

- (j) to provide a suitable library for law students;
- (k) to set up an independent examination committee for the conduct of entrance examinations into the Sierra Leone Law School;
- (l) to make regulations for admissions, discipline and the conduct of examinations; and
- (m) perform such other functions as are incidental for the attainment of the object stated in subsection (1). "

### MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Being an Act to amend the Council of Legal Education Act, 1989, (Act No. 1 of 1989) to provide for the continuation and maintenance of the Sierra Leone Law School as the only law school in Sierra Leone with powers to establish other law school campuses, to introduce new provisions relative to the composition and functions of the Council of Legal Education and to provide for other related matters.

MADE this 16th day of September, 2021.

ANTHONY YIEHWOE BREWAH,  
*Attorney-General and Minister of Justice*

FREETOWN,  
SIERRA LEONE

## BILL

No.



**Sierra Leone**

2021

### A BILL ENTITLED

**The Council of Legal Education (Amendment) Act, 2021**

Short title.

Being an Act to amend the Council of Legal Education Act, 1989, (Act No. 1 of 1989) to provide for the continuation and maintenance of the Sierra Leone Law School as the only Law School in Sierra Leone with powers to establish other campuses, to introduce new provisions relative to the composition and functions of the Council of Legal Education and to provide for other related matters.

[ ] Date of commencement.

ENACTED by the President and Members of Parliament in this present Parliament assembled.

## PART I – PRELIMINARY

Amendment of  
Section 4  
of Act No. 1  
of 1989.

1. Section 4 of the Council of Legal Education Act, 1989 (Act No. 1 of 1989) is amended by the repeal and replacement of that section with the following new section

"(1) The Council shall consist of -

- (a) The Honourable Chief Justice who shall be Chairman;
- (b) The Attorney-General and Minister of Justice or his representative;
- (c) The Minister of Technical and Higher Education or his representative;
- (d) a Vice Chancellor from a university in Sierra Leone, representing all accredited universities in Sierra Leone offering law degree approved by Council;
- (e) a Dean of the Faculty of Law from a university in Sierra Leone, representing all accredited universities in Sierra Leone;
- (f) a Justice of the Supreme Court nominated by the Chief Justice;
- (g) 2 legal practitioners of the Sierra Leone Bar Association of not less than 10 years standing, nominated by the Sierra Leone Bar Association;
- (h) The Director of the Sierra Leone Law School;
- (i) a representative of the Employers Federation; and
- (j) a retired Judge or a legal practitioner of not less than 10 years standing appointed by the Attorney General and Minister of Justice in consultation with the Chief Justice.

(2) Members referred to in paragraph (d) and (e) of subsection (1) shall be appointed to Council by their peers for a duration of one year on a rotational basis."

2. Section 6 of the Council of Legal Education Act, 1989 is amended by the repeal and replacement of that section with the following new section- Amendment of Section 6 of Act No. 1 of 1989.

"6. (1) The object for which Council is established is to have responsibility for the legal education of persons seeking to become members of the legal profession in Sierra Leone.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Council shall be responsible -

- (a) for the continuation and maintenance of a law school in Sierra Leone known as the Sierra Leone Law School;
- (b) for establishment and maintenance of law school campuses in Sierra Leone as it may deem necessary;
- (c) for the appointment of a Director, a Registrar, Deputy Registrars, lecturers, academic and other staff of the Sierra Leone Law School;
- (d) for conducting professional and training courses and examinations of the Sierra Leone Law School;
- (e) for the approval of courses of study for students of the Sierra Leone Law School;
- (f) to prescribe conditions which a Faculty of Law of a university in Sierra Leone shall comply with before its products are eligible for admission into the Sierra Leone Law School;
- (g) to evaluate courses of study provided by and accord appropriate recognition of legal qualifications obtained in other accredited institutions;
- (h) to issue a certificate for call to the Bar on satisfactory completion by a person of the course of study and professional training at the Sierra Leone Law School;
- (i) to establish legal qualifications for lecturers of the Sierra Leone Law School and to make provision for the sponsoring of "Chair of Law" at universities;