircraft or in relation to the use of any place for any purpose, means the person for the time being in charge of the stall, vehicle, vessel or aircraft or, as the case may be, the person for the time being using that place for that purpose;

"premises" includes any place and any stall, vehicle, vessel or aircraft;

"pre-packed" means made up in advance ready for retail sale in or on a container; and on any premises where articles of any description are so made up, or are kept or stored for sale after being so made up, any articles of that description found made up in or on a container shall be deemed to be pre-packed unless the contrary is proved; and it shall not be sufficient proof of the contrary to show that the container has not been marked in accordance with the requirements of this Act or of any regulations made thereunder;

"stamp" means a mark for use as evidence of the passing of weighing or measuring equipment as fit for use for trade, whether applied by impressing, casting, engraving, etching, branding, transfer or by any other means;

"trade" includes any transaction for the transferring or rendering of money or money's worth in consideration of money or money's worth;

"weighing or measuring equipment" means equipment for measuring in terms of length, area, volume, capacity, weight, or number, whether or not the equipment is constructed to give an indication of the measurement made or other information determined by reference to that measurement.

Adminis-
tration.

3. The Bureau shall be responsible for the administration of the Weights and Measures Act.

PART II

UNITS AND STANDARDS OF MEASUREMENT

Units of
measurement.

4. (1) The yard or the metre shall be the unit of measurement of length, the pound or the kilogram shall be the unit of measurement of mass and the gallon or litre shall be the unit of measurement of capacity by reference to which any measurement involving a measurement of length, mass or capacity shall be made in The Bahamas;

- (a) the yard shall be 0.9144 metre exactly;
- (b) the pound shall be 0.453 592 37 kilogram exactly; and
- (c) the gallon shall be 4.546 09 litres exactly.

First
Schedule.

(2) The First Schedule shall have effect for defining for the purposes of measurements falling to be made in The Bahamas the units of measurements set out in that Schedule; and for the purposes of any measurement of weight falling to be so made, the weight of anything may be expressed, by reference to the units of measurement set out in Part V of that Schedule, in the same terms as its mass.

(3) The Minister may from time to time by order amend the First Schedule by adding to or removing from it any unit of measurement.

Bahamian
reference
standards.

5. (1) The Minister shall cause to be maintained, in accordance with the provisions of this section, standards which shall be known collectively as the Bahamian reference standards.

Second
Schedule.

(2) The Bahamian reference standards shall consist of such of the measures and weights set out in the Second Schedule as the Minister considers to be proper and sufficient and a reference standard of any linear or capacity measure may, as the Minister thinks fit -

- (a) be provided either as a separate standard or by means of divisions marked on a standard of larger measure; and
- (b) either be marked in whole or in part with subdivisions representing any smaller unit of measurement or multiples or fractions of such a unit or have no such marking.

(3) The Bahamian reference standards shall be deposited at such places and shall be placed in the custody of such persons as the Minister shall direct.

(4) Before being brought into use each Bahamian reference standard shall be calibrated.

(5) The value of each Bahamian reference standard shall, at intervals not exceeding seven years, be redetermined in such manner as the Minister shall direct.

(6) Where it is proposed to send any Bahamian reference standard out of The Bahamas temporarily, the Minister shall cause to be provided, as a temporary reference standard, an appropriate measure or weight of the denomination of that Bahamian reference standard and shall by order declare that measure or weight to be a temporary Bahamian reference standard.

(7) The Minister may from time to time by order amend the Second Schedule by adding to it or removing from it any measure or weight.

(8) *The Minister may give consideration, acting on the advice of the Bureau, to the adoption for use in The Bahamas any relevant recommendation or standards issued by the International Organisation of Legal Metrology (OIML).*

Working
standards
and testing
and stamping
equipment.

6. (1) The Bureau shall provide for use by inspectors, and shall maintain or from time to time replace, such standards (in this Act referred to as working standards) of such of the measures and weights set out in the Second Schedule, such testing equipment, and such stamping equipment, as the Bureau may from time to time approve or require as being proper and sufficient for the efficient discharge by inspectors of their functions under this Act.

(2) Working standards and testing and stamping equipment provided under this section shall be of the material and form approved by the Bureau and, except so far as may be necessary for the purpose of their use elsewhere, shall be kept under such control as the Bureau may from time to time direct or approve and a working standard of a linear, cubic or capacity measure may -

- (a) be provided either as a separate standard or by means of divisions marked on a standard of a larger measure; and
- (b) either be marked in whole or in part with subdivisions representing any smaller unit of measurement or multiples or fractions of such a unit or have no such markings.

(3) Working standards shall from time to time be tested by comparison with Bahamian reference standards or other working standards more recently tested and shall, if necessary, be adjusted to within such limits of error as may be prescribed.

(4) Testing equipment provided under subsection (1) shall be tested and adjusted in accordance with such provisions as may be prescribed.

PART III

WEIGHING AND MEASURING EQUIPMENT

Weighing
and
measuring
equipment
used for
trade.

7. For the purposes of this Act, any weighing or measuring equipment used in -
- (a) determining the weight, measurement or number of goods supplied, or acquired by way of trade on the basis of weight, measurement or number;
 - (b) computing the payment for work or services rendered or for any toll or duty charged on the basis of weight, measurement or number;
 - (c) determining weight or measurement upon payment of money; or
 - (d) grading agricultural produce by reference to weight or measure, for the purpose of trade,
- shall be deemed to be in use for trade.

Testing of
weighing or
measuring
equipment
on request.

8. (1) Any person wishing to have any weighing or measuring equipment passed as fit for use for trade shall submit the equipment to an inspector in such manner as the Bureau may direct and subject to the provisions of this Act and of any regulations made thereunder and after payment by that person of such fee, if any, as may be prescribed, the inspector shall -
- (a) test the equipment by means of such standards and testing equipment as he considers appropriate or, subject to any conditions which may be prescribed, by means of other equipment which has already been tested and which the inspector considers suitable for the purpose;
 - (b) if the equipment submitted falls within the prescribed limits of error and satisfies the requirements of this Act and of any regulations made thereunder, give to the person submitting it a statement in writing to the effect that it is passed as aforesaid; and
 - (c) keep a record of the test.

(2) Any person who forges, alters or defaces a statement in writing referred to in paragraph (b) of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

Approval
of patterns
of weighing
or measuring
equipment.

9. (1) Any person wishing to ascertain whether any pattern of weighing or measuring equipment is suitable for use for trade may, in such manner as may be prescribed, submit that pattern to the Bureau for examination.

(2) Where any pattern of weighing or measuring equipment is submitted to the Bureau pursuant to subsection (1) the Bureau shall, on payment of such fee, if any, as may be prescribed, examine the suitability for use for trade of equipment of that pattern, having regard in particular to the principle, materials and methods used or to be used in its construction, and if the Bureau is satisfied that equipment of that pattern is suitable for use for trade, it shall issue a certificate of approval of that pattern and cause notice of the approval to be published in the Gazette.

(3) The Bureau may from time to time authorize such minor modifications as it thinks fit of any pattern of weighing or measuring equipment in respect of which a certificate of approval has been granted under this section, and shall cause notice of any modifications authorized by it to be published in the Gazette.

(4) A certificate of approval may contain a condition that equipment of the pattern in respect of which that certificate is granted shall be used for trade in only such place, for only such period or for only such purpose, as is specified in the certificate.

(5) The Bureau may at any time revoke any certificate of approval granted under this section and shall cause notice of the revocation of any certificate of approval to be published in the Gazette.

(6) Any equipment of a pattern in respect of which a certificate of approval has been granted under this section may, and in such cases as may be prescribed shall, be marked in the prescribed manner so as to identify it with the pattern to which the certificate relates.

(7) *Notwithstanding subsection (1), a Metrological Report or Certificate on the Pattern from a Metrological authority at the exporting country attesting to the suitability of an equipment for use in Trade shall be accepted by the Bureau as proof of suitability of that equipment.*

General
testing of
weighing
and
measuring
equipment.

10. (1) The Bureau may designate any appointed inspector to regularly visit any district, settlement or town in The Bahamas to inspect and test weighing and measuring equipment used for trade in that district, settlement or town.

(2) An inspector designated under subsection (1)-

(a) may enter any premises in which he reasonably believes any weighing or measuring equipment is kept to be sold or used for trade;

(b) may request any person in the premises to produce for inspection and testing any weighing or measuring equipment in the

custody of that person for sale or for use for trade; and

(c) may exercise any other power, and shall perform any other duty, conferred or imposed by section 18 on an inspector.

(3) Any person to whom a request is made pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection (2) shall submit to the inspector, for inspection and testing, all weighing and measuring equipment in his custody.

(4) Where any weighing or measuring equipment is submitted to an inspector for testing, the inspector shall -

(a) test the equipment by means of such working standards and testing equipment as he considers appropriate or, subject to any conditions which may be prescribed, by means of other equipment which has already been tested and which the inspector considers suitable for the purpose;

(b) if the equipment submitted falls within the prescribed limits of error, give to the person submitting it a statement in writing to the effect that it is passed as fit to be used for trade;

(c) except as otherwise expressly provided by or under this Act, cause the equipment to be stamped with the prescribed stamp; and

(d) keep a record of the test.

(5) No weight or measure shall be -

(a) stamped as mentioned in paragraph (c) of

subsection (4) unless it has been marked in the prescribed manner with its purported value;

(b) stamped or marked if it is too small to be stamped or marked.

(6) Any person who without reasonable cause fails to comply with any requirement properly made of him by an inspector under this section shall be guilty of an offence.

Units of
measure-
ment lawful
for use
for trade.
First
Schedule.

11. (1) No person shall use for trade any unit of measurement which is not included in the First Schedule.

(2) No person shall use the carat (metric) for trade except for the purposes of transactions in precious stones or pearls, and no person shall use the ounce troy for trade except for the purposes of transactions in, or in articles made from gold, silver or other precious metals including transactions in gold or silver thread, lace or fringe.

(3) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this section shall, subject to subsection (4), be guilty of an offence, and any measure or weight used, or in any person's possession for use, in contravention of any of those provisions shall be liable to be forfeited.

(4) This section shall not apply to any transaction in connection with the export of goods to a country where a system of units of measurement other than those authorized by this Act is used for trade.

Sale of
goods by
weight or
measure-
ment.

12. (1) No person shall sell any goods by weight or measurement unless he does so by net weight or measurement.

(2) Any person who sells any goods by weight or measurement expressed in metric units shall, if the purchaser so requires, inform him of the correct equivalent of the weight or measurement in imperial units while imperial units are lawfully in use in The Bahamas.

(3) *The Minister may, on advise from the Bureau, by order published in the Gazette abolish the imperial calibration system.*

Sale of
pre-packed
good by
weight or
measure-

13. (1) Subject to such exemptions as may be prescribed, no person shall sell any pre-packed goods by weight or measurement unless the net weight or the capacity measurement of those goods is marked on the container in the prescribed manner by reference to a unit of measurement

ment.

included in the First Schedule.

First
Schedule.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act, no person shall supply by way of trade any goods in a container marked with any unit of weight or measurement differing in name or size from the appropriate units specified in the First Schedule unless its correct equivalent in units of weight or measurement so specified are also marked on that container -

(a) not less conspicuously than the unit of weight or measurement first mentioned; or

(b) in the prescribed manner.

(3) No person shall use a non-specified container after a pre-fixed date.

(4) Any person contravening subsections (1), (2) and (3) shall be guilty of an offence.

Seller to
weigh or
measure
goods
in buyer's
presence if
requested.

14. (1) Any person selling by weight or measurement any goods, other than pre-packed goods which satisfy the requirements of section 13, shall weigh or measure the goods in the presence of the buyer if requested by the buyer, **and including any other matter that may facilitate the implementation of the Act.**

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

Short
weight,
etc.

15. Any person who, in selling or purporting to sell any goods by weight or other measurement or by number, delivers or causes to be delivered to the buyer a lesser quantity than that purported to be supplied or than corresponds with the price charged shall be guilty of an offence.

Deceptive
packaging.

16. Any person who supplies by way of trade goods in or on a container which is so made, formed or filled as to be misleading as to the nature or quantity of the contents shall be guilty of an offence.

PART IV

INSPECTORS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Appoint-
ment of
inspectors.

17. (1) The Minister may, on the advice of the Bureau, appoint one or more inspectors of weights and measures.
- (2) Every inspector shall be furnished with a certificate of appointment in the prescribed form.

Powers of
entry and
inspection.

18. (1) An inspector may at any reasonable time enter any premises in which he reasonably believes any goods are bought or sold or any weighing or measuring equipment is kept to be used for trade and may, in those premises -

- (a) inspect and test any weighing or measuring equipment therein;
- (b) examine and test any goods therein and where necessary break open any container of those goods;
- (c) require the production of all books, accounts or documents relating to goods therein and inspect and copy any of those books, accounts or documents;
- (d) take such samples of any goods therein as may be reasonably required by him for the proper performance of his duties;
- (e) make such other examination and enquiry as may be necessary to ascertain whether

the provisions of this Act or any regulations made thereunder have been or are being complied with;

- (f) require any person in possession or control of any goods therein to render such explanations and give such information relating to those goods as may be reasonably required;
- (g) seize, remove and detain any weighing or measuring equipment, goods, book, account, document, or other thing which he has reasonable cause to believe will afford evidence of an offence against this Act or any regulations made thereunder; and
- (h) make, on behalf of the Bureau, such

purchases of goods as may appear expedient for the purpose of determining whether or not the provisions of this Act or any regulations made thereunder are being complied with.

(2) An inspector exercising or attempting to exercise his powers under this section shall, produce his certificate of appointment to the person in charge of the premises.

(3) An inspector entering any premises pursuant to this section may take with him such other person and such equipment as may appear to him necessary.

(4) Before removing any article under the provisions of paragraph (g) of subsection (1) the inspector removing it shall furnish that person with a written receipt therefor.

(5) Any person who -

- (a) obstructs or hinders an inspector exercising his powers under this section;
- (b) fails to comply with any requirement properly made of him by an inspector under this section; or
- (c) gives to that inspector information which he knows or ought to know to be false or misleading,

shall be guilty of an offence.

(6) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a person to answer any question or give any information if to do so might incriminate him.

Directions
to secure
compliance.

19. (1) An inspector may give to any person who has, for use for trade -

- (a) any weighing or measuring equipment; or
- (b) any package or label or any other article of whatever kind,

which does not comply with the provisions of this Act or of any regulations made thereunder, directions in writing requiring him to take such steps as shall be specified in those directions to secure compliance with those provisions.

(2) Any person aggrieved by any directions given pursuant to subsection (1) may appeal in writing to the Bureau within seven days after the date on which those directions were given, and the Bureau may confirm, revoke or amend those

directions.

(3) Subject to the provisions of subsection (2) any person who fails to comply with directions given pursuant to subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any proceedings which may be taken for failure to comply, as respects anything referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection (1), with the provisions of this Act or any regulations made thereunder.

Inspectors
may act as
arbitrators
etc.

20. (1) In any civil proceedings relating to the supply of goods and services, the court may, subject to any rules of court, and with the agreement of the Bureau, require an inspector to act as arbitrator, assessor or referee, or to carry out any inspection, survey, measurement or weighing, or to take any samples, or to make any observation, plan or model, or to try any experiment.

Ch. 180.

(2) In any dispute relating to the supply of goods and services, the parties to such dispute may request the Bureau to nominate an inspector to act as arbitrator or umpire within the meaning of the Arbitration Act, and for this purpose the Bureau may nominate such inspector as it thinks fit.

Inspectors
may make
tests and
reports on

21. An inspector may, at the request of any person and subject to the payment by that person of such fee, if any, as may be prescribed, carry out and submit to that person a report on -

request.

- (a) a weighing or other measurement of any goods submitted for the purpose by that person at such place as the Bureau may direct or approve; or
- (b) a test of the accuracy of any weighing or measuring equipment so submitted.

Inspectors
to account
for fees.

22. Every inspector shall account for and promptly pay over to the Bureau all fees taken by him under this Act.

PART V
MISCELLANEOUS

Regulations.

23. (1) The Minister may, after consultation with the Bureau, make regulations -

- (a) with respect to -
 - (i) the materials and principles of construction of weighing or measuring equipment for use for trade;
 - (ii) the purposes for which particular types of weighing or measuring equipment may be used for trade;
 - (iii) the manner of erection, sitting or use of weighing or measuring equipment used for trade;
 - (iv) the circumstances in which, conditions under which and manner in which stamps may be obliterated or defaced;
 - (v) the abbreviations of or symbols for units of measurement which may be used for trade;
- (b) with respect to the inspection, testing and passing of any weighing or measuring equipment used for the purpose of, or in connection with, the computation of tolls, rates, taxes, charges or payments of any kind;
- (c) with respect to the inspection, testing, passing as fit for use for trade and stamping or authentication of weighing or measuring equipment, including -
 - (i) the prohibition of the stamping or authentication of such equipment in such circumstances as may be specified in the regulations;
 - (ii) the circumstances in which an inspector may remove or detain any weighing or measuring equipment for inspection or testing;

- (iii) the marking of any weighing or measuring equipment found unfit for use for trade;
- (d) restricting or controlling the importation, manufacture, repairing or sale of any weighing or measuring equipment designed to be used for trade and providing for the issuing of licences for such importation, manufacture, repairing or sale;
- (e) to prohibit the use for trade of any pattern of weighing or measuring equipment specified in the regulations unless a certificate of approval is granted in respect of that pattern;
- (f) requiring that weighing or measuring equipment of any type described in the regulations shall be tested and passed by an inspector before that equipment is sold or is used for trade;
- (g) prescribing what unit of measurement may be treated, for use for trade, as the equivalent of or of any multiple or fraction of, any unit of measurement included in the First Schedule;
- (h) to prohibit the sale of any goods specified in the regulations except -

- (i) by weight or measurement or number expressed in such manner as may be so specified; or
- (ii) in such quantities as may be so specified;

- (i) prescribing any matter or anything which may be, or is required by this Act to be, prescribed.

- (2) Regulations made under this Act may contain -
 - (a) different provisions for different types of weighing or measuring equipment and for different classes or descriptions of goods;
 - (b) exemptions from any of the provisions of those regulations.

First
Schedule.

Offences.

24. (1) Any person who uses for trade, or has in his possession for use for trade, any weighing or measuring equipment which is false or unjust shall be guilty of an offence and the equipment shall be liable to be forfeited.

(2) If any fraud is committed in the using of any weighing or measuring equipment for trade, the person committing the fraud and any person who is party thereto shall be guilty of an offence and the equipment shall be liable to be forfeited.

(3) Any person who uses for trade or has in his possession for use for trade -

Second
Schedule.

(a) any weight or any linear, square cubic or capacity measure which is not included in the Second Schedule; or

First
Schedule.

(b) any weighing or measuring instrument constructed to indicate in terms of some weight or measure which is not included in the First Schedule,

shall be guilty of an offence and the weight, measure or measuring instrument, as the case may be, shall be liable to be forfeited.

(4) Any person who supplies to any other person for use for trade any weighing or measuring equipment -

(a) which is false or unjust; or

(b) which does not comply with any requirement of this Act or of any regulations made thereunder,

shall be guilty of an offence.

(5) Any person guilty of an offence under this Act shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months and, in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding one hundred dollars for every day on which the offence continues after conviction.

Evidence
of pos-
session of
equipment.

25. Where any weighing or measuring equipment is found in the possession of any person carrying on trade or on any premises which are used for trade, that person or, as the case may be, the occupier of those premises shall be deemed for the purposes of this Act, or of any regulations made thereunder, unless the contrary is proved, to have that equipment in his possession for use for trade.

Offences by
corporations
or associa-
tions.

26. Where an offence under this Act or under any regulations made thereunder which has been committed by a corporate body or by any association of persons (whether incorporated or not) is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of that body or association or any person who was purporting to act in any such capacity, he as well as that body or association shall be liable to be prosecuted and punished accordingly.

Defence
of mistake,
accident,
etc.

27. In any proceedings for an offence under this Act or under any regulations made thereunder, it shall be a defence for the person charged to prove -

- (a) that the commission of the offence was due to a mistake, or to an accident or some other cause beyond his control; and
- (b) that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of such an offence by himself or any person under his control.

Evidence
of facts
certified.

28. A document purporting to be signed by an inspector and certifying -

- (a) that any weighing or measuring equipment specified therein was inspected and tested by him on a date specified therein, and the result of the inspection and test; or
- (b) that any goods specified therein were weighed, measured or counted by him on a date specified therein and were found to be of a weight, measurement or number specified therein,

shall, upon production thereof in evidence in any proceedings, be evidence of the facts certified therein and in the absence of evidence in rebuttal thereof shall be conclusive evidence of those facts.

(Section 4)

Imperial Units -

Mile	=	1,760 yards
Furlong	=	220 yards
Chain	=	22 yards
Yard	=	0.9144 metre
Foot	=	1/3 yard
Inch	=	1/36 yard

Kilometre	=	1000 metres
METRE	=	is the length of the path travelled by light in vacuum during a time interval of $\frac{1}{299\,792\,458}$ of a second.
Decimetre	=	$\frac{1}{10}$ metre
Centimetre	=	$\frac{1}{100}$ metre
Millimetre	=	$\frac{1}{1000}$ metre

Imperial Units

Square mile	=	640 acres
Acre	=	4,840 square yards
Rood	=	1,210 square yards
SQUARE YARD	=	a superficial area equal to that of a square each

		side of which measures one yard.
Square Foot	=	1/9 square yard
Square Inch	=	1/144 square foot
Metric Units		
Hectare	=	100 ares
Decare	=	10 ares
Are	=	100 square metres
SQUARE METRE	=	a superficial area equal to that of a square each side of which measures one metre.
Square decimetre	=	1/100 square metre
Square centimetre	=	1/100 square decimetre
Square millimetre	=	1/100 square centimetre

PART III

Measurement of Volume

Imperial Units		
CUBIC YARD	=	a volume equal to that of a cube each edge of which measures one yard.
Cubic foot	=	1/27 cubic yard
Cubic inch	=	1/1728 cubic foot
Metric Units		
CUBIC METRIC	=	a volume equal to that of a cube each edge of which measures one metre.
Cubic decimetre	=	1/1000 cubic metre
Cubic centimetre	=	1/1000 cubic decimetre
Hectolitre	=	100 litres
LITRE	=	a cubic decimetre
Decilitre	=	1/10 litre
Centilitre	=	1/100 litre
Millilitre	=	1/1000 litre

PART IV
Measurement of Capacity

Imperial Units

GALLON	=	4.546 09 cubic decimetres
Quart	=	1/4 gallon
Pint	=	1/2 quart
Gill	=	1/4 pint
Fluid ounce	=	1/20 pint

Metric Units

Hectolitre	=	100 litres
LITRE	=	a cubic decimetre
Decilitre	=	1/10 litre
Centilitre	=	1/100 litre
Millilitre	=	1/1000 litre

PART V
Measurement of Mass or Weight

Imperial Units

Ton	=	2,240 pounds
Short ton	=	2,000 pounds
Hundred-weight	=	112 pounds
Cental (or short hundred-weight)	=	100 pounds
Quarter	=	28 pounds
Stone	=	14 pounds
POUND	=	0.453 592 37 kilogram
Ounce	=	1/16 pound
Dram	=	1/16 pound
Grain	=	1/7000 pound
Ounce troy	=	12/175 grains

Metric Units

Tonne, metric tonne	=	1,000 kilograms
Quintal	=	100 kilograms
KILOGRAM	=	is the unit of mass; it is equal to the mass of the international proto- type of the kilogram.
Hectogram	=	1/10 kilogram

Gram	=	1/1000 kilogram
Carat (metric)	=	1/5 gram
Milligram	=	1/1000 gram

PART VI
MEASUREMENT OF ELECTRICITY

1. (a) AMPERE

is that constant current which, if maintained in two straight parallel conductors of infinite length, of negligible circular cross-section and placed 1 metre apart in vacuum, would produce between these conductors a force equal to 2×10^{-7} newton per metre of length.

(b) OHM

is the electric resistance between two points of a conductor when a constant potential difference of 1 volt, applied between the two points, produces in the conductor a current of 1 ampere, the conductor not being the seat of any electromotive force.

(c) VOLT

is the difference of electric potential between two points of a conducting wire carrying a constant current of 1 ampere when the power dissipated between these points is equal to 1 watt.

(d) WATT

is the power which in one second gives rise to energy of 1 joule.

2. Kilowatt

= 1000 watts

Megawatt

= one million watts

PART VII

MEASUREMENT OF SOLID FUEL

<i>Imperial</i>	<i>Metric</i>
7 pounds	20 kilograms
14 pounds	50 kilograms
56 pounds	Any multiple of 50 kilograms
112 pounds	
140 pounds	
Any multiple of 112 pounds	

SECOND SCHEDULE
MEASURES AND WEIGHTS

(Section 5)

PART I
LINEAR MEASURES

Imperial system

1. Measures of -

100 feet	5 feet
66 feet	4 feet
50 feet	1 yard
33 feet	2 feet
20 feet	1 foot
10 feet	6 inches
8 feet	1 inch
6 feet	

Metric system

2. Measures of -

50 metres	2 metres
30 metres	1.5 metres
20 metres	1 metre
10 metres	0.5 metre
5 metres	1 decimetre
3 metres	1 centimetre

PART II
SQUARE MEASURES

Imperial system

1. Measures of, or of any multiple of, 1 square foot.

Metric system

2. Measures of, or of any multiple of, 1 square decimetre.

PART III
CUBIC MEASURES

Imperial system

1. Measures of any multiple of $\frac{1}{4}$ cubic yard and 1 cubic foot.

Metric system

2. Measures of, or of any multiple of, 0.1 cubic metre.
3. Measures of -

any multiple of 10 litres

10 litres	100 millilitres
5 litres	50 millilitres
2.5 litres	25 millilitres
2 litres	20 millilitres
1 litre	10 millilitres
500 millilitres	5 millilitres
250 millilitres	2 millilitres
200 millilitres	1 millilitre

PART IV
CAPACITY MEASURES

Imperial system

1. Measures of -

any multiple of 1 gallon

1 gallon	1 gill
$\frac{1}{2}$ gallon	4 fluid ounces
1 quart	$\frac{1}{2}$ gill
1 pint	$\frac{2}{15}$ gill
$\frac{1}{2}$ pint	$\frac{1}{3}$ gill
8 fluid ounces	$\frac{1}{4}$ gill
$\frac{1}{3}$ pint	$\frac{1}{5}$ gill
6 fluid ounces	$\frac{1}{6}$ gill

Metric system

2. Measures of -
any multiple of 10 litres

10 litres	125 millilitres
5 litres	100 millilitres
2.5 litres	50 millilitres
2 litres	25 millilitres
1 litre	20 millilitres
500 millilitres	10 millilitres
250 millilitres	5 millilitres
200 millilitres	2 millilitres
175 millilitres	1 millilitre
150 millilitres	

PART V
Weights

Imperial System

1. Weights of -

56 pounds	any of the following multiples or fractions of 1/7000 pound that is to say -
50 pounds	
28 pounds	
20 pounds	100
14 pounds	50
10 pounds	30
7 pounds	20
5 pounds	10
4 pounds	5
2 pounds	3
1 pound	2
8 ounces	1
4 ounces	0.5
2 ounces	0.3
1 ounce	0.2
1/2 ounce	0.1
1/4 ounce	0.05
1/8 ounce	0.03
1/16 ounce	0.02
1/32 ounce	0.01

2. Weights of -

500 ounces troy	0.4 ounce troy
400 ounces troy	0.3 ounce troy
300 ounces troy	0.2 ounce troy
200 ounces troy	0.1 ounce troy
100 ounces troy	0.05 ounce troy
50 ounces troy	0.04 ounce troy
40 ounces troy	0.03 ounce troy
30 ounces troy	0.025 ounce troy
20 ounces troy	0.02 ounce troy
10 ounces troy	0.01 ounce troy
5 ounces troy	0.005 ounce troy
4 ounces troy	0.004 ounce troy
3 ounces troy	0.003 ounce troy
2 ounces troy	0.002 ounce troy
1 ounce troy	0.001 ounce troy
0.5 ounce troy	

Metric system

3. Weights of -

25 kilograms	3 grams
20 kilograms	2 grams
10 kilograms	1 gram
5 kilograms	500 milligrams
2 kilograms	400 milligrams
1 kilogram	300 milligrams
500 grams	200 milligrams
200 grams	150 milligrams
100 grams	100 milligrams
50 grams	50 milligrams
20 grams	20 milligrams
15 grams	10 milligrams
10 grams	5 milligrams
5 grams	2 milligrams
4 grams	1 milligram

4. Weights of -

500 carats (metric)	1 carat (metric)
200 carats (metric)	0.5 carat (metric)
100 carats (metric)	0.25 carat (metric)
50 carats (metric)	0.2 carat (metric)
20 carats (metric)	0.1 carat (metric)

10 carats (metric)	0.05 carat (metric)
5 carats (metric)	0.02 carat (metric)
2 carats (metric)	0.01 carat (metric)

OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill seeks to reform the law relating to weights and measures. The present legislation, the Weights and Measures Act, (Chapter 311), contains many outmoded and inadequate provisions which this Bill seeks to redress.

Part I of the Bill deals with preliminary matters such as the short title and interpretation of words and phrases used in the Bill.

Part II sets out the various units and standards of measurement. Thus the yard or metre is declared the unit of measurement of length and the pound or the kilogram the unit of measurement of mass. A Bahamian reference standard is established. Provision is also made for working standards and testing and stamping equipment.

Part III makes provision for the weighing and measuring of equipment used for trade. "Trade" is defined in clause 2 to include any transaction for the transferring or rendering of money or money's worth in consideration of money or money's worth. Provision is made under clause 8 to allow any person to submit to the Minister for examination a pattern of weighing or measuring equipment. Under clause 9, inspectors, under the proposed Act, may make general tests of weighing and measuring equipment used in New Providence and on the Family Islands. Clause 10 makes provision for the units of measurement which may lawfully be used for trade. Penal provisions under clauses 11, 12, 13 and 14 of the Bill are placed into the proposed Act in order to punish the seller of goods who contravene the requirements under the Act. Also of note is clause 15 of the Bill which seeks to prohibit the deceptive packaging of goods.

Under Part IV of the Bill, provision is made for the appointment of inspectors of weights and measures with certain duties and powers. Inspectors are given powers of entry and inspection of premises. In addition, inspectors may give directions to persons in order to secure compliance; they

may make various tests and reports on request; and they may assist in certain types of civil proceedings. Most importantly, inspectors must account for and promptly pay over fees taken under the Act to the Bureau of Standards.

Part V of the Bill sets out a number of miscellaneous matters such as what offences maybe committed under the Act, the rules of evidence which apply in certain cases and provision for the making of regulations.

The First Schedule sets out the definitions of units of measurements under the imperial system and the metric system.

The Second Schedule sets out the measures and weights lawful for use for trade under the imperial system and the metric system.