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PRESS RELEASE
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PARLIAMENT PASSES THE 2016 APPROPRIATION ACT INTO LAW

The Appropriation Act, 2016, being an Act to authorize expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund has been “Read the third time” and passed into law.

The Act was piloted by the Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Dr. Kaifala Marah to provide for the services of the Republic of Sierra Leone for the year, 2016.

The total sum in the Schedule and Clauses of the 2016 Appropriation Act granted by the Parliament of Sierra Leone for the services of Sierra Leone amounts to a little over Le 3.9 Trillion (three point nine trillion Leones). The Act is deemed to come into operation on the 01st January, 2016.

In another development, the Parliament of Sierra Leone on the 08th December, 2015 passed the Safe Abortion Act, 2015, thereby decriminalizing the 1861 Offences against the Persons Act, which criminalized any form of abortion.

The Safe Abortion Act, 2015 speaks volumes about clinical and certified abortion that should be done on certain grounds such as incest, rape, and other pregnancy related complications. It was a Private Member Bill that was piloted by Hon. Isata Kabia of Constituency 050 in Port Loko District.

Despite the huge challenges faced by this bill in and out of Parliament, it finally went through because Sierra Leone had signed and domesticated the Maputo Protocol by legislation.