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PRESS RELEASE

PARLIAMENT PASSES INTO LAW THE NATIONAL MEDICAL SUPPLIES AGENCY ACT 2017

The Parliament of Sierra Leone on Thursday 3rd August 2017, debated and passed into law the Bill entitled “The National Medical Supplies Agency Act 2017,” with some amendments.

The Bill is aimed at repealing and replacing the National Pharmaceutical Procurement Unit Act 2012, with the view of establishing the National Medical Supplies Agency as a Public Service Agency responsible for the procurement, warehousing and distribution of drugs and other medical supplies in a transparent, accountable, and cost-effective manner for and on behalf of all public institutions in the country.

The Bill was amended in line with the recommendations of the Legislative Committee, including to “procure and where necessary sell medical supplies of requisite quality and efficacy consistent with the Pharmacy Act as requested by the Ministry and other public bodies”. The Legislative Committee reviewed other clauses in order to ensure a good law that stands the test of time.

After the Bill had gone through the Committee of the Whole House with some amendments, Minister of Health and Sanitation Dr. Abu Bakarr Fofanah recommended to the House that the Bill be passed into law. The House unanimously passed the Bill into law.

In another development, the Deputy Speaker of Parliament and Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, Hon. Chernor R.M. Bah, laid on the Table of Parliament the Audit Service Sierra Leone Performance Audit on Monitoring of Environmental Compliance and Enforcement by the Environmental Protection Agency –Sierra Leone.

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