

OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

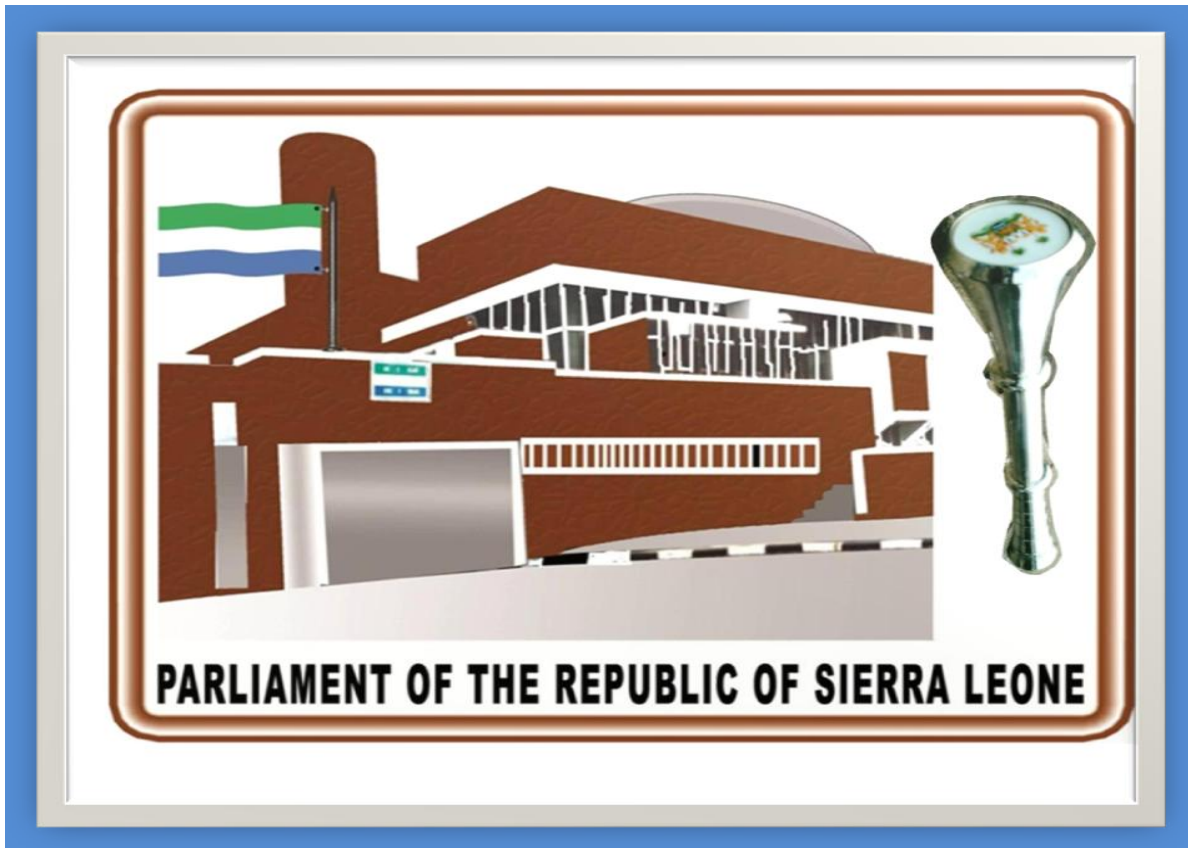
[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

THIRD SESSION –FIRST MEETING

TUESDAY, 24TH MARCH, 2026

SESSION – 2025/2026



OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

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First Meeting of the Third Session of the Sixth Parliament
of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone.

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House
held on Tuesday, 24th March, 2026

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THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND AVIATION

REPORT ON THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 2025

COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING



THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House

THIRD SESSION – FIRST MEETING OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC

TUESDAY, 24TH MARCH, 2026

1. PRAYERS

[The Table Clerk, Ms Asha Koroma, read the Prayers]

[The House met at 10:14 a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown]

[The Speaker, Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas, in the Chair]

The House was called to Order

Suspension of S.O. 5[2]

II. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE RECORD OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITTING, HELD ON FRIDAY, 27THFEBRUARY, 2026.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, we go through the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Friday, 27th February, 2026. As usual, we shall skip pages 1-4 and start with Page 5? Do you have any correction or amendment to make on Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? Page 8? Page 9? Page 10? If there is no correction or amendment, can someone move for the adoption of the record of Votes and Proceedings for the Parliamentary sitting, held on Friday, 27th February, 2026 as presented?

HON. JOSEEPH WILLIAMS-LAMIN: I so move, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. FALLAH K. TENGBEH: I so second, Mr Speaker.

[Question Proposed Put and Agreed To]

[Record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Friday, 27th February 2026 has been adopted as presented]

III. ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR SPEAKER.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, let me take this opportunity first and foremost, to wish you all, though it is now belated, a happy Eid Mubarak. I also want to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the House of Parliament. Let me remind you that you were elected to serve the people of Sierra Leone. Of course, I took a very long date to commence this sitting for two primary reasons: first, we were approaching the Eid Mubarak holiday and I wanted all of you to take a rest from work and relax; second, I told you during the previous adjournment that our colleagues were having their lower level elections. So, I wanted them to have time to go through their elections because it will be unfortunate for them to be travelling frequently to their constituencies for their lower level elections while sittings are ongoing. That will be very exhausting for them.

Honourable Members, those are the reasons I decided to take a long date to commence sittings; and of course, I informed this House that we were going to take a long date to commence our sittings, so that we will enable them to pay attention to their political lower level elections. This is because I did not want to disadvantage them. I know that most of you were not here when I made that pronouncement, but those were the

reasons. At this stage, I want to inform Members of Parliament that we will be having sittings frequently because we have several things to do. There will a sitting tomorrow.

Honourable Members, I want to also take this opportunity to remind you that as long as you have been elected by your people, you owe them the responsibility to come to this House and serve the Republic of Sierra Leone. This is your primary responsibility as a Members of Parliament. All other considerations are secondary. Of course, I know you belong to political parties. In this Well of Parliament, we have one side of Members of Parliament that belong to the Sierra Leone Peoples Party [SLPP], we have the other side that belongs to the All Peoples Congress [APC] and we also have the Paramount Chief Members of Parliament. However, let me remind you that as long as you have been elected by the people of Sierra Leone, you are not representing your political party, but the people of Sierra Leone.

In this circumstance, I urge Members of Parliament to constantly come to the Well of Parliament and serve the people of this country. There are more than one hundred and ten ways to urge the Government to do certain things. Therefore, I urge Members of Parliament not to use the attendance of sittings to be one of the reasons why you should urge government to do certain things. This is a passionate plea and in the circumstance, I want to use this medium to urge the Leadership of Parliament to meet me in my Chamber tomorrow for discussions related to what is going on at the moment. However, I want to plea with Members of Parliament and to remind them that their duty to Sierra Leone, through the work they do here, is primary to all other considerations. I want to welcome all Members of Parliament that are here. Thank you very much for your diligence. I will continue to doff my hat to you, and I am going to call the names of those who are present here today. I want to say that I am proud of you for coming to the Well of Parliament and to serve the Republic of Sierra Leone. Thank you very much for coming and happy belated Eid Mubarak to you all.

Honourable Members, let me take this opportunity to remind you of your duty established under Section 97, Paragraph 'B' of the Constitution of Sierra Leone Act No. 6 of the 1991 which reads: **"All Members of Parliament Shall regard themselves as representative of the people of Sierra Leone and desist from any conduct by which they seek improperly to enrich themselves or alienate themselves from the people."** I want to urge Members of Parliament to take full advantage of the provisions in Section 97, Paragraph 'B' of the Constitution of Sierra Leone Act No. 6 of the 1991. You all have your Constitutions and you all have your Standing orders. Make use of them by reading the above provisions for your own edification because this is the House of Parliament and we are here to serve the Republic of Sierra Leone. Thank you very much.

Honourable Members, let me now recognise those Members of Parliament who were in the Well before I entered the Chambers and I want to thank you all for your diligence.

Honourable Ibrahim Kabbah
Honourable Joseph Williams-Lamin
Honourable Alhaji Yusuf Mackery
Honourable Alie Bayoh
Honourable Musa Fofannah
Honourable Princess Kadie Daramy-Nabbie
Honourable Idrissa Dauda
Honourable Juliana A. Fatormah
Honourable Abdul Joseph Bash Kamara
Honourable Abu Bakarr Fofanah
Honourable Beatrice Iyamide Yankley
Honourable Neneh Lebbie
Honourable Beatrice Maya Kangbai
Honourable Idriss Sahid Kamara
Honourable Sarty Banya
Honourable Umu Pyne
Honourable P.C Prince Bio Lansana
Honourable Alhaji Abu Kemokai
Honourable Mohammed Billoh Shaw
Honourable Alhaji Keikura C. Vandy
Honourable Rebecca Yei Kamara
Honourable Osman Charles Abdulai
Honourable Mohammed Bangura
Honourable Alex M. Rogers
Honourable Alice Kornya Sandy
Honourable Ishmeal Yillah Sankoh
Honourable Ambrose Maada Lebbie
Honourable Abdul Suliaman Marray-Conteh

Honourable Mustapha M. Sellu
Honourable Sheik S. I Kargbo
Honourable P.C Desmond Kargobai
Honourable Musa Lahai
Honourable Fatmata Sarah Soukenah
Honourable P.C Haja Fatmata Bintu Koroma Meama Kajue
Honourable Mohammed Fofanah-Tarawallie
Honourable P.C Kandeh Baba Keiha III
Honourable Amara Momoh Kargbo
Honourable Fallah Tengbeh

Thank you very much for coming early. Is Honourable Edward George from Moyamba District around? Honourable Edward George is not in this Well. Honourable Members, I will be standing the House down for thirty minutes during the proceedings, so that Members of Parliament will go to Committee Room 1 for a brief meeting. Thank you very much.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker for reminding us, Members of Parliament, regarding our responsibility and our role as established in Section 97, Paragraph 'B' of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, Act No.6 of 1991. I want to join the Speaker by stating here that it is important for all of us, as Members of Parliament, to go to Committee Room 1 for a brief meeting. This is because we have important issues to discuss.

IV. BILL

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 2025

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND AVIATION

REPORT ON THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 2025

COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING

HON. ABDUL S.MARRAY-CONTEH:

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, this is the Second Report of the Legislative Committee, Third Session of the Sixth Parliament of the Second Republic of Sierra

Leone, on the Bill entitled "The Merchant Shipping Act, 2025," presented to Parliament on Tuesday, 22nd July 2025.

INTRODUCTION

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I rise to present the second report of the Legislative Committee, Fourth Session of the Fifth Parliament of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone, on the Bill entitled: **THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 2025.**

"Being an Act to repeal and replace the Merchant Shipping Act, 2003 [Act No.3 of 2003], to consolidate and improve the law relating to the registration of shipping, the maintenance of safety at sea and the marine environment and to provide for other related matters."

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Bill having gone through the Second Reading, the Bill was committed to the Legislative Committee for scrutiny pursuant to **Standing Orders 51[1]**. Subsequently, the Committee met on the following days, Monday 10th November, 2025, Tuesday 11th November, 2025, Thursday 13th November, 2025, Monday 17th November, 2025, Tuesday 18th November 2025, Tuesday 27th January, 2026, Wednesday 28th January, 2026, Thursday 29th January, 2026, Monday 9th February and Tuesday 10th February 2026, in Committee Room No.1 and The Speakers Conference Room of Parliament Building, with the following objectives:

- ❖ to scrutinise in detail the principles and provisions of the bill and to make amendments if necessary;
- ❖ to ascertain the constitutional and legal implications contained therein; and
- ❖ to report to Plenary for consideration by the Committee of the Whole House in line with S.O.53.

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, in attendance were, the Chairman Legislative Committee, Members of the Legislative Committee, other Members of Parliament, the Executive Director the Sierra Leone Maritime Administration and team.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Legislative Committee having scrutinised the Bill line by line and Clause by Clause recommends the following amendments to the House for approval:

The Short Title- be amended to read, **"THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 2026"**

The Long Title of the Bill- be approved.

PART I – PRELIMINARY:

- 1. Clause - 1 Interpretations:** the definition of the word **"assessor"** be amended to read, **"assessor" means a person appointed under section 502 to assist to hold a marine inquiry;"**

2. **Clause –1 interpretation:** the definition of the phrase **“employment agreement”** be amended to read **“crew agreement”**
3. **Clause – 1 interpretation:** the definition of the phrase **“Registrar of Ships”** be expunged.
4. **Clause - 1 Interpretations:** the definition of the phrase **“shipping agent”** be amended to read, **“shipping agent” means a person engaged by the owner, charterer or operator of a ship including ships engaged in fishing or the owner of cargo, to provide shipping services including-**
 - [a] **Negotiating and accomplishing the sale or purchase of a ship**
 - [b] **Negotiating and supervising the charter of a ship**
 - [c] **Collection of freight or charter hires where appropriate and all related financial matters.**
 - [d] **Arrangements for customs and cargo documentation and forwarding of cargo.**
 - [e] **Arrangement for procuring or processing the documentation and performing all activities required in respect of the dispatched of cargo.**
 - [f] **Organising arrival or departure arrangement of a ship; and**
 - [g] **Arranging for the supply of services to a ship while in port;**
5. **Clause - 1 Interpretations:** the definition of the phrase **“Sierra Leonean ship”** subparagraph [b] be amended by replacing the word **“from”** with the word **“by”**. To now read **“exempted by this act from registration”**.
6. **Clause - 1 Interpretations:** be amended by inserting the definition of the phrase **“Tonnage Licence”** to read, **“ Tonnage Licence means a licence issued to non-sierra Leonean ships to operate within Sierra Leone waters”**
7. **Clause – 2 Application :** be approved.

Part II – REGULATIONS FOR SIERRA LEONE FLAGGED VESSELS AND VESSELS OPERATING IN SIERRA LEONE WATERS

8. **Clause – 3 Regulations of vessels operating in inland waterways etc:** sub clause [1], be amended by replacing the phrase **“inland waterways”** with the phrase **“Sierra Leone waters”** at the end of the second line. To now read, **“The Administration may, by statutory instrument make Regulations in respect of vessels operating in Sierra Leone waters including operating in near coastal voyages.”**
9. **Clause – 3 Regulations of vessels operating in inland waterways etc:** sub clause [2], be amended by inserting a new paragraph “s and t”. To read, **“[s] Tonnage Licence, [t] Marine Environmental protection.”**

Part III – APPOINTMENT OF REGISTRAR, REGISTRATION OF SHIPS AND PROPRIETARY INTERESTS IN SHIPS

10. **Clause – 4 Registrar:** be approved.
11. **Clause – 5 Delegation by Registrar:** be approved.
12. **Clause – 6 Assistance to Registrar:** be approved.
13. **Clause – 7 Proper officer:** be approved.
14. **Clause – 8 Register of ships:** sub clause [3], be amended to read, **“A person may, on application to the Registrar during the hours of his official attendance and on payment of the prescribed fees inspect the register”**
15. **Clause – 9 Port of registry:** be approved.
16. **Clause – 10 Separation of registers:** be approved.
17. **Clause – 11 Prerequisite to be qualified as owner of a Sierra Leonean ship:** be approved.
18. **Clause – 12 Ships bareboat chartered by Sierra Leonean charterers:** sub clause [1c], be amended to now read, **“Chartered in circumstances where conditions for registration prescribed under section 15 as read with the requisite modifications are satisfied as respect the charterer and the ship.”**
19. **Clause – 12 Ships bareboat chartered by Sierra Leonean charterers:** sub clause [2], be amended by deleting the phrase **“requirement to be”** and replacing the word **“as”** with the word **“with”** and also inserting the word **“to”** after the word **“respects”** on the third line. To now read, **“The “requisite modifications” referred to in paragraph [c] of subsection [1] means the substitution for any requirement to be satisfied by or with respect to the charterer and the ship.”**
20. **Clause – 13 Exemptions, etc. from registration:** sub-clause [1], be amended by adding **“ed”** to the word **“exempt.”** To now read, **“A ship is exempted from registration where it is-”**
21. **Clause – 13 Exemptions, from registration:** sub clause (2), be amended by adding **“ed”** to the word **“exempt”**. To now read, **“Notwithstanding subsection [1], an exempted ship may be registered in accordance with this part.”**
22. **Clause – 14 Obligation to register Sierra Leonean ship:** be amended by deleting the phrase **“Sierra Leonean”**, at the end of the second line and at the beginning of the third line. To now read, **“Subject to section 12, every ship and every government ship shall be registered under this Act or any other relevant legislation.”**

23. **Clause – 15 Application for registration:** be approved.
24. **Clause – 16 Declaration of ownership:** marginal note be amended to read **"Declaration of ownership"**
25. **Clause – 17 Evidence on first registration:** sub clause [3] be amended to read **"A builder who fails to comply with subsection [1] or [2] or willfully makes a statement in a certificate given thereunder which is false commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 2 years or to both such fine and imprisonment."**
26. **Clause – 18 Restriction on registration:** sub paragraph [c], be amended by replacing the word **"affected"** with the word **"effected"** on the third line. To now read, **"that the ship's foreign registration has been cancelled or will be cancelled on the day that the new registration is effected;"**
27. **Clause – 19 Removal from register:** be approved.
28. **Clause – 20 Restriction on deregistration of ships:** be approved.
29. **Clause – 21 Documents retained by Registrar:** be approved.
30. **Clause – 22 Name of ship:** sub clause [5], be amended to read, **"A person who acts or allows another person under his control to act in contravention of this section or omits to do or allows any other person under his control to omit to do anything required by this section commits an offence and is liable, to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones"**
31. **Clause – 23 Change of name of a Sierra Leonean ship:** sub clause [5], be amended to read, **"a person who contravenes or permits another person under his control to contravene section 23 commits an offence and is liable, to a fine not less than \$1,000 or its equivalent in Leones."**
32. **Clause – 24 Identified marks for fishing vessels:** sub clause [3], be amended by inserting the word **"it"** after the word **"to"** and before the word **"under"**. To now read, **"A registered fishing vessel shall display the identity mark allocated to it under this section on each side of its bow and show its port of registry on the stern."**
33. **Clause – 24 Identified marks for fishing vessels:** sub clause (5), be amended to read **"A person who contravenes or permits another person under his control to contravene section 24"**

commits an offence and is liable to a fine not less than \$1,000 or its equivalent in Leones.

34. **Clause – 25 Call sign:** be approved.
35. **Clause – 26 Effects of failure to register:** be approved.
36. **Clause – 27 Ships registered under the repealed Act:** be expunged.
37. **Clause – 28 Period of Registration:** be renumbered to become Clause [27]
38. **Clause – 27 Period of Registration:** be amended to read, **“The registration of a ship shall, unless terminated under this Act, be valid for a maximum period of 5 years beginning with the date of registration specified in the certificate of registration and shall expire at the end of that period unless it is renewed in accordance with section 29.”**
39. **Clause – 29 Renewal notice and time limit for renewal:** be renumbered to become Clause [28].
40. **Clause – 28 Renewal notice and time limit for renewal:** be approved.
41. **Clause – 30 Application for renewal of registration:** be renumbered to become Clause [29].
42. **Clause – 29 Application for renewal of registration:** sub clause [2], be amended by replacing the word **“shall”** with the word **“may”** after the word **“Registration”** and before the word **“where”** on the first line. To now read, **“The Registrar may where application for renewal is not made, notify each and every mortgagee of the expiration of the ship’s registration.”**
43. **Clause – 31 Change in registered particulars of a ship:** be renumbered to become Clause [30].
44. **Clause – 30 Change in registered particulars of a ship:** be approved.
45. **Clause – 32 Survey of ships:** be renumbered to become Clause [31].
46. **Clause – 31 Survey of ships:** be approved.
47. **Clause – 33 Tonnage Regulations:** be renumbered to become Clause [32].

48. Clause – 32 Tonnage Regulations: sub clause [1], be amended by separating the word “**bystatutory**” to be “**by statutory**”, on the second line. To now read, “**The Minister, on the advice of the Administration may by statutory instrument make Regulation (hereinafter referred to as “tonnage Regulations”) to-**”

49. Clause – 32 Tonnage Regulations: sub clause [1f], be amended to read “**prohibit or restrict the carriage of goods or stores in spaces not included in the registered tonnage of a ship and provide for making the master and the owner each liable to a fine not less than \$2,500 or its equivalent in Leones;**”

50. Clause – 34 Ships in port through stress of weather: be renumbered to become Clause [33].

51. Clause – 33 Ships in port through stress of weather: be approved.

52. Clause – 35 Tonnage once ascertained to be tonnage of ship: be renumbered to become Clause [34].

53. Clause – 34 Tonnage once ascertained to be tonnage of ship: be approved.

54. Clause – 36 Alteration between surveys: be renumbered to become Clause [35].

55. Clause – 35 Alteration between surveys: sub clause [1], be amended by replacing the word “**advise**” with the word “**inform**” after the word “**reconstruction**” and before the word “**the**”, on the fifth line. To now read, “**Where an alteration or reconstruction of a Sierra Leonean ship is made that could affect the ship's classification, measurement, tonnage or load line, the owner or master of the ship shall, within 30 days after the completion of the alteration or reconstruction, inform the Registrar of the alteration or reconstruction and give him details thereof.**”

56. Clause – 35 Alteration between surveys: sub clause [2], be amended by amended to read, “**An owner or master who fails to comply with subsection [1] commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not less than \$2,500 or its equivalent in Leones.**”

57. Clause – 37 Appointment of surveyors: be renumbered to become Clause [36].

58. Clause – 36 Appointment of surveyors: sub clause [2], be amended by inserting the word “**by**” at the beginning of the second line. To now read, “**The Minister may, on the advice of the Administration, by statutory instrument,**

nominate within or outside Sierra Leone a classification society or organisation for the purpose of surveying ships.”

59. Clause – 38 making of ships: be renumbered to become Clause [37].

60. Clause – 37 marking of ships: be approved.

61. Clause – 39 Certificate of Registry: be renumbered to become Clause [38].

62. Clause – 38 Certificate of Registry: be approved.

63. Clause – 40 Regulations in relation to Certificate of Registry: be renumbered to become Clause [39].

64. Clause – 39 Regulations in relation to Certificate of Registry: be approved.

65. Clause – 41 Issue and custody of Certificate of Registry: be renumbered to become Clause [40].

66. Clause – 40 Issue and custody of Certificate of Registry: sub clause [3], be amended to read **“A person who contravenes subsection [2] commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than \$2,000 or its equivalent in Leones.”**

67. Clause – 42 improper use of Certificate of Registry: be renumbered to become Clause [41].

68. Clause – 41 Improper use of Certificate of Registry: sub clause [1], be amended to read, **“The master or owner of a Sierra Leonean ship, who uses or attempts to use, for the purposes of navigation of such ship, a Certificate of Registry not legally granted in respect of the ship commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 2 years or to both such fine and imprisonment.”**

69. Clause – 43 Provisional Certificate of Registry: be renumbered to become Clause [42].

70. Clause – 42 Provisional Certificate of Registry: fine provision be amended to read, **“commits an offence and is liable, to a fine not less than \$2,500 or its equivalent in Leones.”**

71. Clause – 44 Temporary pass in lieu of Certificate of Registry: be renumbered to become Clause [43].

- 72. Clause – 43 Temporary pass in lieu of Certificate of Registry:** be approved.
- 73. Clause – 45 Registration of alteration and registration anew:** be renumbered to become Clause [44].
- 74. Clause – 44 Registration of alteration and registration anew:** sub clause [4], be amended to read, **“An owner of a ship that has been altered, who fails to register the ship anew or to register the alteration commits an offence and is liable to a fine not less than \$2,500 or its equivalent in Leones.”**
- 75. Clause – 46 Rules for registration of alteration:** be renumbered to become Clause [45].
- 76. Clause – 45 Rules for registration of alteration:** sub clause [1], be amended by deleting the phrase **“of an”** at the end of the first line and also deleting the phrase **“of Registry has been produced”** at the end of the third line. To now read, **“The Registrar shall, for the purposes of the registration of an alteration in a ship, within 30 days after the alteration and the ship's Certificate of alterations;”**
- 77. Clause – 45 Rules for registration of alteration:** sub clause [2], be amended by deleting the word **“of”** after the word **“new”** and before the word **“Registry”** on the second line. To now read, **“The particulars of the alteration and the fact that a new Certificate of Registry, having been granted or an endorsement having been made shall be entered by the Registrar in the Register.”**
- 78. Clause – 47 Provisional Certificate where ship is registered anew:** be renumbered to become Clause [46].
- 79. Clause – 46 Provisional Certificate where ship is registered anew:** sub clause [4], be amended to read, **“A master who fails to comply with subsection [3] commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not less than \$2,500 or its equivalent in Leones.”**
- 80. Clause – 46 Provisional Certificate where ship is registered anew:** sub clause [6], be amended to read, **“An owner of a ship to which subsection [5] relates who fails to comply with that subsection commits an offence and is liable on conviction, to a fine not less than \$2,500 or its equivalent in Leones and in addition to a fine of \$500 or its equivalent in Leones for each day that the offence continues.”**
- 81. Clause – 48 Registration anew of change of ownership:** be renumbered to become Clause [47].
- 82. Clause – 47 Registration anew of change of ownership:** marginal note be amended by changing the first **“of”** to **“on”**. To now read, **“Registration anew on change of ownership**

83. Clause – 49 Procedure for registration anew: be renumbered to become Clause [48].

84. Clause – 48 Procedure for registration anew: be approved.

85. Clause – 50 Restriction on registration of abandoned ship: be renumbered to become Clause [49].

86. Clause – 49 Restriction on registration of abandoned ship: be approved.

PART IV-TRANSFER AND TRANSMISSION

87. Clause – 51 Transfer of ships and shares: be renumbered to become Clause [50].

88. Clause – 50 Transfer of ships and shares: be approved.

89. Clause – 52 Licensing of shipping agents: be renumbered to become Clause [51].

90 Clause – 51 Licensing of shipping agents: sub clause [2], be amended to read, **“An individual who contravenes subsection [1] commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than \$1,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 2 years or to both such fine and imprisonment.”**

91. Clause – 51 Licensing of shipping agents: be amended by inserting a new sub clause [3], to read, **“A co-oporative society who contravenes subsection [1] commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than \$1,500 or its equivalent in Leones.”**

92. Clause – 51 Licensing of shipping agents: be amended by inserting a new sub clause [4], to read, **“A partnership who contravenes subsection [1] commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than \$2,000 or its equivalent in Leones.”**

93. Clause – 51 Licensing of shipping agents: be amended by inserting a new sub clause [5], to read, **“A company who contravenes subsection [1] commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than \$2,500 or its equivalent in Leones.”**

94. Clause-53 Shipping agents licence: be renumbered to become Clause [52].

95. Clause-52 Shipping agents licence: sub clause [1], be amended by inserting the word **“agent”** after the word **“shipping”** and before the word **“shall”**. To now read, **“A person who wishes to operate as a shipping agent, shall apply to the Administration for a licence for that purpose.”**

96. **Clause – 54 Grant of shipping agents’ licence:** be renumbered to become Clause [53].
97. **Clause – 53 Grant of shipping agents’ licence:** be approved.
98. **Clause – 55 Duration of licence:** be renumbered to become Clause[54].
99. **Clause – 54 Duration of licence:** be approved.
100. **Clause – 56 charging of fees:** be renumbered to become Clause[55].
101. **Clause – 55 charging of fees:** be approved.
102. **Clause – 57 Conduct of shipping agents:** be renumbered to become Clause [56].
103. **Clause – 56 Conduct of shipping agents:** be approved.
104. **Clause – 58 declaration of transfer:** be renumbered to become Clause [57].
105. **Clause – 57 declaration of transfer:** be amended by deleting the phrase “**of such circumstances of the constitution**” at the end of the seventh line and at the beginning of the eight line before the word “**and**”. To now read, “**Where a registered ship or a share therein is transferred, the transferee shall not be entitled to be registered as owner thereof until, or in the case of a body corporate, the person authorised by this Act to make declarations on behalf of the body corporate, he has made and signed a declaration referring to the ship and containing a statement of the qualifications of the transferee to own a Sierra Leonean ship, or where the transferee is a body corporate and business thereof and proved to be qualified to own a Sierra Leonean ship.**”
106. **Clause – 59 Registration of transfer:** be renumbered to become Clause [58].
107. **Clause – 58 Registration of transfer:** be approved.
108. **Clause – 60 Transmission of property in a ship on death, insolvency:** be renumbered to become Clause [59].

- 109. Clause – 59 Transmission of property in a ship on death, insolvency:** be approved.
- 110. Clause – 61 Transfer of ship or sale by Court order:** be renumbered to become Clause [60].
- 111. Clause – 60 Transfer of ship or sale by Court order:** be approved.
- 112. Clause – 62 power of Court to prohibit transfer:** be renumbered to become Clause [61].

113. Clause – 61 power of Court to prohibit transfer: be amended by deleting the phrase “if thinks fit to do so” after the word “may” and before the word “without” on the first line and separating “to the” at the beginning of the second line and also replacing the word “every” with the word “the” after the word “and” and before the word “Registrar” on the eighth line. To now read, “**The High Court may, without prejudice to the exercise of any other power of the Court, on application of an interested person, make an order prohibiting the time specified in the order, any dealing with a ship or a share therein and the Court may make the order on such terms or conditions it thinks fit, or may refuse to make the order or may discharge the order made, with or without costs and generally may not in the case as the justice of the case requires and the Registrar without being made a party to the proceedings shall on being served with an order or official copy thereof obey the order.**”

PART V – MORTGAGES

- 114. Clause – 63 Mortgage of ships or shares:** be renumbered to become Clause [62].
- 115. Clause – 62 Mortgage of ships or shares:** be approved.
- 116. Clause – 64 Mortgage of personally registered ships:** be renumbered to become Clause [63].
- 117. Clause – 63 Mortgage of personally registered ships:** be approved.
- 118. Clause – 65 Entry on discharge of mortgage:** be renumbered to become Clause [64].
- 119. Clause – 64 Entry on discharge of mortgage:** be approved.
- 120. Clause – 66 Priority of registered mortgages:** be renumbered to become Clause [65].

121. **Clause – 65 Priority of registered mortgages:** be approved.
122. **Clause – 67 Mortgagee not treated as owner:** be renumbered to become Clause [66].
123. **Clause – 66 Mortgagee not treated as owner:** be approved.
124. **Clause – 68 Power of sale by mortgagee:** be renumbered to become Clause [67].
125. **Clause – 67 Power of sale by mortgagee:** be approved.
126. **Clause – 69 Mortgagee not affected by bankruptcy:** be renumbered to become Clause [68].
127. **Clause – 68 Mortgagee not affected by bankruptcy:** be approved.
128. **Clause – 70 Transfer of mortgage:** be renumbered to become Clause [69].
129. **Clause – 69 Transfer of mortgage:** be approved.
130. **Clause – 71 Transmission of interest by mortgage, death, bankruptcy, etc.** be renumbered to become Clause [70].
131. **Clause – 70 Transmission of interest by mortgage, death, bankruptcy, etc.** be approved.
132. **Clause – 72 Authority to sell or mortgage outside Sierra Leone:** be renumbered to become Clause [71].
133. **Clause – 71 Authority to sell or mortgage outside Sierra Leone:** be approved.
134. **Clause – 73 General rules for Certificate of sale:** be renumbered to become Clause [72].
135. **Clause – 72 General rules for Certificate of sale:** be approved.
136. **Clause – 74 Procedure for Certificate of sale granted in Sierra Leone:** be renumbered to become Clause [73].
137. **Clause – 73 Procedure for Certificate of sale granted in Sierra Leone:** be approved.
138. **Clause – 75 Registration of foreign ships sold to Sierra Leonean under Certificate of Sale granted in a foreign country.** be renumbered to become Clause [74].
139. **Clause – 74 Registration of foreign ships sold to Sierra Leonean under Certificate of Sale granted in a foreign country.** Marginal note be amended to read, “**Registration of foreign ships sold to Sierra Leonean (s) under Certificate of Sale granted in a foreign country.**”

- 140. Clause – 74 Registration of foreign ships sold to Sierra Leonean [s] under Certificate of Sale granted in a foreign country:** sub clause [1], be amended by deleting the word “of” after the word “the” and before the word “law” on the third line. To now read, “**Where a ship registered in a foreign country is sold in exercise of a power conferred by a Certificate of Sale granted under the law of that country to persons qualified to own a Sierra Leone ship, that ship may be registered in Sierra Leone in accordance with this section.**”
- 141. Clause – 76 Rules as to Certificate of Mortgage:** be renumbered to become Clause [75].
- 142. Clause – 75 Rules as to Certificate of Mortgage:** be approved.
- 143. Clause – 77 Loss of Certificate of Sale or of Mortgage:** be renumbered to become Clause [76].
- 144. Clause – 76 Loss of Certificate of Sale or of Mortgage:** sub paragraph [a], be amended by deleting the word “certificate” on the second line. To now read, “**a Certificate of Sale or Certificate of Mortgage is-**”
- 145. Clause – 78 Revocation of Certificate of Sale or Certificate of Mortgage:** be renumbered to become Clause [77].
- 146. Clause – 77 Revocation of Certificate of Sale or Certificate of Mortgage:** be approved.

PART VI – MARITIME LIEN

- 147. Clause – 79 Maritime lien:** be renumbered to become Clause [78].
- 148. Clause – 78 Maritime lien:** be approved.
- 149. Clause – 80 Priority of maritime lien:** be renumbered to become Clause [79].
- 150. Clause – 79 Priority of maritime lien:** be amended by replacing the word “over registered” with the word “registered” at the beginning of the second line. To now read, “**A maritime lien under section 78 shall take priority registered mortgages which comply with the following conditions except as provided in subsection [5] and [6] of section 86 where-**”
- 151. Clause – 81 Order of priority of liens:** be renumbered to become Clause [80].

- 152. Clause – 80 Order of priority of liens:** be amended to read, **“A maritime lien under section 78 shall rank in the order listed, except that maritime liens securing claims for reward of salvage of a vessel shall take priority over all other maritime liens attached to the vessel prior to the time when the operations giving rise to the said liens were performed.”**
- 153. Clause – 82 Right of ship builders repairers:** be renumbered to become Clause **[81]**.
- 154. Clause – 81 Right of ship builders repairers:** marginal note be amended by inserting the word **“and”** after the word **“builders”**. To now read **“Rights of ships builders and repairers.”**
- 155. Clause – 81 Right of ship builders and repairers:** be amended by deleting the word **“and”** after the word **“is”** and before the word **“the”** on the second line. To now read, **“Where a preferential right arises pursuant to the provisions of the law relating to bankruptcy or insolvency in respect of ship in the possession of-”**
- 156. Clause – 83 Characteristics of maritime lien:** be renumbered to become Clause **[82]**.
- 157. Clause – 82 Characteristics of maritime lien:** be approved.
- 158. Clause – 84 Claims arising from radioactive products, etc:** be renumbered to become Clause **[83]**.
- 159. Clause – 83 Claims arising from radioactive products, etc:** be approved.
- 160. Clause – 85 Extinction of maritime lien:** be renumbered to become Clause **[84]**.
- 161. Clause – 84 Extinction of maritime lien:** sub clause **[2a]**, be amended to read, **“section 78 paragraph [a] upon the discharge from the vessel;”**
- 162. Clause – 86 Notice of forced sale:** be renumbered to become Clause **[85]**.

- 163. Clause – 85 Notice of forced sale:** sub clause [1b], be amended by inserting the word “**the**” after the word “**to**” and before the word “**bearer**” on the second line. To now read, “**all holders of registered mortgages which have not been issued to the bearer;**”
- 164. Clause – 85 Notice of forced sale:** sub clause [1c], be amended by inserting the word “**the**” at the beginning of the second line before the word “**bearer**”. To now read, “**all holders of registered mortgages issued to the bearer and all holders of maritime liens; and**”
- 165. Clause – 87 Effects of forced sale:** be renumbered to become Clause [86].
- 166. Clause – 86 Effects of forced sale:** be approved.
- 167. Clause – 88 Disposition of proceeds of sale:** be renumbered to become Clause [87].
- 168. Clause – 87 Disposition of proceeds of sale:** be approved.
- 169. Clause – 89 Issue of certificate to a ship free of mortgage liens etc:** be renumbered to become Clause [88].
- 170. Clause – 88 Issue of certificate to a ship free of mortgage liens etc:** sub clause [1], be amended by changing the second sub paragraph [c] to [b].
- 171. Clause – 90 Non application to non-commercial Government vessels:** be renumbered to become Clause [89].
- 172. Clause – 89 Non application to non-commercial Government vessels:** be approved.

PART VII – MISCELLANEOUS

- 173. Clause – 91 Infancy or other incapacity:** be renumbered to become Clause [90].
- 174. Clause – 90 Infancy or other incapacity:** be approved.

- 175. Clause – 92 Notice of trust not received:** be renumbered to become Clause [91].
- 176. Clause – 91 Notice of trust not received:** be approved.
- 177. Clause – 93 Beneficial interest:** be renumbered to become Clause [92].
- 178. Clause – 92 Beneficial interest:** be approved.
- 179. Clause – 94 Liability of beneficial owner:** be renumbered to become Clause [93].
- 180. Clause – 93 Liability of beneficial owner:** be approved.
- 181. Clause – 95 Registration of ship managing owner or manager:** be renumbered to become Clause [94].
- 182. Clause – 94 Registration of ship managing owner or manager:** sub clause [3], be amended to read, **“Where the default is made in complying with this section the owner shall be guilty of an offence or if there are more than one owners, each owner shall be guilty of an offence in proportion to his interest in the ship, to a fine not less than, in the aggregate \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones each time the ship leaves a port in Sierra Leone.”**

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Chair, please hold on! At this stage, Honourable Members, this sitting is stood down for fifteen minutes and I urge every Member of Parliament to go to Committee Room One for a brief discussion.

[The House stood down at 11:20 and resumed at 12:36 p.m.]

[Suspension of SO 5[2] at being 12:00 noon]

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY-CONTEH: Thank you very much, Mr Chairman. I start with Page 20.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY-CONTEH:

- 183. Clause – 96 Power of registrar to dispose:** be renumbered to become Clause [95].
- 184. Clause – 95 Power of registrar to dispose:** be approved.

- 185. Clause – 97 Mode of declaration:** be renumbered to become Clause [96].
- 186. Clause – 96 Mode of declaration:** be approved.
- 187. Clause – 98 Application of fees:** be renumbered to become Clause [97].
- 188. Clause – 97 Application of fees:** be approved.
- 189. Clause – 99 Returns to be made by Registrar:** be renumbered to become Clause [98].
- 190. Clause – 98 Returns to be made by Registrar:** be approved.
- 191. Clause – 100 Evidence of Registrar Certificate at Registry:** be renumbered to become Clause [99].
- 192. Clause – 99 Evidence of Registrar Certificate at Registry:** be amended by deleting sub clause [1].
- 193. Clause – 99 Evidence of Registrar Certificate at Registry:** sub clause [2], be amended to become sub clause [1] and to read, **“Subject to the provisions of subsection (3) of section 8, the following documents shall be admissible in evidence in the manner provided by this Act, namely-”**
- 194. Clause – 99 Evidence of Registrar Certificate at Registry:** sub clause [3], be amended to become Sub Clause [2]
- 195. Clause – 101 Documents and instruments for registration:** be renumbered to become Clause [100].
- 196. Clause – 100 Documents and instruments for registration:** be approved.
- 197. Clause – 102 Forgery of documents:** be renumbered to become Clause [101].
- 198. Clause – 101 Forgery of documents:** be amended to read, **“A person who forge, fraudulently alters or assists in forging or fraudulently altering or procures to be forged or frequently altered, a register, builder’s certificate, tonnage certificate, certificate of registry, declaration, bill of sale or instrument of mortgage under this Part or any entry or endorsement required by this part to be made in**

or on any of these documents, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 3 years or to both such fine and imprisonment.”

199. **Clause – 103 False declaration:** be renumbered to become Clause [102].
200. **Clause – 102 False declaration:** the fine provision be amended to read, “commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 3 years or to both such fine and imprisonment.”
201. **Clause – 104 Liabilities of ship not recognized or registered:** be renumbered to become Clause [103].
202. **Clause – 103 Liabilities of ship not recognized or registered:** be approved.
203. **Clause – 105 Fees:** be renumbered to become Clause [104].
204. **Clause – 104 Fees:** be amended by inserting the phrase “on the advice of the Administration”, after the word “Minister” and before the word “shall” on the first line. To now read, “The Minister on the advice of the Administration shall, from time to time by statutory instrument, prescribe the fees payable in respect of registration, transfer, including transmission, new registration, mortgage and transfer of mortgage.”

PART VIII – NATIONAL CHARACTER AND FLAG

205. **Clause – 106 Duty to declare national character:** be renumbered to become Clause [105].
206. **Clause – 105 Duty to declare national character:** be approved.
207. **Clause – 107 National colours of Sierra Leone:** be renumbered to become Clause [106].
208. **Clause – 106 National colours of Sierra Leone:** be approved.
209. **Clause – 108 Right to fly flag of Sierra Leone:** be renumbered to become Clause [107].

210. **Clause – 107 Right to fly flag of Sierra Leone:** be approved.
211. **Clause – 109 Showing of national colours:** be renumbered to become Clause [108].
212. **Clause – 108 Showing of national colours:** sub clause [2], be amended to read, **“The master of a ship who fails to comply with subsection [1] commits an offence and is liable to a fine of \$2,000 or its equivalent in Leones.”**
213. **Clause – 108 Showing of national colours:** sub clause [3], be amended to read, **“Where there is hoisted on board a Sierra Leonean ship colours or pendant usually worn by ships of the Sierra Leonean navy or the national colours of another country, the master of the ship or the owner thereof if he is on board the ship and every other person hoisting the pendant or colours commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones.”**
214. **Clause – 110 Penalty for assuming Sierra Leone flag:** be renumbered to become Clause [109].
215. **Clause – 109 Penalty for assuming Sierra Leone flag:** be approved.
216. **Clause – 111 National flag of foreign ships:** be renumbered to become Clause [110].
217. **Clause – 110 National flag of foreign ships:** sub clause [1], be amended to read, **“A person, who uses or permits any person to use Sierra Leonean colours on board a foreign ship for the purposes of making that ship appear to be a Sierra Leonean ship, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than \$5,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 3 years or to both such fine and imprisonment.”**
218. **Clause – 112 Penalty for concealing Sierra Leone character or assuming foreign character:** be renumbered to become Clause [111].
219. **Clause – 111 Penalty for concealing Sierra Leone character or assuming foreign character:** penalty provision be amended to read, **“commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not less than**

\$5,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 3 years or to both such fine and imprisonment.”

PART IX – MANNING AND CERTIFICATION

- 220. Clause – 113 Regulations regarding qualifications of persons in Sierra Leone** be renumbered to become Clause **[112]**.
- 221. Clause – 112 Regulations regarding qualifications of persons in Sierra Leonean:** marginal note be amended by inserting the word **“serving”** after the word **“persons”** and before the word **“in”** and also adding the word **“ship”** at the end. To now read, **“Regulations regarding qualifications of persons serving in Sierra Leonean ship”**
- 222. Clause – 112 Regulations regarding qualifications of persons serving in Sierra Leonean ship:** sub clause **[1]**, be amended to read, **“The Minister, on the advice of the Administration, may, by statutory instrument, make such Regulations as he considers necessary or expedient to provide for the manning requirements for Sierra Leonean ships and the qualifications of officers and seafarers serving on such ships and for matters connected therewith.”**
- 223. Clause – 114 Power to exempt ships from regulations:** be renumbered to become Clause **[113]**.
- 224. Clause – 113 Power to exempt ships from regulations:** be approved.
- 225. Clause – 115 Board of Inquiry:** be renumbered to become Clause **[114]**.
- 226. Clause – 114 Board of Inquiry:** be approved.
- 227. Clause – 116 Powers of Board of Inquiry:** be renumbered to become Clause **[115]**.
- 228. Clause – 115 Powers of Board of Inquiry:** be approved.
- 229. Clause – 117 Cancellation, etc. of certificate by Administration:** be renumbered to become Clause **[116]**
- 230. Clause – 116 Cancellation, etc. of certificate by Administration:** be approved.

231. **Clause – 118 Revocation of Certification:** be renumbered to be Clause [117].
232. **Clause – 117 Revocation of Certification:** be approved.
233. **Clause – 119 Appeals against cancellation etc, of certificate** be renumbered to be Clause [118].
234. **Clause – 118 Appeals against cancellation etc, of certificate:** sub clause [2c], be amended by replacing the word **"thinks"** with the word **"deems"**. To now read, **"vary the order as it deems fit"**
235. **Clause – 120 Offences:** be renumbered to become Clause [119].
236. **Clause – 119 Offences: sub clause [1a],** be amended to read, **"serves as a seafarer on board a Sierra Leonean ship without being a holder of a valid certificate appropriate to the capacity in which he is engaged to serve, commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not less than \$1,500 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 1 year or to both such fine and imprisonment; or"**
237. **Clause – 119 Offences: sub clause (1b),** be amended to read, **"either on his own account or acting in the capacity of an agent, engages any person as a seafarer without taking all the necessary steps to ascertain whether such a person is a holder of a valid certificate appropriate to the category in which he is engaged to serve, , commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not less than \$1,500 or its equivalent in Leones per person or to a term of imprisonment not less than 1 year or to both such fine and imprisonment; or"**
238. **Clause – 119 Offences:** sub clause [3f], be amended by replacing the word **"device"** with the word **"deceive"** at the end of the third line. To now read, **"makes or has in his possession any document so closely resembling such certificate as to be calculated to deceive,"**
239. **Clause – 119 Offences:** sub clause [3], penalty provision be amended to read, **"commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 2 years or to both such fine and imprisonment."**

240. **Clause – 119 Offences:** sub clause [4], penalty provision be amended to read, **“commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 2 years or to both such fine and imprisonment.”**
241. **Clause – 119 Offences:** sub clause [5], penalty provision be amended to read, **“A seafarer who, without reasonable cause, fails to comply with a directive of the Administration to surrender his certificate commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 2 years or to both such fine and imprisonment.**
242. **Clause – 121 Validity of certificate issued prior to this Act:** be renumbered to become Clause [120].
243. **Clause – 120: Validity of certification issued prior to this Act:** be Approved.

PART X – ENGAGEMENT AND WELFARE OF SEAFARERS

244. **Clause – 122 : Application of part X :** be renumbered to become Clause [121].
245. **Clause – 121 : Application of part X :** be approved.
246. **Clause – 123 Exemption of particular ships:** be renumbered to become Clause [122].
247. **Clause – 122 Exemption of particular ships:** be amended by inserting the phrase **“on the advice of the administration”** after the word **“Minister”** and before the word **“may”** on the first line. Now read, **“The Minister on the advice of the administration may, by statutory instrument and subject to such conditions as he thinks fit, exempt a particular ship or a particular class or description of ships from all or any requirement of this Part”**
248. **Clause – 124 Appointment and functions of Registrar of Seafarers:** be renumbered to become Clause [123].
249. **Clause – 123 Appointment and functions of Registrar of Seafarers:** sub clause [3], be amended by replacing the word **“thinks”**

with the word **"deems"** after the word **"he"** and before the word **"fit"** on the second line. To now read, **"The Executive Director may appoint such persons as he deems fit as Assistant Registrars of Seafarers who shall perform their duties under the direction of the Registrar of Seafarers."**

- 250. Clause – 123 Appointment and functions of Registrar of Seafarers:** sub clause [5], be amended to read, **"A person who contravenes subsection [4] commits an offence and is liable on conviction, to a fine not less than \$6,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 3 years or to both such fine and imprisonment."**
- 251. Clause – 125 Crew agreement:** be renumbered to become Clause [124].
- 252. Clause – 124 Crew agreement:** be approved.
- 253. Clause – 126 Content of crew agreement:** be renumbered to become Clause [125].
- 254. Clause – 125 Content of crew agreement:** sub clause [1], second sub paragraph [d], be lettered to become [c].
- 255. Clause – 125 Content of crew agreement:** sub clause [2f], be amended to read, **"the capacity in which the Seafarer is employed."**
- 256. Clause – 125 Content of crew agreement:** sub clause [2L], be amended by replacing the word **"births"** with the word **"birth"** at the end of the sentence. To now read, **"a list of persons under the age of 18 years and their dates of birth."**
- 257. Clause – 127 Regulations for disciplinary offences:** be renumbered to become Clause [126].
- 258. Clause – 126 Regulations for disciplinary offences:** be amended by inserting the phrase **"on the advice of the Administration"** after the word **"Minister"** and before the word **"may"** on the first line. To now read, **"The Minister on the advice of the Administration may for the purpose of maintaining discipline on board a Sierra Leone ship, by statutory instrument, make regulations for-**
- 259. Clause – 128 Same offence:** be renumbered to become Clause [127].

260. **Clause – 127 Same offence:** be approved.
261. **Clause – 129 Procedures relating to certain crew agreement:** be renumbered to become Clause [128].
262. **Clause – 128 Procedures relating to certain crew agreement:** Sub paragraph [c], be amended to read, **“when the crew is first engaged, the agreement shall be signed in quadruplicate, a copy of the agreement shall be sent to the Administration, a copy shall be forwarded to the owner a copy retained by the seafarer and the other shall be retained by the master and shall contain a special place or form for the descriptions and signatures of substitutes or persons engaged subsequent to the first departure of the ship;”**
263. **Clause – 128 Procedures relating to certain crew agreement:** sub paragraph [g], be amended to read, **“on return to the port where the crew was engaged before the final termination of a running agreement, the master on endorsement of the agreement as to the engagement or discharge of Seafarers, stating whether an engagement or discharge have been made or intended to be made before the ship leaves port, or are made according to law and where the master willfully makes false statement in any endorsement commits an offence and is liable to a fine not less than \$2,500 or its equivalent in Leones;”**
264. **Clause – 128 Procedures relating to certain crew agreement:** sub paragraph [h], be amended to read, **“The quadruplicate employment agreement retained by the owner on the first engagement of crew shall be kept by the owner for a period of seven years after the expiration of the agreement and shall be produced on demand therefore by a proper officer”**
265. **Clause – 130 Further provisions as to crew agreement:** be renumbered to become Clause [129]
266. **Clause – 129 Further provisions as to crew agreement:** sub clause [4], be amended to read, **“A person who fraudulently alters, makes a false entry in or delivers a false copy of, a crew agreement commits an offence and is liable to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones.”**
267. **Clause – 131 Stipulations not to be contrary to law of flag state:** be renumbered to become Clause [130].
268. **Clause – 130 Stipulations not to be contrary to law of flag state:** be amended by inserting the phrase **“be contrary to”** after the word

“not” and before the word **“the”** on the second line and deleting the word **“contrary”** at the beginning of the third line. To now read, **“Stipulations adopted by the parties to a crew agreement shall not be contrary to the laws of the flag state of the ship in matters relating to wages and conditions of employment of Seafarers and master on board ships.”**

- 269. Clause – 132 Seafarers certificate of discharge:** be renumbered to become Clause **[131]**.
- 270. Clause – 131 Seafarers certificate of discharge:** be approved.
- 271. Clause – 133 Performance report:** be renumbered to become Clause **[132]**.
- 272. Clause – 132 Performance report:** sub clause **[3]**, penalty provision be amended to read, **“commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than \$2,000 or its equivalent in Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than 12 months or to both such fine and imprisonment.”**
- 273. Clause – 134 Discharge on change of registry:** be renumbered to become clause **[133]**.
- 274. Clause – 133 Discharge on change of registry:** be approved.
- 275. Clause – 135 Employment of children and persons under 16 years:** be renumbered to become Clause **[134]**.
- 276. Clause – 136 Change of master:** be renumbered to become Clause **[135]**.
- 277. Clause – 135 Change of master:** sub clause **[1]**, be amended by replacing the word **“office”** with the word **“offence”** at the end of the paragraph. To now read, **“Where, during the progress of a voyage of a ship, the master is removed, superseded or for any other reason ceases to have command or charge of the ship, and is succeeded by some other person, he shall deliver to his successor the certificate of Registry and various documents relating to the navigation of the ship and to the crew thereof which are in his custody, and where he fails without reasonable cause to do so, he is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones.”**

278. Clause – 137 Regulations on conditions of service: be renumbered to become Clause **(136)**.

279. Clause – 136 Regulations on conditions of service: sub clause **[1]**, be amended by inserting the phrase **“on the advice of the Administration”** after the word **“Minister”** and before the word **“may”** on the second line and inserting the word **“to”** after the word **“expedient”** and before the word **“provide”**. To now read, **“The Minister on the advice of the Administration may by statutory instrument make such regulations as he considers necessary or expedient to provide for-”**

280. Clause – 138 Use of English languages: be renumbered to become Clause **[137]**.

281. Clause – 137 Use of English language: be approved.

282. Clause – 139 Crew’s knowledge of English: be renumbered to become Clause **[138]**.

283. Clause – 138 Crew’s knowledge of English: sub clause **[2]**, be amended to read, **“Where a ship goes to sea or attempts to proceed to sea in contravention of subsection [1], the owner and or the master commits an offence and is liable to a fine not less than \$3,000 or its equivalent in Leones.”**

Mr Chairman, we are now at Part XI that deals with ‘Wages’ and that is where we are going to end for today.

ADJOURNMENT

[The House rose at 12:57 p.m., and was adjourned to Wednesday, 25th March, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.]