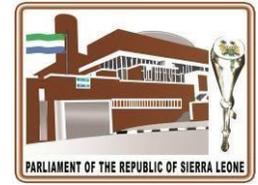




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23rd July, 2021

PRESS RELEASE

PARLIAMENT MAY TAKE A VOTE ON THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY TOMORROW

Following extensive deliberations and solicitation of inputs from Civil Society and Human Rights Organizations leading to postponement of further debate, the Parliament of Sierra Leone may take a vote or decision tomorrow, Friday 23/07/2021 on the Bill entitled: "The Abolition of the Death Penalty Act 2021", to be removed from the law books and substituted or replaced with life imprisonment for persons convicted for murder, mutiny, treason and robbery with aggravation.

The Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Anthony Y. Brewah will be in Parliament tomorrow to follow the process on the repeal and replacement of the death penalty, following a manifesto promise made by President Julius Maada Bio during the last general election regarding the abolition of the death penalty.

Members of the general public are expected to fill the galleries of Parliament to follow the debate and the COVID-19 protocol of wearing face masks.

In light of its Order Paper, the Parliament of Sierra Leone will announce tomorrow membership to its sessional select committees including Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen as constitutionally required to hold the executive to account regarding funds allocated and the containment of emerging issues for the development of the country.

Sessional Select Committees are constituted by law to investigate and inquire into the activities of Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of Government and may make recommendations that could be adopted by Parliament. Such recommendations may also lead to proposals for legislation.

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