



**SIERRA LEONE GOVERNMENT**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS**  
**8<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, YOUYI BUILDING, FREETOWN**

**PRESS RELEASE**

The attention of the Ministry of Information and Communications (MIC) has been drawn to the withdrawal of the bill entitled 'The Public Order (Amendment) Act, 2019' that was tabled in the well of Parliament on 14 November 2019. This was only made known to the ministry through the media by the Leader of Government Business and Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Appointment and Public Service during a radio interview.

It could be recalled that following the presentation of the aforementioned Bill in the well of Parliament by the Minister of Information and Communications, Parliament deferred the debate due to Parliamentary recess

Since its deferment, the Ministry and its partners have engaged various stakeholders including Parliamentary Oversight Committees, Law Officers Department, Independent Media Commission, SLAJ and its constituent bodies and the general public on the repeal process.

We wish to reiterate that Government through the Ministry of Information and Communications is firmly committed to repealing Part V of the Public Order Act of 1965 as reaffirmed by His Excellency the President during the State Opening of the Third Session of the Fifth Parliament of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

The Ministry wishes to assure its partners and the general public that the Bill entitled 'The Public Order (Amendment) Act, 2019' and the 'Independent Media Commission Bill 2020' will soon be tabled before Parliament following the recess.

**FOR MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS**

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