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### PRESS RELEASE

#### PARLIAMENT OBSERVES A MINUTE OF SILENT PRAYERS OVER WELLINGTON FIRE DISASTER

Following calls by President Julius Maada Bio to mourn, pray and show solidarity to the victims of the fire incident that occurred at Wellington Estate, the Acting Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas has on Tuesday 09/11/2021 called on MPs and they observed a minute of silent prayers for those who died and sustained injuries as a result of a ferocious inferno at PMB, Wellington on that fateful day.

In observance of prayers, Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas said that Parliament stands to mourn the tragic death of Sierra Leoneans and extends its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and wishes speedy recovery to those who sustained injuries, following the collision of a fuel tanker and a granite truck that resulted in a huge conflagration whilst people were scooping the leaking fuel.

He also expressed thanks and appreciation to President Bio, Vice President Mohamed Juldeh Jalloh, Doctors, Nurses, Police, Military, Fire Force, National Disaster Management Agency and others who supported the response in diverse ways.

Praying, Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas said that "as a nation we have had our share of bad news. We pray at this moment that God Almighty grants us His tender mercies now and forever".

Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Chernor Bah also joined in prayers and expressed solidarity to the bereaved families and wished speedy recovery to those who sustained injuries.

Speaking on the necessity for road safety, he called on Parliament to summon officials of SLRSA, Police and Fire Force to brief Parliament on the fire disaster at PMB, Wellington with a view to addressing matters relating to road safety.

Acting Leader of Government Business, Hon. Bashiru Silikie supported the sentiments expressed by the Leader of the Opposition in respect of summoning the respective parties to explain to Parliament on the existential in light of the fire incident at PMB, Wellington that resulted in the loss of lives and property.

A motion was moved in Parliament today in respect of the fire incident at Wellington for a Joint Committee action by Transport and Internal Affairs and report to Parliament immediately.

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