

SIGNED this 9th day of April, 1973.

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SIAKA STEVENS,
President.

LS

No. 3



1973

Sierra Leone

The Electoral Provisions (Political Parties) Act, 1973 Short title.

Being an Act to regulate what has commonly been called
"carpet-crossing" in Parliament

[9th April, 1973.] Date of
Commence-
ment.

BE IT ENACTED by the President and Members of Parliament in this present Parliament assembled, as follows:—

1. (1) No organisation having as one of its aims or objects the return of any member of that organisation at a public election—
Prohibitions imposed on certain organisations.

- (a) shall be formed the membership or leadership of which is restricted to members of any particular tribe, tribal group or groupings or religious faith, or
- (b) shall use any name or symbol having any exclusive or particular significance or connotation to the members of any particular tribe, tribal group or groupings or religious faith, or
- (c) shall be formed for the sole purpose of securing whether directly or indirectly the welfare, advancement or interest of the members of any particular tribe, tribal group or groupings, or religious faith.

(2) For the purpose of this section the expression "organisation" includes any association of persons by whatever name called and a local or affiliated branch of any such association of persons.

Electoral Commission to keep register of Party symbols.

2. The Electoral Commission shall keep a register of the symbols of all political parties in Sierra Leone.

Members of Parliament to vacate seats in certain cases.

3. Where a person is elected a Member of Parliament on the symbol of a political party, he shall vacate his seat immediately—

- (a) if he ceases to be a member of that political party and he informs the Speaker accordingly;
- (b) if he ceases to be a member of that political party and the Speaker is so informed by the Leader or other person recognised by the Speaker as the head of that political party;
- (c) if by his conduct in Parliament by sitting with Members of a different party, the Speaker is satisfied that such person is no longer a member of the political party under whose symbol he entered Parliament;
- (d) if being elected to Parliament as an independent candidate, he joins a political party in Parliament whether in Government or in opposition.

Speaker's certificate *prima facie* evidence.

4. The certificate under the hand of the Speaker that a person has vacated his seat in Parliament by reason of the fact that he has ceased to be a member of the political party under whose symbol he entered Parliament shall be *prima facie* evidence of the fact that such a person has ceased to be such a member.

Appeal to High Court.

5. Any person aggrieved by a certificate issued under section 4 may within twenty-eight days appeal to the High Court against the issuance of such certificate.

Passed in Parliament this *6th* day of *March*, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-three.

J. W. E. DAVIES,
Clerk of Parliament.

THIS PRINTED IMPRESSION has been carefully compared by me with the Bill which has passed Parliament and found by me to be a true and correctly printed copy of the said Bill.

J. W. E. DAVIES,
Clerk of Parliament.