

## ACT

*Supplement to the Sierra Leone Gazette Vol. CXLIII, No. 26*  
*dated 24th May, 2012*

### THE PUBLIC ELECTIONS ACT, 2012

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#### SCHEDULES

**Note** The nominators and the candidates must sign in the presence of two witnesses who must be of full age and who must sign in the places indicated.

Passed in Parliament this *1st* day of *May*, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve.

IBRAHIM S. SESAY,  
*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 correct printed copy of the said Bill.

IBRAHIM S. SESAY,  
*Clerk of Parliament.*

SIGNED this *7th* day of *May*, 2012.

DR. ERNEST BAI KOROMA,  
*President.*



No. 4



2012

Sierra Leone

**THE PUBLIC ELECTIONS ACT, 2012.**

Short title.

**Being an Act to consolidate and amend the law on public elections, to make provision supplementary to sections 32 and 33 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone with respect to the Electoral Commission and for other related matters.**

[ ] Date of commencement.

ENACTED by the President and Members of Parliament in this present Parliament assembled.

## PART I—PRELIMINARY

Interpretation.

1. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

“ballot paper” means the printed form used for the purpose of voting for a candidate;

“candidate” includes a person nominated for election as President of Sierra Leone, ordinary member of Parliament, Paramount Chief Member of Parliament or as member of a local council;

“constituency” means a constituency prescribed under subsection (1) of section 38 of the Constitution;

Act No. 6 of 1991.

“Constitution” means the Constitution of Sierra Leone, 1991;

“dangerous weapon or missile” includes any cannon, gun, rifle, carbine, revolver, pistol or any other firearm, bow and arrow, spear, cutlass, knife, dagger, axe, cudgel, or any other thing capable of being used as an offensive weapon or missile, including teargas, acid, and any inflammable substance capable of injuring a person;

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“district” means a district established under the Provinces Act;

“election” means any election for the President of Sierra Leone, Parliament or a local council;

“election material” includes ballot boxes, ballot papers, counterfoils, envelopes, packets, statements and other documents used in connection with voting in an election, information technology equipment, instruments, seals and other materials and things required for the purpose of conducting a public election;

“election period” means the period between the commencement of the election, which is the date of the proclamation of the election, and the ending of the election, which is the date the Electoral Commission receives the results of the election for publication in the *Gazette*;

“electoral area” means a district, ward, or other electoral area into which Sierra Leone is divided;

“Electoral Commission” means the Electoral Commission referred to in section 32 of the Constitution;

“Electoral Commissioner” means a member of the Commission;

“Executive Secretary” means the person appointed Executive Secretary under section 9;

“field registrar” means a person appointed as such under section 29;

“*Gazette* List” means the latest list of a Chiefdom Council appearing in the *Gazette* prior to an election;

“general election” means a general election for Members of Parliament;

“National Returning Officer” means the person responsible for the supervision of elections conducted under this Act;

“nomination paper” means the printed form used for the purpose of nominating a presidential candidate or other candidate for election under this Act;

“non-citizen” means a person who is not a citizen of Sierra Leone;

“observer” means a person or group of persons representing an organization whether national or international accredited by the Electoral Commission for the purpose of observing any or all aspects of the electoral process including voter registration, nomination for election, campaigning, polling,