



*OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN*

# **PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**

**[HANSARD]**

---

**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT**

**FIFTH SESSION - FIRST MEETING**

**TUESDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2017**

*SESSION – 2016/2017*



*OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN*

# **PARLIAMEN TARY DEBATES**

**[HANSARD]**

---

**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT**

**VOLUME: I**

**NUMBER: 42**

---

First Meeting of the Fifth Session of the Fourth Parliament  
of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone.

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House  
Held Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2017.

---

# **CONTENTS**

## **I. PRAYERS**

## **II. RECORD OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITTING HELD ON THURSDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST, 2017**

## **III. MOTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE:**

PROPOSER: HON. LEONARD S. FOFANAH

SECONDER: HON. KOMBA E. KOEDOYOMA

BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT THE NINTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE ON PARLIAMENTARY VETTING OF PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS BE ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE AND THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN BE APPROVED.

## **IV. GOVERNMENT MOTION**

A. AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE AND NETPAGE [SL] LIMITED, DATED 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2014

B. AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT OF 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2014 [THE AMENDMENT] BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE AND NETPAGE [SL] LIMITED DATED 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST, 2015

## **V. BILL**

THE SIERRA LEONE PEACE KEEPING AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY ACT, 2017 [THE MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS].

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

SECOND READING, COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING

THE MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS



*THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE*

**Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House**

---

**FIFTH SESSION – FIRST MEETING  
OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT  
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC**

---

**Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2017.**

**I. PRAYERS**

*[The Table Clerk, Mr Lamin Yansaneh, Read the Prayers].*

*[The House met at 10:35 a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown].*

*[The Deputy Speaker, Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah, in the Chair].*

The House was called to Order

*Suspension of S. O. 5[2]*

**II. CORRECTION OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITTING HELD ON THURSDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST, 2017**

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, we go through the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2017. Page 1? Page 2? Page 3? Page 4? Page 5? And Page 6?. There being no amendments can someone move for the adoption of record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2017 as presented?

**HON. MUSTAPHA M. BRAIMA:** I so move, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Any seconder?

**HON. FRANK KPOSOWA:** I so second, Mr Speaker.

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]*

*[Record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 3<sup>d</sup> August, 2017 has been adopted as presented]*

**III. MOTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE**

Proposer: Hon. Leonard S. Fofanah

Secunder: Hon. Komba E. Koedoyoma

Be it resolved:

That the Ninth Report of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service on Parliamentary vetting of Presidential nominations be adopted by the House and that the recommendations contained therein be approved.

**HON. LEONARD S. FOFANAH** *[Majority Leader of the House and Leader of Government Business]:* Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I present to you the Ninth Report of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service on Parliamentary vetting of Presidential nominations:

## *1. Introduction*

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service met on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2017 and interviewed one Presidential nominee for appointment as Chairman; Sierra Leone Road Transport Corporation [SLRTC].

## *2. Procedure*

The Committee maintained strict consistency to its established procedure. Probing questions put to the nominee covered wide ranging issues relating to his educational background to ensure that he has the relevant education and the necessary backup experience to man the position of Chairman of such a Government Agency. Further questions put to the nominee covered issues pertaining to his track records in other pertinent work situations, declared assets, tax obligations and his vision for a nationally productive tenure. Issues of unsuitability or otherwise were also closely looked into.

## *3. Eleventh Sitting of the Committee on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2017*

Mr Speaker, Honourable members, the following nominee was interviewed on oath:

*Hon. David Bai Conteh , Proposed Chairman, Sierra Leone Road Transport Corporation [SLRTC]*

Honourable David Bai Conteh had studied, lived and worked in the United States of America for decades. In 2007, he returned home and was elected parliamentary representative for Constituency 063, Tonkolili District. [2007 – 2012] Since 2012, he has been in business and is currently the Chief Executive Officer [CEO] of Tibempa Enterprises Ltd, a Construction and General Services Company.

Members of the Committee, across party lines, expressed fine sentiments and commended Honourable David Bai Conteh for his good works and efficiency in pertinent work situations whilst he was a Member of Parliament.

That notwithstanding, Honourable David Bai Conteh made a statement to the effect that his functions as Board Chairman were adequately spelt out in the 'Sierra Leone

Road Transport Corporation Act.’ **“I intend to stick to that and to implement the law as provided in the Act. I plan to work collaboratively with management, staff and colleague Board members to develop good policies that will stand the test of time and one that will assure the public of a safe, reliable, affordable and sustainable transportation system in Sierra Leone,”** he said.

#### *4. Recommendation*

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee adjudged the following Presidential nominee to be adequately qualified for his proposed appointment as Chairman, Sierra Leone Road Transport Corporation and he is accordingly recommended to the House for approval:

Honourable David Bai Conteh, Chairman, Sierra Leone Road Transport Corporation [SLRTC].

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Ninth Report is the unanimous decision of the Committee. I therefore move that the Ninth Report of the Fifth Session of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service be adopted by the House and that the recommendations contained therein be approved. Signed Hon. Leonard S. Fofanah  
Chairman

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, any seconder?

**HON. KOMBA E. KOEDOYOMA:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise to second the Motion.

*[Question proposed]*

**HON. KOMBA E. KOEDOYOMA:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the presentation made by the Honourable Majority Leader of this House speaks volumes and I think without further ado, I will crave the indulgence of this Honourable House to endorse the Honourable David Bai Conteh as Chairman of the [SLRTC] and for him to go back and start work in that place. Thank you, Mr Speaker *[Applause]*

**THE SPEAKER:** I am going to allow only two speakers to speak on this Motion; i.e., Honourable Komba E. Koedoyoma and Honourable Amadu Kanu. Honourable Member, please follow the queue because we have two Agreements and a Bill to discuss. So, I am sure you know a lot about this gentleman. I do not want you to say everything because I was expecting Honourable Yapoh Conteh to be here as well.

**HON. KOMBOR KAMARA:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. It is in that vein Mr Speaker I rise to ask Members of this noble House to speedily approve the nominee before us. Thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** Well done, Honourable Kombor Kamara.

**HON. AMADU M. KANU:** Thank you, Mr Speaker for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the approval of the nominee seated before us this morning. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, having listened to what has been said by the two previous speakers, I am now left with the only option to attest to the endorsement of the nominee. However, Mr Speaker, please permit me to proffer a piece of advice to the nominee. I want to draw the attention of this noble House to the undeniable fact that when it comes to state matters, His Excellency the President, Dr Ernest Bai Koroma, is not the type of man you will rely on because of the relationship you have with him. Mr Speaker, when it comes to state matters, you can dine with President Koroma at 9:00 O' Clock in the morning or 2:00 p.m., but do not be surprised if after 4:00 p.m. you have cause to listen to the radio announcement that you have been relieved of your position.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, your point is noted. You have 30 more seconds.

**HON. AMADU M. KANU:** On that note, Mr Speaker, I want to advise you once more to go to the Road Transport Corporation with an open mind. Please, do not allow yourself to be subjected to gossip. As Member of that Committee, I have no doubt that you are going to succeed. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

**HON. JUSUFU B. MANSARAY:** Every Member of Parliament in this Well knows too well that Honourable David Conteh can perform. He has been part of us and he has

always proved his mettle. However, I want to remind him that he will be going to the Road Transport Authority as a Sierra Leonean. This is not the time he should go to Yeleh and paint our office black. Now, you are a true Sierra Leonean and the President has reposed confidence in you. As a Parliament, we also have confidence in his ability to perform. Please, your party position has to be shifted to work as a Sierra Leonean and we are expecting him to carry the goodwill of the people by providing them with proper transport service.

With that cautionary note, I want to crave the indulgence of this Honourable House to approve his nomination.

**HON. ALHAJI SERAY DUMBUYA:** Thank you, Mr Speaker for giving me this opportunity to say a few words about my friend, my colleague and my mentor whom I have known for quite some time. I am not going to be labour this House, but I want to inform this noble House that the Honourable David Bai Conteh will do remarkably well if approved to serve in the capacity he has been nominated to serve. I have known him for quite some time and he is very meticulous. I am sure he would do his best to live up to our expectations.

On that note, Mr Speaker, I want to ask this Honourable House to speedily endorse his nomination. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you very much. Honourable Ansumana J. Kaikai, please do not say all those things you used to know about this man because you know a lot.

**HON. ANSUMANA J. KAIKAI:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, like President Siaka Stevens once said when he was appointed Prime Minister of this country that his 'heart was full.' I now say that my heart is also full today because we have before us one of us who has worked very hard for the ruling party. Today, the ruling party has given him an appointment at this eleventh and half hour. I want to remind the Honourable David Bai Conteh of Gbonkolenkeh that accepting this nomination is going to prevent him from coming back to this Well constitutionally. I am saying so because I am quite conversant of all the controversial aspects of the Constitution. So, please think about it

before you take the oath. On that note, I am asking this House to speedily ratify his nomination.

**HON. LEONARD S. FOFANAH:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, somebody once talked about politicians thus: **"Politicians are like stars in the firmament, they are here today and gone tomorrow."** But for our brother, the Honourable David Bai Conteh, he has insisted on staying and we want to welcome him here on the Floor of this House, a place where he once sat.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Honourable David Bai Conteh's interview had a special charisma. It was characterised by Honourable Members volunteering, even though they were not Members of the Committee on Appointments to go and witness the interview of the Honourable David Bai Conteh. The Speaker was extremely busy on that day, but he insisted and told me, please give me time I am going to attend that interview. I cannot afford to go without seeing Honourable David Bai Conteh. That is a measure of his popularity when he was here, and also a measure of not only his popularity, but his effectiveness when he sat here as a Member of Parliament.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, if I have to answer the question put by the Acting Minority Leader, I want to state here that Mr David Bai Conteh has not been appointed merely at the eleventh hour. Mr David Conteh is going to do his sojourn and his appointment would be repeated again by another All Peoples' Congress [APC] President, when we would have won the next general elections [*Applause*]. The President has appointed him deliberately for his effectiveness to go and take care of the Road Transport Corporation. If the President knew that his party was not going to win, he would stop making these appointments as of now; but the fact that he continues to nominate people, is an indication that the APC is going to come back.

Having said that, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members and following what my colleagues have said, I want to request that we approve this nominee, so that he can go back and resume work. I thank you very much, Mr Speaker [*Applause*].

*[Question Proposed, Put and agreed to]*

*[Motion of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service has been ratified]*

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable David Bai Conteh, I want to say congratulations for your confirmation. Do not forget that you are part of this House; and that between now and Friday, we would be looking forward seeing you outside, where you used to spend more time. Have a good day and good luck.

#### **IV. GOVERNMENT MOTION**

THE MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

**MAJOR RTD ALFRED PAOLO CONTEH** *[Minister of Internal Affairs]*: Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, be it resolved that this Honourable House ratify the following agreements which were laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2017.

[a] Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and Netpage [SL] Limited, dated 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014;

[B] Amendment to the Agreement of 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 the Amendment between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and Netpage [SL] Limited, Dated 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2015.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the original agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and NETPAGE is dated 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 which is the parent agreement for the provision of e-passports which were made by De La Rue International of the United Kingdom. The thrust of this agreement was that the cost of a passport, which was contained in Clause 5 of the said agreement states: "***That the initial sale price of e-passport shall be the equivalent of US\$120 in Leones and this to be reviewed periodically based on the inflation rate in Sierra Leone.***" And because the clause was not too clear, it was decided that an amendment be made to Clause 5 and that is how the agreement of the 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2015 came into being.

[i] The price was reduced from **US \$120 to \$100**

[ii] Secondly, Clause 5 was made clearer by stating that as the price for the passport is **\$100** dollars or the equivalent of **\$100** in Leones, which is our local currency and also that it would be reviewed periodically based on the inflation rate in Sierra Leone. For example, when the original agreement was signed, the exchange rate was **Le5, 000** to a dollar. Therefore, the passport then was sold to members of the general public for **Le500, 000**. Presently, because the Leone has lost its value, **\$1** is now **Le750**, which means that the cost for a passport according to the amendment in the new agreement is now **Le750, 000**.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, be it resolved that this Honourable House ratify the following agreements which were laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2017:

[a] Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and Netpage [SL] Limited, dated 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014;

[B] Amendment to the Agreement of 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 the Amendment between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and Netpage [SL] Limited, Dated 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2015.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, before I put the question, let us not forget that this House had earlier approved the Statutory Instrument bearing on the same. And separate and distinct from that, we have also approved the Motion which is confirming the position. But it is not the fault of the Ministry. The agreements were not brought to the Table of this House and that is why they have now been brought to this House, so as to formalise them. But there are Motions we have already approved in this House earlier.

*[Question Proposed]*

**HON. KOMBOR KAMARA:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, having listened to the Minister, I have a concern I want to bring to his attention. Mr Minister, are you tagging the exchange rate based on bank rate or the black market. This is because if you are saying **Le750, 000**, I think that is the black market price. Therefore, we would like to

know if you are tagging this increase on the black market rate or the bank rate. Thank you.

**THE SPEAKER:** Your point is noted, Honourable Member.

**HON. UMAR PARAN TARAWALLY:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise to add my voice to the ratification of the two agreements before us this morning. The issue of the passport contract had been very contentious. One point of contention has to do with pricing and uniformity. In the original agreement, it was clearly stated that one passport would cost **\$120**. Some of us went against that very strongly. The only thing that is of solace to me this morning is the fact that the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone, represented by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, listened to some extent, the agitation of the people of Sierra Leone. And if an amendment to Clause 5 is brought before this House today, proposing a reduction on the cost of passport from **\$120** to a **\$100**, first and foremost I would want to say a very big thank you to the Minister for listening to the people of Sierra Leone and the people's representatives. Equally, we would continue to advocate that the Ministry sees reason that at any one point in time a review is made to this Agreement as embedded in Clause 8, due consideration is also taken to ensure that we continue to reduce the cost of passport until it becomes actually affordable by the people of Sierra Leone.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the other thing I was very much interested in this agreement was the issue of the non-clarity surrounding whether we were to pay in Dollars or in Leones. It is now clear and I want to continue to commend the Minister that we can now pay a **\$100** or its equivalent in Leones. But like the Honourable Kombor Kamara said, I want to continue to appeal to the Minister to ensure that the other party to this contract does not use its own sole discretion to tag dollar rate. The Ministry should ensure that whenever the equivalence of **\$100** is quoted, it should be in strict compliance with the Bank of Sierra Leone, so that people do not exploit the people of Sierra Leone. We are so concerned about our people and we want to see that people get fair share of what they pay for.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as the Speaker said, there was a Statutory Instrument in this House on passport fee increment and that Instrument completed the twenty-one days period and this House cannot do anything to go contrary to the provisions of that Statutory Instrument or else we will be defeating the very existence of this Parliament. But one thing that is very clear is that even though that Statutory Instrument has matured, there was every need for this House to ratify the agreement because the provisions embedded in this document will affect the citizens of Sierra Leone; and because it will affect the people of this country, it is but fitting, as representatives of the people to ratify these two agreement, so that whoever is put in charge to implement the provisions of these Agreements will do the right thing. And we as monitors and the Ministry as the core signatory to this document will ensure that whatever we do, we will do on behalf of the people of Sierra Leone.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to thank you very much. I want to now call on the Ministry to continue to review the cost of passports to a minimum amount, so that the people of Sierra Leone will benefit from those agreements.

**HON. FODAY RADO YOKIE:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I think the Honourable Umar Paran Tarawally has said it all. I just wanted some clarifications on the exchange rate. We know that passport is a necessity, especially for those of us who intend to travel outside this country. We need it and the economists have said that government is a bad business man; and therefore, we need to privatise it. Now, the private people are saying they are going to invest much to ensure that it meets international standards because there are certain features that we need. And you need to expend money to get those features. Somebody is going to ensure the continuous supply of the passport. We agree with to that suggestion, but what we were arguing initially was the cost of the passport. We were saying that the cost of passport is very expensive; and now the Honourable Minister has thought it fit that it should be brought down to **\$100** to be determined by the prevailing market price. I want us to get that understanding very clear about the prevailing market price. As a business man, it is not the bank rate you are going to use to determine it, but the buying rate.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, if you have a dollar account in a bank and you want to take from the bank, they will give you **Le 7,500** but if you go to the bank and you want to buy dollar so that you can buy those passport materials, they will give you **Le 7,650**. That is the price we are talking about. I am a business man and if I have been informed earlier that we are coming to discuss these amendments, I would have brought my receipts. When you are buying from the Bank, you buy **Le 7,650**. That is the price and if you have a dollar in the bank and you want to take it in Leone equivalence, they will give you **Le 7,500 per Dollar**. The **Le 1,500** is the profit of the bank and we have to understand that. To me, what is very important as a Government is to ensure that we increase our export rate, so that we will have more Dollars. When we have more Dollars, the price of it will come down and that is how we will have the automatic reversal of the price.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, according to Section 8 of the Agreement, it will go down. If for instance we have more foreign exchange or more export and there is a boom in the Iron ore, Agricultural and Fisheries Industry, that will ensure the availability of the Dollar in the country. If the Dollar is available to us, the price of Dollar will naturally come down and that is how you will have an automatic reversal of the cost of the passport coming down. We use Leones in this country. We are just tagging it so that whosoever is investing in that area, will be able to meet the demands of the prevailing circumstance. When I went through the document, the supplier wanted **\$120** because the cost of the passport is like **\$100** and bringing it to Sierra Leones will incur an additional **\$20**. That means he was running at a loss. However, if we have a constant flow of the Dollar, then we will have what we call excess supply of Dollar as against the demand. Naturally, the price of the Dollar will come down and eventually the price of the passport will come down. That was the clarification I wanted to make. It is not us that will have to determine the price. It is demand and supply that will determine the price of the Dollar. I pray that we will be prudent in terms of ensuring that we have more export going out, so that the Dollar will come to this country. If that happens, then the cost will automatically go down to **Le1000**. That is the beauty of

this Agreement. However, we have to be very cautious in terms of how we go about it. Having said that, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am asking colleague Members of Parliament to ratify this Agreement. I thank you very much.

**HON. ANSUMANA J. KAIKAI [Deputy Minority Leader]:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we have before us this ratification which has been brought here by the Minister of Internal Affairs. The Instrument was brought here and the Agreement itself came before this House; and they were both ratified. Of course, the relevant clause in this Statutory Instrument is what has given the cause for the Minister to be here this morning. That clause is simply saying that the exchange rate theory, which the Honourable Foday Rado Yokie was referring to, which is the featuring. In the interest of our integrity, we have to do what is prudent, so that the Agreement and both ratifications that this House has carried out earlier remains in force. These are the prices that we pay as a country because we cannot afford financially to be up there with the relevant requirements that are set worldwide. If it was only a matter of printing a passport, we would have gone to China or Guinea or the Government Printers; but because it is required now that our passport must meet certain international standards that have been set, this is the price that we have to pay for those requirements.

Having said that, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am therefore asking my colleagues to prudently and immediately ratify this Agreement. I thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Patrick L.M. Kargbo, I told you that I will start calling names. I was just saying that Honourable Kombor Kamara paid **Le 300,000**, which is equivalent to **\$40** on-board, the Pelican. That is what he paid.

**HON. LEONARD S. FOFANAH [Majority Leader and Leader of Government Business]:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we have seen the Minister of Internal Affairs in this Well few times in connection with the pricing policy of our passports. That in itself is a manifestation of government caring attitude towards the citizens. You would recall that when the passport was pegged at that price, the Minister came here and reduced the price to only **\$100**, much more against the wishes of the other side of

the contract. And because of that, the price was maintained so the prevailing price as of now is the agreed value of the **\$100** or **Le 750,000**. Clause 5 stipulates the process of the pricing system, but the only thing left with us here this morning is to ratify the amendment. I would want to urge Honourable Members that we do so as has been confirmed by the Acting Minority Leader. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

**MR ALFRED PAOLO CONTEH:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, before I move the Motion, I want to respond to some of the issues raised by Honourable Members. On the issue relating to the rate, it is the official bank rate. And on the review of the exchange rate, I will certainly make sure that we keep to the terms of the Agreement which is to make it reviewable and I would make sure that both parties keep to the Agreement.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, be it resolved that this Honourable House ratify the following Agreements which were laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2017:

[i] Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and NETPAGE Sierra Leone Limited, dated 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014; and

[ii] Amendments to the Agreement of the 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014, the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and NETPAGE Sierra Leone Limited dated 3rd August, 2015.

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]*

*[Government Motion by the Minister of Internal Affairs has been ratified]*

## **BILL.**

### **THE SIERRA LEONE PEACE KEEPING AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY ACT, 2017**

#### INTRODUCTION AND FRIST READING

THE MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

**MAJOR RTD PAOLO CONTEH** *[Minister of Internal Affairs]:* Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I move that the Bill entitled, 'The Sierra Leone Peace Keeping and Law Enforcement Academy Act, 2017' be read the first time.

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]*

*[The Bill entitled, the Sierra Leone Peace Keeping and Law Enforcement Academy Act, 2017 has been read the first time].*

## SECOND READING

**MAJOR RTD PAOLO CONTEH:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I move that the Bill entitled, 'The Sierra Leone Peace Keeping and Law Enforcement Academy Act, 2017' be read the second time.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, this Bill seeks to create an academy for the Sierra Leone Police Force in which they will be training troops for peace keeping operations all over the world and also for continuing development programmes. This is to ensure that after the police would have gone through their basic training, they will go to that academy to specialise and to develop their career. We are hoping that once this is established and fully developed, it would serve not only the Sierra Leone Police, but will also serve the sister institutions, like the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces and other security agencies. We are hoping that since this will be the very first Police Academy in the Mano River Union, it will serve member countries that are part of this Union. The courses will range from diploma to Bachelor degrees and hopefully to master degree; and in the not too distance future, to PhD. That is the aim and aspiration of the Sierra Leone Police.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I therefore move that the Bill be read the second time.

*[Question Proposed]*

**HON. DR MICHEL SHO-SAWYER:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise to make my contribution to the Bill in front of us. I believe that this Bill is a very good Bill and it is non-controversial. What the Bill is going to do in effect in building such an institution is that when we have our force going out of Sierra Leone, it will give us international recognition. It is going to build an international image of Sierra Leone.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, for a very long time when you look at the airlines coming to Sierra Leone, one of the major issues in building our tourism sector is the high cost of tickets and it is still high because there are so many taxes levied on the ticket for Sierra Leone and those taxes are warzone taxes. If we have peace building forces going out of Sierra Leone, that will change the image of Sierra Leone that Sierra Leone is now a peaceful nation and is helping to bring peace to other countries. I think Sierra Leone would be recognised as a safe country since we are sending our forces to bring peace to other nations. I think it is going to be very helpful. It is also going to be helpful in rebranding the image of this country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, if investors want to come to Sierra Leone, they still consider Sierra Leone as a civil warzone country. However, where we have our peace building forces serving in the United Nations [UN] and ECOWAS and other countries across the world, automatically the message will send a good image of Sierra Leone. So, I particularly do support this and I want to congratulate the police force in advance and the Ministry of Internal Affairs for this idea. This is another way for us to bring revenue into the country and to build Sierra Leone as one of the leaders in policing in the MRU. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, let me start by saying that I am in support of this Bill and I will also urge my colleagues to support this Bill. This Bill is not only about the structures that we are going to establish, but about the image of this country. This Bill is going to be about the disciplinary approach the Sierra Leone Police [SLP] has taken in this country and it is going to send a signal to the rest of the sub-region that Sierra Leone is on top of peace and conflict resolution in West Africa and Africa as a whole. This Bill is also about implementing the words 'force for good.'

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, some people might be surprised for supporting this Bill. The reason is because of the leadership qualities exhibited by the Inspector General of Police, Mr Francis Munu for the past years. I want to believe that the IG will not have all those things to do if he does not have the support of his Lieutenant and also the

leadership of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Therefore, I want to say kudos to Mr Alfred Paolo Conteh. Mr Speaker, since Mr Alfred Paolo Conteh became Minister of Internal Affairs, we have seen some discipline in this country. Therefore, like my colleague said earlier, this Bill is not controversial. I am therefore calling on Colleague Members to ratify this Bill immediately. I want to state here that I have a great respect for the IG and his team, but I want to appeal to them that when these good dreams come into reality, let us be reminded that it is going to be a force for Sierra Leone. Let us remember that it is going to be a force for everybody.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the fact that we are now training our own police to be sent outside for peace keeping means that we have to be trained and that means we have to look at our characters and principles that we are going to implement. We have to be self-disciplined; and as I said, The Inspector General of Police has been a disciplined Senior Officer in this country. I thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** I hope all of you have read the Bill. We are going to spend more time on Committee Stage, so that we do justice to this Bill. We do not need to be repeating ourselves. I am going to take two more from this end and then one on the other side. On this side of the House, I am going to ask Honourable Ibrahim Ben Kargbo and Honourable Patrick L. M. Kargbo to contribute to this Bill. On that other side, I will take Honourable Frank Kposowa and Honourable Veronica Sesay. I will only take two from each side. Let us make sure we participate during the Committee Stage. That is where the crux of the issues lies.

**HON. IBRAHIM BEN KARGBO:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, from experience, the Sierra Leone Police Force has over the past years gone a long way, not only did the Police Force of Sierra Leone took part in the war, but for the very first time members of the force stood side by side with the Military of Sierra to fight a war for this country. And immediately after the war, the Sierra Leone Police Force started metamorphosing. And I could remember that when Keith Biddle was here, he encouraged the Government to put in place a management team within the Police Force. In other words, unlike in the past where it was only one commissioner of police taking all the

decisions, this time round there is a management team which means that a good number of all the officers and senior officers will sit together and take decisions relating to the internal security of the this country for which I congratulate them.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to state here that peace keeping mission for a country that has just gravitated from a war situation is indeed a blessing. We are talking about the participation of the Sierra Leone Police force in Darfur; we are also talking about the Sierra Leone Police force in Haiti and other parts of the World. This means that in debating this Bill, we should look at the Bill from two angles; i.e., the peace keeping component of the Sierra Leone Police Force, and the capacity building of the Sierra Leone Police Force. The peace keeping aspect of it has been mentioned many times; and indeed, we have been applauded for our participation in international peace keeping.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, even Ban Ki-moon mentioned Sierra Leone when it came to international peace keeping. So, we are not going to waste time on that but to state that in the area of peace keeping, the Sierra Leone Police Force has done remarkably well for which they should be congratulated. Mr Speaker, if the ambition of the Sierra Leone Police Force must continue and if they want to be seen to be an institution that has the capacity to continue to be the police force for good, then the capacity building should also become a very important component. Therefore, the academy that is been proposed becomes a very important aspect of the police force in Sierra Leone.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we now believe and we are certain that very soon we are going to have a Police Academy in Sierra Leone and this Police Academy will becomes a tertiary institution that we will call a University for the Police. And once it becomes a University for the Police, it is the responsibility of the Government to make sure that we give impetus and importance to the whole business of training public officers in this country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Police Academy is going to be located in my own constituency. In fact, the regional offices for the All People's Congress [APC] and the

Sierra Leone People's Party [SLPP] are all located in my constituency. But of course, a modern Police Academy will require many things. During the days when we used to travel extensively as journalists to other countries, we noticed in Ghana that the Ghanaian Police Force had their own medical doctors and other experts in various fields. In other words, there was expertise within the police force. What we intend to achieve here, and I am sure the police force had that in mind, is to ensure that we have an Academy that will ensure that the police force develops the necessary expertise for the running of a modern police system. This is why I suggested at some point that in improving the Academy's capacity, we need to put certain structures in place, like the Academy forensic science. This should be part and parcel of this training programme. We should also ensure that Information and Communication Technology [ICT] is included in the training programme. Also, we should incorporate Cyber security and other aspects of modern science for the training programmes.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, what is also important is the fact that the police force in Sierra Leone has already started putting in place the necessary structures for this new Academy, which is very good. It shows that the Police have been thinking ahead. They are modest to know that they cannot go straight away to become a tertiary institution. They have decided to utilise the University of Sierra Leone, so that they help in galvanising the efforts of other institutions in the United Kingdom. They have also started to train their own people up to the level of a master degree. As the Minister rightly said, we would also gravitate towards introducing PhD programmes. We are going to talk about a modern system that will not only train our own people, but to also bring members of the public who are none police officers that may want to acquire education to use the facilities of that Academy to educate themselves. This is what you get from a progressive institution like the Sierra Leone Police Force.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we will go to Committee Stage, but I want to make it very clear that the concept of the whole idea of establishing a Police Academy in Sierra Leone, and our efforts to modernise the police force, believe you me I think this is one step which all of us must support. We have done quite a number of things in this

country to improve the police force. Most of police officers are educated and majority of them seated there have master degrees. In the early years, most of them stopped at standard six, but they now have master degrees and some of them have doctorate degrees. They are willing to transfer this knowledge here in terms of educating our people, so that they become part and parcel of a modern police system.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to plead with colleagues for us to ratify this Bill. Thank you very much.

**HON. VERONICA K. SESAY:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, before my intervention, I want to commend the IG and the rest of his team. This is because some times when Bills are brought to this House, officials from the MDAs concerned fail to come and listen to the proceedings of this House. They sit in their offices and unnecessarily blame Members of Parliament. I want to state here that this is how we work, but yet people are saying that we are not working. Now that you are here, this is how we operate here. We talk so that you listen and do exactly what we conclude at the end of the day. I want to commend you for your good job. Indeed, the Police Force is a force for good; and if there is a better way to put it, I would have done so. And if you are trained, I am expecting better things to happen.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, training is a very good venture because if you train somebody to know something, I do not think there will be problem at all. Now, we are talking about Police Academy in this country. As the saying goes, S.O. 2 "if marraide dae sweet, na from the bachelor's eve." We should start to maintain the peace here because there is so much on the table. Mr Speaker, even though we sometimes say a 'force for good,' but mistakes are bound to happen because of lack of training. Sometimes if they go to resolve a conflict, instead of resolving the conflict, they add more fuel to it and that is why I am in support of this Bill. The training will help the youngsters or the youth of this country because we have many people who are waiting for work.

In Ghana, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, instead of wasting time after your university education, you go and work for the community and it is there you have to

show your talent to the community. I want to believe that after the training, you do not have to leave here for another country on a peace mission without ensuring peace in your country. You have to start here in terms of maintaining your own peace. In other words, you should have something to show that indeed you are coming from Sierra Leone and this is how we operate.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as I was saying, this is marvellous idea and I want to state here that I have no doubt in your ability to ensure that things work. I was expecting the Assistant Inspector General of Police [AIG]; i.e., IAG Memuna to be here because she is one of the ladies I personally admire. Sometimes people exhibit dislike for a particular person or group of people because of the disciplinarian tendencies they usually display. But some people are like that because of their trainings or their hard work and diligence. I want to believe that AIG Memuna is one of those people with strict and disciplinary tendencies, and that is why people do not like her. I personally like her because of her good work. And I want you to deliver this message that the women of this House want to see much of her; we want to see how she can mediate or how she can involve more women to be trained in that academy.

With those few words, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to call on my colleagues to support the ratification of this Bill because it is a good Bill and we do not have to waste time talking about training. I want to thank the Minister for taking his time to come and present this Bill to this House.

**HON. PATRICK L. M. KARGBO:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker for the opportunity. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I think today is a very nice day for me because I have been taken aback to where I belong; i.e., the Sierra Leone Police Force. But let me go back to history which has to do with what we are discussing here today. Some years back, we had a very decent police officer by the name of Keith Biddle, whom we are always proud of. And what we are talking about today could be one of his good works when he was serving the Sierra Police Force. Today, I want to state here that Sierra Leone is making history in terms of putting in place structures for a Police Academy in this country. I believe other African countries, especially the West Africa

countries, will have to bring their police officers to study about policing in their countries. Therefore, Sierra Leone is going to be the centre of excellence in policing in the sub-region.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, for those of us who are aware of what the Police can do in terms of bringing peace into a country like Sierra Leone, we will support this Bill because it will bring Sierra Leone into a unique position in the area of discipline and police administration. However, I want to warn politicians that the Police Academy that is to be created is not meant for dropouts. I am saying this because the document in front of me here is talking about police officers who are highly educated. For those of you who are in possession of this document, it is telling us that the police force that would be in few years to come is not meant for just Standard 4, but for those who are highly educated. We have police officers who are very educated and some of them can even interpret the law to the fullest. I also want to believe that we are going to get more police officers who are going to interpret what they are able to do.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the creation of a Police Academy will help to shape this country in a positive way and improved policing standard that most people will admire. We are expecting the best from our police officers.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to appreciate the effort of the police administration, more so the leadership of the police for giving us this opportunity to have a strong police system in this country. I want to urge my colleagues to speedily ratify this Bill. Thank you very much.

**HON. FRANK KPOSOWA:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, there was a time when no one would like to be associated with the Sierra Leone Police Force because of its history. The way we were handled by the police when tried to promote freedom of expression in this country and the Rule of Law which is also a component of good governance. The police emerged as an obstructive mass to an extent and I had that feeling when I entered Parliament. In my contribution to the Presidential debate, I quoted an eminent journalist, who is no longer alive. His name is Professor Abdul Rahman Kargbo and when he was contributing to a debate, he said: **"When I was a**

**boy, I used to see men in uniform chasing criminals, but now that I am a man, I am seeing criminals in uniform harassing decent people.”** We were harassed at that time. What fortunately happened is that the Police Force in this country has moved with time and in their anxiety and aspirations to achieve a Police Force for good, I must, at this point, commend the collective leadership of the Police Force; i.e., the Political Leadership and the men themselves for what they are about to achieve with the passage of this Bill.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I would like to compare what is happening in the Police Force to what is also happening in the produce marketing sector. He says we lose when we sell our raw products abroad. But if we have refineries in this country, we will be able to sell our goods and there will be value added. What the Police is doing is to engage in activities that will add value to the Police Force.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, this move cannot be more welcomed when you pitched it against what used to happen when we sent our police personnel abroad. We used to have bad incidents. For instance, some of them were engaged in pornography and that sent bad image for this country. I know that with the establishment of an institution like this, some of these bad practices will change because what we are going to have at the end of the day a Napoleonic Police Force which could be made up of career based on talents.

Having said that, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to call on my colleagues to give the Police Force the support they need by ratifying this Bill today. I thank you very much.

**HON. ANSUMANA J. KAIKAI [Acting Minority Leader]:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise to make my contribution on the Bill that is before us this morning. I am made to understand that there was a pre-legislative hearing on this Bill yesterday. I expect that most of my colleagues that attended that hearing are well informed as to why this Bill should become law or not to become law. What we have before us is a Bill that is going to establish an academic institution that

will educate Sierra Leoneans and other nationals whom may be fortunate to become students in that institution.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in every institution, the objectives for its establishment and the issues and expectations must be clearly spelt out and specifically as to why that institution should be established. However, I must state here that this is an idea that was born at a time when our police force in this country was transforming... - *[Interruption]*.

*Suspension of S.O 5[2]*

**HON. ANSUMANA J. KAIKAI:** I was saying that the idea was born at a time when our Police Force in this country was transforming at a very difficult moment in the history of this country. The British Government decided to come to the aid of this country and to work with the Government of this country in transforming the Police Force. In fact, the Bill that we have before us today was actually thought of and made part of that foundation that was laid at that time. It was so difficult a time that we had to negotiate with the opposition parties and other interest groups in this country to accept an expatriate... - *[Interruption]*.

**THE SPEAKER:** In essence, you are saying that it was not this current IG's idea?

**HON. ANSUMANA JAIA KAIKAI:** Well, he was a member of the Police Force then and he knew he was going to benefit. In fact, our laws were even bent over to have an expatriate by the name of a John Bull to become the IG in this country and the Police Force then was adequately provided for. What we have today is a continuation of that process and I want to state here that we have one of the finest police institutions in West Africa. And as such, we are now setting up an Academy. I am saying that this institution should become a specialised institution that is geared towards police signs education and the Rule of Law. This is because when we come to the Committee Stage, I would call on us to look at one or two clauses that are so broad that the definition is not crystal clear; and as much as we are making laws, we should be careful.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Mr Keith Biddle served as that expatriate and he came and reformed our Police Force. Today, several other Sierra Leoneans have become IGs in this country. They have since retired; and today, we have an IG who is also, after setting up all of these structures, will be included amongst those Sierra Leoneans who have best served their country. They may not be there and if those clauses are not looked at properly or if those clauses are not polished beyond the expectations of us, we may end up setting up an institution whose future could be blamed on us if it fails. Police management team was set up in order to make sure that the dynamics of the successes are not only noticed, but maintained. As far as our peace keeping capacity is concerned, Sierra Leoneans have excelled in peace keeping from the time of the Congolese Crisis to date, when the President of Congo, Patrice Lumumba was overthrown. Therefore, it is nothing new because we have always participated. Our police forces and the military have always participated excellently in those ventures because one thing you cannot take from a Sierra Leonean is her performance when she is ready to perform.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to caution here that this institution should not be mistaken for any further purpose other than the purpose of making sure that the Police are trained. In other words, the Police in this country and those who are interested must be adequately trained, so that both sides of the sojourn into this country will be properly served better. We expect that to happen and we also expect that if this institution is established, those acumen will be included in the academic trainings. I say so in good faith.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I support the passage of this Bill into law.

**HON. LEONARD S. FOFANAH:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I was bemused by the Acting Minority Leader, especially the phrase you cannot take away from the Sierra Leonean. An extension of that phrase will be 'You will not take away from the APC the things that it is achieving.' My brother loves History. He will go the length of a mile to juxtapose the things that have been done before to merely give credence to History.

We are living in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and we are living under the Government of the Honourable Ernest Bai Koroma. You cannot take away the achievements of this Government. There is no way you can juxtapose the past and the present. The present is over-riding the past.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Police Academy is going to come to light as another educational institution, but with a difference. The emphases are going to be added to the training of our police force and very likely like the Minister said the other ambits of the Forces in Sierra Leone. This institution is going to have major advantages for this country. Like the Honourable from Bombali said, the institution is going to be the first of its kind in the Mano River Union; and naturally, the other member countries of the Mano River Union might be advised to take advantage of the existence of this institution, and their police and other members of the forces will be sent here, not only to educate them, but to build their capacity, so that they will be able to do more.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I wish my brother has referred to Sierra Leone as the former 'Athens of West Africa' and we are going to build another Athens of West Africa in the forces as well. We are creating a Police Academy that is going to be training and awarding degrees. Therefore, the Police is going to be retaining their people and not running after academic qualifications to go and serve elsewhere. That is the good thing that is happening to our forces now. Gone are the days when our forces were looked upon because of their educational background; but today, you can count a number of graduates in both the military and the police. And this is a good thing for this country. The institution will also be earning a lot of foreign exchange capacity because those who will be coming from other countries will be required to pay fees and above all, the training provided will increase their capacities or build their capacities, so that we will be having a better force.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Speaker was advising that we add certain issues when we come to the Committee Stage. As of now, I believe the Bill from what all members contributed is non-controversial and I will request that we proceed accordingly Mr Speaker.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to thank all those who contributed to this Bill. I hope that at the end of the day, we will see this Bill as a good Bill and it will be passed into Law for the betterment of our Police Forces and the future generations. I thank you very much, Honourable Members.

**RTD MAJOR PAOLO CONTEH:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I move that the 'Sierra Leone Peace Keeping and Law Enforcement Academy Act, 2017' be read the second time.

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]*

*[The Sierra Leone Peace Keeping and Law Enforcement Academy Act, 2017 being an Act to provide for the establishment of the Sierra Leone Peace Keeping and Law Enforcement Academy and to provide for other related matters has been read the second time]*

#### COMMITTEE STAGE

[THE HOUSE RESOLVES INTO COMMITTEE]

[Parts 1, 2 and 3, Clauses 1 to 11 proposed]

**RTD MAJOR PAOLO CONTEH:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 1, 2 and 3, Clauses 1 to 11 stand part of the Bill.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Honourable Members, we go page by page and we start with what is supposedly page 1. Page 2?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, on Page 2. We have gone through the Interpretation Section and there is a key word missing there; i.e., '**Minister.**' As we discussed yesterday at the pre-legislative hearing, the Police are not involved alone in peacekeeping operations. We also have the military. The military have the Minister of Defence and it will be good that we specify for the purpose of this Act that the Minister should mean '**Minister of Internal Affairs.**' The definition of Minister is absent here.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Mr Clerk, please take note. It will come immediately after '**Faculty Board**' before '**National Council.**' Anymore on page 2? Page 3? Page 4?

**HON. ABU JAJUA:** Thank you very much, Mr Chairman. I want to look at Page 4, Clause 6, sub-clause 2. It says: **"The Council of the Academy shall consist of the Principal who shall be the Chairman and the following other members."** I believe the Council should have the responsibility of providing an annual supervision of the college. Therefore, making the Principal the Chairman of the Council means that he is supervising himself and I want to suggest that the Chairman should be somebody out of the college.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Honourable Members, this is a very good suggestion. We should look at it very carefully. Mr Minister, what was the rationale of having the Principal as the Chairman? Inspector General you can approach the Minister if you want to give him advice. Mr Minister, do you agree? There is always going to be a Registrar and he is the Secretary. But there is going to be a Chairman to be appointed outside the institution.

Honourable Members, you should note that these people do not need the approval of Parliament like all other academic institutions. In other academic institutions, the President appoints because the President is the Chancellor and all those who will be sitting in Boards of those institutions are his proxies. And this applies to institutions like Fourah Bay College, Njala University, etc. None of them come through Parliament. Therefore, please take note for the drafting purposes. Page 4? Page 5?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Chairman, Page 5, Paragraph J; one representation from each region. The regions were named, forgetting that we now have a fifth region. I want it to be amended.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Mr Clerk, please take note of these observations. Anymore on Page 5?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** I want to also look at the membership of the Council. If you include the fifth region's representative, it will add to 13 representatives. I think that is fine.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Page 6?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Chairman, Page 6, Clause 8 [ii] - Membership of the Academic Board. We raised this point yesterday that there is no provision for a quorum of the Board. Mr Chairman, even the term 'quorum,' makes it very difficult to ascertain the exact number of each provision. For instance, it says, 'the vice principal' and that is very clear because there is only one vice principal; but the directors of institutes and schools, established under the academy is not certain.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** The Provision is correct as it is. It can expand or contract. Honourable Members, Page 7? Page 8? Page 9? Page 10?

**MAJOR RTD ALFRED PAOLO CONTEH:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 1, 2 and 3, Clauses 1 to 11 stand part of the Bill as amended.

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]*

*[Parts 1, 2 and 3, Clauses 1 to 11 form part of the Bill as amended]*

[Parts 4, 5 and 6 Clauses 12 to 22 proposed]

**MAJOR RTD ALFRED PAOLO CONTEH:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 4, 5 and 6 Clauses 12 to 22 stand part of the Bill.

*[Question Proposed]*

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Honourable Members, Page 10? Page 11? Page 12? Page 13? Page 14?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Chairman, the side notes on Page 14 deals with '**Form of Academy.**' It should be '**Funds of the Academy.**' Also, the same side note says, '**Accounts of the Academy.**' This is not clear.

**THE SPEAKER:** Those are minors and could be absorbed. Any more on that page? Page 15?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Chairman, Page 15, Clause 20. '**The Financial Year of the Academy shall be the same as the Financial Year of the Government.**' Delete '**the**' before '**Government.**'

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Any more on Page 15? Page 16?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Chairman, Page 16. For Consistency, I want to look at Clause 22 – ‘Preparation of the Statutory Instrument should be done by the Minister. The Minister is also going to lay it. In clause 22 [1], replace ‘**the Academic Board**’ with ‘**Minister.**’ ‘**The Minister may, by Statutory Instrument, make such regulations as he considers necessary.**’ I am saying this because I want us to be consistent with what we did last week.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Honourable Member, this is different and there is a distinction. The Minister will lay the Instrument, but the preparation has to be done by the Academic Board. It is different from the one we did last week. This is going to be an Academic Institution, unlike the one that is purely a Government institution. This is similar to a body like the National Electoral Commission [NEC], Human Rights Commission, but it is being laid by the Minister. Anymore on Page 16?

**MAJOR RTD ALFRED PAOLO CONTEH:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that parts 4, 5 and 6, Clauses 12 to 22 stand part of the Bill as amended.

*[Question Proposed Put and Agreed to]*

*[Parts 4, 5 and 6 Clauses 12 to 22 form part of the Bill as amended].*

[THE HOUSE RESUMES]

**MAJOR RTD ALFRED PAOLO CONTEH:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I report that the Bill entitled, ‘The Sierra Leone of Peacekeeping and Law Enforcement Academy Act, 2017’ having gone through the Committee of the whole House with some amendments be read the third time and passed into Law.

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]*

*[The Bill entitled ‘The Sierra Leone Peace-Keeping and Law Enforcement Academy Act 2017’ being an Act to provide for the establishment of the Sierra Leone Peace-keeping and Law Enforcement Academy and to provide for other related matters has been read the third time and passed into Law].*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*[The House rose at 12.36 p.m. and was adjourned to Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 at  
10.00 a.m.]*