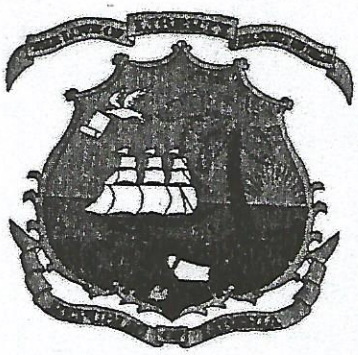


"AN ACT TO REPEAL THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW TITLE 20, LIBERIAN CODES OF LAW REVISED AND TO ESTABLISH IN ITS STEAD, A NEW TITLE 20 TO BE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 2018"

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

An Act to Repeal the Local Government Law Title 20, Liberian Codes of Law Revised and to Establish in its stead, a New Title 20 to be known as the Local Government Act of 2018.

August 2018

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Preamble

WHEREAS, Article 5 of the Liberian Constitution mandates the Legislature to enact laws promoting national unification and the encouragement of all citizens to participate in governance and benefit from the social, economic, and political developments of the country;

WHEREAS, since its founding as a unitary sovereign state, divided into counties for administrative purposes, the Republic has practiced a centralized system of governance that has inhibited full participation of the citizenry in governance at the county and sub-county levels;

WHEREAS, the low participation of the citizenry in governance has hindered Liberia's democratization processes, slowed down socio-economic development, and occasioned the lack of meaningful participation in, and ownership of development activities by the people;

WHEREAS, citizens desire greater participation in governance to empower them take greater responsibility for their lives and development of their communities; enhance their ownership of development activities; and promote transparency, accountability, and equity in the utilization of state resources;

WHEREAS, the Government of Liberia, responding to this legitimate aspiration of the citizenry for participatory governance, has recognized that it is necessary to reform the centralized system of governance and devolve certain administrative, fiscal, and political powers and functions from the central government to county and sub-county authorities and, as such, has instituted a National Policy on Decentralization and Local Governance;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Chapter 1

General Provisions

1.1 Title

The Title of this Act is An Act to Repeal the Local Government Law Constituting Title 20 of the Liberian Code of Laws Revised and to Establish in its stead a New Title 20 to be known as the Local Government Law of Liberia.

1.2 Short Title

This Act may be referred to as the Local Government Act of2018

1.3 Objective of the Act

This Act affirms the commitment of the Government of Liberia to further the unity of the Republic by providing equal opportunity for all of its citizens to engage in the governance of the state through the devolution of certain administrative, fiscal and political powers and institutions from the national government to local governments, with the following objectives:

a. To give effect to the Country's National Policy on Decentralization and Local Governance;
b. To ensure democratic participation in, and control of, decision-making by the citizenry;
c. To create and establish democratic, political, administrative and fiscal structures in local governance; and
d. To ensure sources of revenues in support of local government administration and operations.

1.4 Application of the Act

The Local Government Act of 2018 shall apply to all local government structures and functions herein devolved from central government to local governments as contained in the Administrative Procedure Manual published by the Minister responsible for local government, except that said Manual shall confirmed to this Act and those functions that are exclusively reserved for the national government.

1.5 Definitions

The following words, when used in this Act, unless otherwise defined therein shall have the meaning(s):

Administrative District: a political sub-division of a county comprising of chiefdoms.

Administrative District Commissioner: the appointed head of an administrative district in accordance with the standards and procedures established by the Constitution of Liberia and this Act.

Advisory Council: a panel of citizens comprising local opinion leaders appointed at district, chiefdom, clan and general town levels to assist the Commissioner or Chief in promoting reconciliation, administration and participatory governance.

Affirmative Action: Positive actions taken to increase the representation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups in areas such as education, employment, business, and governance.

Borough: A demarcated sub-section of a city.

Central Government: the Government of Liberia, excluding local governments.

Chief: an elected administrative head of a chiefdom, clan and general town.

Chiefdom: a demarcated and delineated sub-division of an administrative district with no less than two clans.

City: (a) the national capital of Liberia; (b) capital of each county; or (c) a delineated urban locality within a county with an area limits of 3.5 square miles radius; and a minimum population of ten thousand (10,000) inhabitants that is a center of economic activities and is granted a charter by the Legislature.

City Council: a selected body of a city having regulatory, representative and confirmatory functions.

City Mayor: an appointed official with responsibilities to administer the affairs of a city under the supervision of a City Council.

Civil Service: the merit-based personnel management system of the government of Liberia below the levels of political appointees.

Civil Service Agency: the central government entity that manages the civil service of Liberia.

Clan: a demarcated and delineated sub-area of chiefdom with no less than two towns.

Clan Chief: the elected administrative head of a clan.

Code of Conduct: as prescribed by the Legislature.

Community Service: Mandatory work done in a Township, City, General Town, Clan, or Chiefdom as part of every citizen's civic responsibility to contribute to the safety, wellbeing and development of the given Township, City, General Town, Clan, or Chiefdom.

Corruption: Any act(s) or decision(s) or use of public resource(s) by a public or private official in the discharge of official duties and/or responsibilities which, in order to satisfy the selfish desire or interest of the said official or other person(s), natural or legal, ignore the established laws, regulations, and thereby denies, deprives and prevents the State or person(s) from receiving entitlement, consideration and/or treatment.

County: the first level political subdivision of Liberia.

County Administration: the executive authority of a county.

County Council: an appointed body of a county having regulatory, representative and confirmatory functions and powers.

County Government: the body of appointed officials of a county.

Decentralization: transfer of specific political, administrative and financial powers and responsibilities from central government to local governments.

Delegated Functions: functions of the central government, or a central government agency which, by law or by a contractual agreement between the central government or one of its agencies and local governments are assigned to local governments for performance.

Devolution: the transfer of powers, responsibilities and resources from central to local authorities.

Devolved Functions: functions of central government or a central government agency transferred by law to local governments.

District Commissioner: the appointed head of an administrative district of a county.

Domicile: the permanent residence of a person in a county where he/she lives at least one year immediately prior to contesting for a public office.

Elder: an individual other than an elected chief who is acknowledged by the community to be a repository of knowledge of communal values and customs of a given ethnic group.

Fiscal Decentralization: the transfer of certain revenue and expenditure management functions and authority from central to local governments.

Gender Equality: refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys.

General Town: a demarcated and delineated sub-area of a clan.

General Town Chief: the elected administrative head of a general town. In this Act, the town chief provided for in Article 56(b) of the Constitution shall mean the same as the General Town Chief referred to in local government administrative structure by the Minister responsible for local government.

Honorarium: fees paid to county, city, township council members and to Local Government Fiscal Board Members in recognition of services rendered.

Internal Audit Secretariat: The Internal Audit Secretariat as established under the Public Financial Management Act of 2009.

Legislature: the lawmaking body of the Republic of Liberia.

Local Government: a sub-national authority organized to share authority with central government.

Local Government Fiscal Board: a body whose membership is appointed by the President that determines and recommends the amount of grant allocations to sub-national governments based on a process that takes into account objective, equitable and measurable factors.

Mayor: the appointed administrative head of a city.

National agency responsible for Land: The central government institution, *now or in the future,* created and established to implement land right laws, particularly to govern and manage land matters, with powers to formulate and implement policies, as well as issue regulations, relating to land governance and administration.

Own-Source Revenues: revenues defined in law for local governments to be derived from local tax bases, activities, fees, charges, fines, and local government assets.

Paramount Chief: the elected administrative head of a chiefdom.

Person with disability: a person who is physically or mentally challenged.

Statutory District: a political sub-division of a county established by statute and comprising of administrative districts, chiefdoms and clans.

Superintendent: the administrative head and chief executive officer of a county or statutory district appointed by the President.

Town: a locality with a minimum population of five hundred (500) inhabitants.

Township: an urban locality smaller than a city, with a minimum population of five thousand (5000) inhabitants and granted a charter by the Legislature.

Town Chief: The selected administrative head of a town.

Township Commissioner: the administrative head of a township appointed by the President.

Ward: a subdivision of a city, township or borough that is represented on the city, township or borough council by one or more appointed persons.

Youth: Any person between the ages of 18 and 35 years.

Chapter 2

Local Government Powers and Structures

Liberia, a unitary state, shall be sub-divided into counties for administrative purposes; and counties shall be divided into administrative and statutory districts, cities, townships, boroughs, chiefdoms, clans and general towns.

2.1 Powers and Authority of Local Governments

Local Governments shall be responsible for the overall management and development of their respective jurisdictions. They shall exercise administrative fiscal and political authority, give direction to, and supervise administrative, fiscal, political, security and development activities. The central government shall ensure that powers and authority devolved to local governments shall be exercised as envisaged in this Act.

Specifically, local governments shall:

a. Undertake functions devolved or delegated to counties by central government;
b. Promote reconciliation, peace and socio-economic development;
c. Ensure the maintenance of law, order and security in collaboration with the national security agencies;
d. Promote good governance in local government administration;
e. Ensure implementation of and compliance with national government policies;
f. Make and enforce local policies and ordinances which do not conflict with the laws and policies of the Central Government;
g. Formulate and implement county development plans;
h. Raise local revenues as provided for by law;
i. Ensure effective implementation of central government programs, projects and services in the county;
j. Ensure that programs, projects and services of non-governmental organizations are consistent with central and local governments' plans;
k. Assume all functions of central government ministries, agencies and commissions as shall be determined in schedules set in the administrative procedure manual for local governments; and,
l. Carry out other functions which may be imposed by law or are incidental to the above.

2.2 Powers and Authority of the County Council

A County Council shall be established within each county with the following powers:

a. Promulgate county ordinances, rules and regulations for the promotion of peace, unity, reconciliation, maintenance of public order and security, and the delivery of basic public goods and services, consistent with law;
b. Impose local taxes, rates, duties, fees and fines within limits prescribed by the Legislature;
c. Establish rules to govern the activities of the Council and the administration of the Council Support Office;
d. Authorize the issuance of certain licenses and operating permits designated by the Legislature;
e. Approve the annual county budget;
f. Approve the county development plan and its implementation;
g. Recommend to the President through the minister responsible for local government, the establishment of agencies deemed necessary for the good governance of the county; and,
h. Perform such other actions in furtherance of the aforementioned powers cited above.

2.3 Composition of the Council

The County Council shall be comprised of the following members:

a. The County Council of Chiefs - 3 representatives (2 chiefs, one of whom shall be the head of the Council of Chiefs, plus an elder appointed by the Council);
b. The County Women Organization -1 representative;
c. The County youth organization -2 representatives (a male and a female, one of whom shall be the head of the organization);
d. The County organization of people with disabilities -1 representative; and
e. The County organization of civil society associations -2 representatives (a male and a female, one of whom shall be the head of the organization).

2.4 Selection of Members of the Council

The criteria and manner of selection of members of the Council shall be as follows:

a. No member of a county administration shall be a member of a County Council.
b. Shall be a Liberian Citizen;
c. Must have obtained the age of 25 (twenty-five);
d. Must be of good moral standing;
e. Must have a minimum capacity to speak in the local language or read and write English; and,
f. Must be a taxpayer or must have performed a minimum of144hours of community service in the year immediately prior to nomination; such service must be certified by nominee's community leader or town chief.

2.5 Tenure

All County Council Members shall serve for a period of four (4) years and shall be eligible for an additional four-year term and no more, provided that the member continues to enjoy the conditions under which they were so appointed.

2.6 Vacancies and Replacements

a. A vacancy on the County Council shall arise when a member resigns, is removed from office, or is incapacitated to perform his or her duties or dies; and,

b. Every vacancy shall be filled within 30 (thirty) days in the same manner as was chosen.

2.7 Council Leadership

The Council leadership shall comprise of a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson and other officers who shall be elected by the members of the Council; said election shall be based on simple majority of the total membership.

2.8 Council Meetings

a. The Council shall meet at least once every quarter; but shall meet in emergency or special sessions as may be called either by the superintendent, chair of the council, or by a resolution signed by at least three members;
b. Decisions of the County Council shall be disseminated using the best medium of public information, education and communication available to the county; and

c. The Council shall ensure broad-based citizens' participation in its decision-making on significant issues of the county such as the annual county budget and county development plan. Popular participation shall be ensured through Town Hall meetings and consultations with citizens.

2.9 Remuneration

County Council Members shall be paid an honorarium from the county budget. The Legislature shall set the ceiling for such honorarium every four years.

2.10 County Council Support Office

a. Each County Council shall maintain a Support Office, to assist the Council to carry out its functions. The Support Office shall consist of two support staff: a legal officer, and an administrative officer; and
b. The staff of the County Support Office shall be civil servants recruited according to the Civil Service policies, rules and regulations.

2.11 Removal of Council Members

Removal of a Council Member shall be for cause determined through due process; and by a vote of two-thirds of the total membership of the Council.

2.12 Official Language

The business of the County Council shall be conducted in the English Language, including sign language when the capacity exists; or in any of the local language(s) of the County, as determined by the Council, except that all records and written instruments of the Council shall be in the English language.

2.13 County Administration

A County Administration is hereby established in each county.

2.13a County administration shall be comprised of the following:

i. Superintendent who shall be Chief Executive Officer and overall administrator of the county;
ii. County Administrative Officer;
iii. County Finance Officer;
iv. County Development Officer; and
v. Heads of County Administrative Departments as provided for in this Act.

2.13b The positions of Superintendent, County Administrative Officer, County Finance Officer, County Development Officer, City Mayor, and Commissioner (Townships and Boroughs) shall be appointed by the Presidentwith the consent of the Senate.

2.13c The positions of Heads of County Administrative Departments shall be civil service positions, subject to merit-based civil service standards, rules and regulations. They shall be filled through appointment by the Superintendent from a list of eligible candidates submitted by the Civil Service Agency, taking into consideration the goal of promoting equal representation of women and men to such positions; and

2.13d All personnel of county administrative departments shall also be civil servants subject to merit-based civil service standards, rules and regulations.

2.14 Duties and Powers of County Officials

2.14a County Superintendent

The County Superintendent shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. He/she shall report to the County Council, and to the President of Liberia through the Minister responsible for Local Government, and shall perform the following duties:

i. Manage the overall administration of the county, consistent with the Liberian Constitution and laws and the various ordinances and regulations of the county;
ii. Coordinate maintenance of law, order and security in collaboration with the national security agencies;
iii. Supervise the preparation of the county annual and other periodic budgets;
iv. Supervise the preparation and implementation of the county development plan, consistent with the central government's national development plan and the goals of promoting women's empowerment and gender equality, as well as youth empowerment and inclusion;
v. Supervise the preparation of the county annual performance report for submission to the County Council and the President of Liberia through the Minister responsible for Local Government on matters of the county, including security and the general and specific circumstances and status of the county, its administration and fiscal status;
vi. Supervise national programs and projects in the county;
vii. Coordinate the work of the representatives of the ministries and agencies of the central government in the county; and
viii. Perform other duties as may be determined by the County Council and/or the President of Liberia.

2.14b County Administrative Officer

The County Administrative Officer shall assist the Superintendent in the conduct of all administrative matters. He/she shall be the principal deputy to the Superintendent and shall perform the following duties:

i. Serve as the principal deputy to the Superintendent and act as officer-in-charge, in the absence of the superintendent;
ii. Report to the superintendent and perform all other duties that may be assigned by the superintendent in the management of the county;
iii. Supervise the county's administration including human resources, logistics, transportation, communications, procurement, maintenance, and utilities (power, water, telecommunications).

2.14c County Finance Officer

The County Finance Officer shall assist the Superintendent in the overall management of fiscal matters and shall perform the following duties:

i. Prepare, through participatory processes with sub-county government structures, the annual and other periodic county budgets for review and approval prior to submission by the Superintendent to the County Council;
ii. Prepare the annual and other periodic budget performance, accounts and financial reports in a timely manner to facilitate informed decision-making by the Superintendent and County Council;
iii. Develop and communicate budget preparation guidelines to District Finance Officers;
iv. Develop county revenue collection plan and supervise implementation;
v. Implement all fiscal responsibilities delegated by the Minister responsible for Finance;
vi. Represent the County during audits of its finances;
vii. Design short, medium, and long-term strategies for funding the county development agenda, including bridging financing gaps for the needs of the county;

viii. Perform other duties as may be referred by the Superintendent; and
ix. Report to the Superintendent.

2.14d County Development Officer

The County Development Officer shall assist the Superintendent in the implementation of all County development projects and programs and shall perform the following duties:

i. Prepare, through participatory processes, county development plans and programs for submission by the Superintendent to the County Council;
ii. Supervise the implementation of county development plans, as approved by the County Council;
iii. Prepare implementation status reports on development projects in the County;
iv. Monitor and evaluate development programs implemented by the county and other agencies.
v. Report to the Superintendent.

2.14e Heads of County Administrative Departments

Heads of County Administrative Departments shall assist the Superintendent in matters relating to their respective departments and shall perform the following duties:

i. Supervise the affairs of their respective departments within the county;
ii. Collect, organize and provide district or county-wide data and information in their respective sectors to inform planning and administrative decision-making;
iii. Provide information or reports to the County Council on the achievements of the plan and activities of their respective sectors, at the request of the Superintendent or the Council itself;
iv. Undertake other assignments given by the Superintendent that are related to their work; and
v. Report to the Superintendent.

2.14f Establishment of County Administrative Departments

Upon coming into force of this Act, each county may gradually establish administrative departments to implement devolved and delegated functions depending upon individual county needs, capabilities and local financial resources to sustain institutions or departments such as:

i. Department of Planning, Revenue, and Budget;
ii. Department of Land, Environment and Natural Resource Management;
iii. Department of Administration and Personnel;
iv. Department of Public Works and Utilities;
v. Department of Health and Social Welfare;
vi. Department of Agriculture and Commerce;
vii. Department of Education and Sports;
viii. Department of Information, Culture and Tourism; and
ix. Community Enterprise Development Agency.

2.14g Operation of County Administrative Departments

County Administrative Departments shall plan and implement county-wide programs in their respective sectors. They shall work in collaboration with relevant ministries, agencies and commissions of the central government in the implementation of programs undertaken in the county.

2.14h Personnel of Administrative Departments

i. Each county administrative department shall be headed by a Director, appointed by the County Superintendent, according to civil service regulations; and

ii. All personnel of county administrative agencies shall be civil servants selected and appointed according to civil service regulations.

2.15 Sub-County Local Governments

Sub-county local governments are hereby established as follows:
Administrative Districts, Chiefdoms, Clans, General Towns, Cities, Townships and Boroughs.

2.15a Statutory Districts

All existing statutory districts shall continue to exist for a period of seven years after the passage of this Act. The ministry responsible for local governments shall ensure the retirement of all statutory district employees during this seven-year period after which all existing statutory districts shall be dissolved.

2.15b Administrative Districts - Governing Structure and Officials

The following shall constitute the governing structure and officials of Administrative Districts:
District Advisory Council, District Commissioner, District Administrative Officer, District Finance Officer and District Development Officer.

2.15c District Advisory Council

The District Commissioner shall establish a 7-member District Advisory Council of citizens (who accept to work without pay-comprised of chiefs, elders, youths, women and other prominent citizens).
The Council shall meet in quarterly regular sessions and shall perform the following duties:

i. Advise the District Commissioner on governance, finance, budget, development, peace, security and reconciliation;
ii. Participate in relevant meetings of the district;
iii. Receive regular briefings from the District Commissioner on developments in the district.

2.15d District Commissioner–Duties and Powers

The District Commissioner shall be the executive officer of the district and shall perform the following duties:

i. Administer the affairs of the district
ii. Oversee and coordinate the activities of chiefs;
iii. Promote harmonious relations amongst chiefs and residents in the district;
iv. Maintain a regular working relationship with heads of county administrative departments;
v. Submit annual performance reports to the Superintendent;
vi. Initiate and coordinate district development programs and plans;
vii. Supervise district needs assessments, development planning, and the formulation of district budget;
viii. Coordinate national and county development programs executed within the district;
ix. Coordinate the activities of representatives of line ministries and agencies operating in the district;
x. Coordinate and/or monitor programs and activities of international and local non-governmental agencies within the district; and
xi. Report to the Superintendent and perform other duties as may be assigned by the Superintendent.

2.15e District Administrative Officer (DAO)-Duties and Powers

The District Administrative Officer shall be the principal assistant to the District Commissioner in charge of administrative matters. The duties of the DAO shall be to assist the District Commissioner in:

i. Administering the affairs of the district;
ii. Coordination of the activities of chiefs in the performance of their duties;
iii. Management of administrative issues such as personnel and procurement;
iv. Preparation of annual performance and/or other reports; and,
v. Maintaining cordial relationships with members of district administrative departments.

2.15f District Finance Officer (DFO) – Duties and Powers

The District Finance Officer shall assist the District Commissioner in the handling of financial matters of the district; and shall perform the following duties:

i. Receive, deposit, and secure all funds of the district for administration and development purposes;
ii. Coordinate the development of district budgets in accordance with county budget guidelines and manage the execution of approved budgets of the district;
iii. Keep financial records in accordance with standards and procedures approved by the government;
iv. Prepare periodic financial reports for the district; and,
v. Cooperate with the appropriate audit agencies.

2.15g District Development Officer (DDO) – Duties and Powers

The District Development Officer shall assist the District Commissioner in ensuring the planning and implementation of district development programs and shall perform the following duties:

i. Supervise district needs assessment, development planning, and projects preparation;
ii. Coordinate development aid within the district;
iii. Supervise district development programs and projects implementation, including monitoring and evaluation and ensure adherence to the goal of promoting women's rights and gender equality;
iv. Assist in maintaining cordial professional relationships with heads of county administrative departments;
v. Coordinate activities of line ministries and agencies implementing activities in the district;
vi. Coordinate and/or monitor programs and activities of international and local non-governmental agencies working in the district; and
vii. Obtain inputs from the citizens for the preparation of the plans and budget of the district.

2.15h Chiefdom Administration

Paramount, Clan and General Town Chiefs shall continue to play traditional roles in their respective local customs, cultures and traditions; provided however, that those customs, cultures, and traditions are supportive of peace and development, and are not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the country. Cultural and traditional institutions, practices and governance shall fall under the jurisdiction of the Minister responsible for local government. There shall be a Chiefdom Administration constituted as follows: Advisory Council, Paramount Chief, Chiefdom Clerk and Chiefdom Office Assistant/Messenger.

2.15i Chiefdom Advisory Council

The Chiefdom Advisory Council shall be citizens appointed by the Paramount Chief in consultation with the clan chiefs and elders of the Chiefdom. The Council shall be limited to five (5) members who shall work without pay and shall comprise of elders, youth, women and other prominent citizens. The functions of the Council shall be to:

a. Advise on governance, development, peace, security and reconciliation; and
b. Participate in meetings and other activities organized for the general wellbeing of the citizenry.

2.15j Paramount Chief

The Paramount chief shall report to the District Commissioner and shall perform the following duties:

i. Advise on governance, development, peace and reconciliation and implement development activities within the chiefdom;
ii. Coordinate the activities of county administrative departments, line ministries and agencies, and non-governmental organizations operating in the chiefdom;
iii. Promote peace and reconciliation through inter-ethnic and intra-ethnic relations in local communities, regardless of tribe, ethnic affiliation, religious belief or political opinion;
iv. Collaborate with national security agencies including the Liberia National Police such as providing required information for the apprehension of criminal offenders including sexual and gender-based violence offenders within their jurisdictions; and
v. Prepare annual performance and other reports to the District Commissioner on the administration, development and other activities within the chiefdom.

2.15k Chiefdom Clerk

The Chiefdom Clerk shall be the principal assistant to the Paramount Chief and shall undertake the following duties:

a. Assist in the coordination of development activities in the chiefdom;
b. Keep records of key administrative and development activities in the chiefdom;
c. Refer cases not settled through traditional mediation to the appropriate jurisdiction in the District; and
d. Prepare required reports for the chiefdom and/or the Paramount Chief.

2.15l Chiefdom Office Assistant/Messenger

The Paramount Chief's Office Assistant shall be the general purpose assistant in the office of the Paramount Chief and shall undertake the following duties:

a. Receipt, sorting out and delivery of letters, documents, and reports;
b. Reproduction, compilation and filing of documents;
c. Office maintenance and general errands of the Paramount Chief Office;
d. Attend to guests of the Paramount Chief; and
e. Perform other duties as may be assigned.

2.15m Chiefdom Headquarters

Each Chiefdom shall have a permanent headquarters which shall include an office and residence. The Chiefdom Advisory Council shall facilitate consultation with the citizens and shall approve the location of the Chiefdom Headquarters.

2.15n Clan Administration

There shall be a Clan Administration constituted as follows: Advisory Council, Clan Chief, Clan Clerk and Clan Office Assistant/Messenger.

2.15o Clan Advisory Council

The Clan Advisory Council shall be citizens appointed by the Clan Chief in consultation with the clan chiefs and elders of the Clan. The Council shall be limited to five (5) members who shall work without pay and shall comprise of elders, youth, women and other prominent citizens. The functions of the Council shall be to:

a. Advise on governance, development, peace, security and reconciliation; and,
b. Participate in meetings and other activities organized for the general wellbeing of the citizenry.

2.15p Clan Chief

The Clan Chief shall perform the following duties:

a. Promote peace, reconciliation and development;
b. Advise on governance and the overall security;
c. Coordinate implementation of development projects and programs in the clan; and
d. Report to the Paramount Chief on the status of the clan.

2.15q Clan Clerk

The Clan Clerk shall be the principal assistant to the Clan Chief in the administration of the clan and shall undertake the following duties:

a. Assist in the implementation of development activities in the clan;
b. Maintain records of finance, administrative and development activities; and
c. Prepare reports for the Clan Chief.

2.15r Clan Office Assistant/Messenger

The Clan Chief Office Assistant shall be the general purpose assistant in the office of the Clan Chief and shall undertake the following duties:

a. Receipt, sorting out and delivery of letters, documents, and reports;
b. Reproduction, compilation and filing of documents;
c. Office maintenance and general errands of the Clan Chief Office;
d. Attend to guests of the Clan Chief; and
e. Perform other duties as may be assigned.

2.15s Clan Headquarters

Each clan shall have a permanent headquarters which shall include an office and residence. The Clan Advisory Council shall facilitate consultation with the citizens and shall approve the location of the Clan Headquarters.

2.15t Town Administration

There shall be a Town Administration constituted as follows: Town Advisory Council, Clan Chief, Clan Clerk and Town Office Assistant/Messenger.

2.15u Town Advisory Council

The Town Advisory Council shall be citizens appointed by the Town Chief in consultation with the quarter chiefs and elders of the Town. The Council shall be limited to five (5) members who shall work without

pay and shall comprise of elders, youth, women and other prominent citizens. The functions of the Council shall be to:

a. Advise on governance, development, peace, security and reconciliation; and
b. Participate in meetings and other activities organized for the general wellbeing of the citizenry.

2.15v Town Chief

The Town Chief in this Act shall mean the local official provided for in Article 56(b) of the Constitution and shall mean the same as the General Town Chief referred to by the Minister responsible for local government. He/she shall perform the following duties:

a. Promote peace, reconciliation and development;
b. Advise on governance and the overall security;
c. coordinate implementation of development projects and programs in the clan; and,
d. Report to the Clan Chief on the status of the Town.

2.15w Town Clerk

The Town Clerk shall be the principal assistant to the Town Chief in the administration of the town and shall undertake the following duties:

a. Assist in the implementation of development activities in the Town;
b. Maintain records of finance, administrative and development activities;
c. Prepare reports for the Town Chief; and
d. Perform other duties as may be assigned.

2.15x Election of Chiefs

Paramount, Clan and General Town Chiefs shall be non-partisan and shall be elcected in accordance with the Constitution. A candidate shall not present himself or herself as a political party candidate nor campaign on a political party platform.

2.15y Provisional Appointment of Chiefs

Pending appropriate conditions for enforcement of the Constitution regarding election of chiefs, the elders and members of the chiefdoms, clans and towns, in accordance with their traditions, shall recommend to the Minister repsonsible for Local Government, through the County Superintendent, for the appointment of individuals to perform the duties and functions of chiefs except that such appointees shall be designated as Acting Chiefs.

a2.16 Cities, Townships and Boroughs

2.16a National Capital

Monrovia shall be the national capital of Liberia.

2.16b County Capital Cities

As of the entry into force of this Act, all existing county capitals and other county capitals that may be created in the future are designated as cities.

2.16c Other Cities, Townships, and Boroughs

Existing cities, other than the national and county capitals, and townships, and boroughs shall continue to enjoy their legal status under this Act. However, the Minister responsible for local government shall report to the Legislature on the status of each such city, township and borough seven years following the passage of this Act for the purpose of reaffirmation. Cities that will not meet the criteria set in this Act shall be relegated to a town status.

2.16d Criteria for Chartering a City

Upon the passage of this Act, the National Legislature shall ensure that the following minimum criteria are met for the establishment of cities:

i. A population of 10,000 people;
ii. Basic essential utilities for proper human settlement—electricity, pipe-borne water system, sewage service;
iii. Waste collection and disposal;
iv. Educational services, particularly primary to secondary schools;
v. Health services, including clinics, and/or health centers;
vi. Sports and recreational facilities;
vii. Zoning into demarcated wards;
viii. Cemetery;
ix. Streets and transportation infrastructure;
x. Transportation services and communication infrastructure; and
xi. Business services including financial services and shops; and hotels, restaurants and other hospitality facilities.

2.16e Townships and Boroughs

Upon the passage of this Act, the National Legislature shall ensure that the following minimum criteria are met for the establishment of townships and boroughs:

i. A minimum population of 5,000 people;
ii. Waste collection and disposal;
iii. Educational services, particularly primary and junior-high school;
iv. Health clinics;
v. Sports and recreation facility;
vi. Cemetery;
vii. Transportation infrastructure;
viii. Transportation services and communication infrastructure; and
ix. Business services, including motels, restaurants, and shops.

2.16f Membership of City and Township and Borough Councils

For purposes of representation on councils, and for the provision of services, cities, townships and boroughs shall be demarcated into wards. Representation on the councils of cities, Townships and boroughs shall be by wards.

i. The governance of cities shall be vested in a city council with membership comprising of not less than seven (7) persons;
ii. The governance of townships shall be vested in a township council with membership comprising of not less than five (5) persons;

iii. The governance of Boroughs shall be vested in a Borough Council with membership comprising not less than three (3) persons,
iv. Members of city, township and borough councils shall be selected by the residents of wards such that every ward is represented on the council.

2.16g Powers and Functions of Councils

The powers and functions of Councils shall be, but not limited to, the following:

i. Promulgate city and township ordinances, rules and regulations for the promotion of peace, unity, reconciliation, maintenance of public order and sanitation, and the delivery of basic public goods and services, consistent with laws;
ii. Establish rules to govern the activities of the Council and the administration of the Council Support Office;
iii. Levy local taxes, rates, duties, fees and fines as prescribed by this Act and by the Legislature;
iv. Authorize the issuance of certain licenses and operating permits as prescribed in this Act and by the Legislature;
v. Approve their annual budgets;
vi. Approve the development plan and its annual implementation plan;
vii. Confirm nominations made by the Mayor / Township Commissioner;
viii. Invite residents or public servants to provide it with information to facilitate its deliberations; and
ix. Promulgate such other regulations or ordinances and rules that shall be necessary and proper, consistent with this Act.

2.16h City Mayors, and Commissioners of Townships and Boroughs

The Management of cities, townships and boroughs shall be headed by city mayors, township commissioners, and borough administrators who shall be appointed by the President with the consent of the Senate. They shall perform the following duties and exercise the following powers and authority:

i. Manage the overall administration of the locality, consistent with the Liberian Constitution and laws and the various local ordinances and regulations;
ii. Supervise the preparation of the annual and other periodic budgets;
iii. Supervise the preparation and implementation of the development plan, consistent with the central government's national development plan and the goals of promoting women's empowerment and gender equality, as well as youth empowerment and inclusion;
iv. Supervise the preparation of the annual performance report for submission to the Council for endorsement and to the President of Liberia through the Minister responsible for Local Government for onward transmission to the Legislature;
v. Supervise national programs and projects in cities and townships; and
vi. Coordinate the work of the representatives of the ministries and agencies of central government located in cities and townships.

2.16i Management Staff

Each mayor and commissioner shall hire personnel to assist in administration of the affairs of the city, township or borough. Persons so recruited shall be hired based on merit and in accordance with the Civil Service Act.

2.16j Appointment of Mayors, Township Commissioners, Borough Administrators, and Council Members

i. City Mayors and Commissioners of townships and boroughs shall be appointed by the President with the consent of the Senate. They shall report to their respective Councils and to the Superintendents of the counties in which their cities, townships and boroughs are located;
ii. The Mayor of Monrovia, the national capital city, shall report to the Monrovia City Council and to the President of Liberia; and
iii. Members of City, Township and Borough councils shall be selected by the residents of the wards established in said city, township and borough such that every ward is represented on the council.

2.16k Qualifications for City Mayor, Township Commissioner and Borough Administrators

City Mayor, Borough or Township Commissioner shall meet the following eligibility requirements:

i. Must be a Liberian citizen;
ii. Must have attained the age of not less than twenty five (25) years;
iii. Must be domiciled in the City or Township for at least one year immediately prior to the date of appointment;
iv. Must not have been convicted of a criminal offense;
v. Must have obtained a first degree from an accredited college or university, except for Township Commissioners, who must have obtained an associate degree or high school/West African Examinations Certificate; and
vi. Must not have any outstanding past due tax obligations.

2.16l An aspirant for the position of city, township and borough council member shall meet the following eligibility requirements:

I. Must be a Liberian citizen;
II. Have attained the age of twenty five (25) years;
III. Be domiciled in the city or township for at least one year immediately prior to the date of selection;
IV. Must not have been convicted of a criminal offense;
V. Must have obtained the minimum of a high school diploma and certificate;
VI. Must not have any outstanding past due tax obligations.

2.16m Council Meetings

A City, Township or Borough Council shall meet at least once every three months in regular sessions or in special and emergency sessions as situations may warrant from time to time.

2.16o Tenure of Office Holders

Members of the respective councils shall hold office for a term of four (4) years and shall be eligible for re-election for an additional term and no more.

2.16q Removal of Council Members

Removal of a Member of City or Township Council shall be by vote of members of the council and shall be for cause consistent with the charters creating the cities and townships; and

2.16r Vacancy within a Council

A vacancy on the City or Township Council shall arise when a member: resigns or becomes incapable of performing his or her duties because of poor health or dies; is removed on account of abuse of office and/or corruption; or such other reasons as shall be determined by the Legislature or his colleagues. When a vacancy occurs within a City or Township Council, it shall be filled by selection from within the city ward.

2.16s Vacancy in the office of City Mayor, Township and Borough Commissioner

i. In the case of a temporary vacancy of the office of Mayor or Commissioner, the Chief Administrative Officer shall act as Officer-in-Charge until the return to functions of the Mayor or Commissioner; and

ii. In the case of permanent vacancy, in the office of mayor or township Commissioner, the city/township manager or administrator shall act as Mayor or Commissioner until appointment by the President, and confirmation by the Senate, of an individual to fill the vacancy.

2.17 Demarcation and Harmonization of Boundaries of Local Government Subdivisions

The Minister responsible for Local Government shall, with advice and technical assistance from the agency responsible for land, and in consultation with other relevant institutions and local authorities, ensure harmonization and demarcation of the boundaries of counties, administrative districts, chiefdoms, clans, and towns, as well as cities, townships and boroughs.

Chapter 3

The National Council of Chiefs

A National Council of Chiefs is hereby established, repealing the Act creating the National Council of Traditional Chiefs and Elders of 2012, to function under jurisdiction of the Minister responsible for local government.

3.1. Functions of the National Council of Chiefs

The functions of the National Council of Chiefs shall be to:

a. Preserve, protect, and foster positive Liberian traditions, cultural heritage and traditional institutions;

b. Assist the Government of Liberia through the minister responsible for local government, in achieving sustained peace, reconciliation and reunification at all levels of the society;

c. Provide independent, non-partisan advice to the Government of Liberia on the internal affairs of the Republic;

d. Advise the Government on the status of public order and national security, within the chiefdoms nation-wide;

e. Promote peace, integration and social cohesion of ethnic groups within their chiefdoms; and,

f. Recommend to the Minister responsible for local government, desired administrative changes in the operations of the Council Support Office to enhance its effectiveness.

3.2 Eligibility for Membership

There shall be one (1) representative to the Council from each County who shall be a functioning chief in charge of his or her chiefdom. The representative from each county shall be the Chair of the local county council.

3.3 Leadership of the Council

The leadership of the Council shall be:

a. Chairperson;
b. Vice Chairperson for Culture and Traditional Affairs; and
c. Vice Chairperson for Peace building and National Reconciliation.

3.4 Residence of Council Members

Members of the Council shall reside in their respective chiefdoms and continue to perform their duties and functions as defined in this Act.

3.5 Election and Tenure of the Officers of the National Council

The Chairperson and Vice Chairpersons shall be elected by the members of the Council and shall serve for a period of two (2) years. Election shall be held in January of each election year and shall be based on a simple majority of the total membership. The positions of Chairperson and Vice Chairpersons shall be rotational by county representatives provided that no county shall be re-elected to any of the three positions until the cycle is completed. Regional balance shall be observed in the Council's leadership.

3.6 Meetings of the Council

The National Council of Chiefs shall meet in regular sessions, at least two times a year. The Council shall also meet in emergency or special sessions as may be required from time to time. Decisions of the Council

shall be submitted to the minister responsible for local government and disseminated to their respective County Councils.

3.7 Council Funding

The Minister responsible for local government shall ensure that there is an annual budgetary line item for the operations of the National Council of Chiefs. Members of the Council shall be paid an honorarium for their participation in bi-annual and emergency meetings. The minister shall set the ceiling for such honorarium.

3.8 Council Support Office – Functions and Structure

A Council Support Office is hereby established to assist the National Council of Chiefs to carry out its functions.

3.9a The Council Support Office shall be responsible to:

i. Provide technical, administrative and financial services support and overall coordination of the affairs of the Council;
ii. Assist the Council in the conduct of its affairs; and ensure transparent, and accountable use of the financial, logistics and other resources allocated to the Council;
iii. Liaise with stakeholders and the Minister responsible for local government on all matters of the Council;
iv. Serve as custodian of records of the National Council; and prepare draft programs and project documents including annual work plans and operational budgets; and,
v. Prepare reports.

3.9b Structure of the Council Support Office

The structure of the Council Support office shall consist of a Principal Director who shall serve as executive head of the office, with three divisions of which two shall be headed by two Policy Analysts (1 for Culture and Traditional Affairs, and 1 for Peace building and National Reconciliation); and one Finance Officer responsible for financial management. The office shall also be supported by a 5-person lower-level office staff. Employees of the County Support Office shall be civil servants recruited according to the Civil Service rules and regulations.

3.9c Location of Council Support Office

The Support Office of the National Council of Chiefs shall be located in Monrovia under the supervision of the Minister responsible for local government.

Chapter 4

Financing Local Governments

4.1 Principles for Fiscal Resources in Support of Local Governments

The principles governing the fiscal resources for counties, cities, townships and boroughs shall include the following:

a. Establishment of adequate, identifiable, and reliable sources of own revenues;
b. Implementation of a sustainable and recurring program of direct revenue sharing;
c. Identification and authorization of local taxes to be levied;
d. Ensuring that all devolved and delegated functions are accompanied by the transfer of funds from the central government for the implementation of those functions; and
e. Ensuring that the allocations of transfers are based on a formula that adheres to internationally accepted good governance standards and practices such as equity, transparency and accountability.

4.2 Revenues of County, City, Township and Boroughs

Revenues of counties, cities, townships and boroughs shall be comprised of:

a. Revenues collected from their own sources;
b. Transfers from the central government;
c. Social Development Funds; and
d. Grants from external sources such as multilateral and bilateral development partners.

4.3 Own-Source Revenues

In keeping with the Revenue Code of Liberia, own-source revenues of counties, cities, townships and boroughs shall comprise of, but not be limited to the following:

a. Real property tax and income on same;
b. Business licenses and permits;
c. Fees and charges for occupation and professional licenses;
d. Fees and charges for provision of public services provided directly by counties, cities and townships;
e. Revenues from rental of assets;
f. Fees and charges for provision of official documents and services, as delegated by respective ministries and agencies; and
g. Fines imposed by local government authorities.

4.4 Real Property Tax and Income from Property

The revenues from real property tax and income from property, as defined in the Revenue Code of Liberia are revenues of county, city, township and borough governments.

4.5 Revenue Sharing

a. For the first ten (10) years of the passage of this Act, and except for the National Capital City, the revenues from real property tax and income from property shall accrue to the county to be distributed among the component local governments according to a formula to be established by the Local Government Fiscal Board;

b. The agency responsible to administer collection of real property tax shall continue to collect said tax for local governments;

c. The agency responsible to administer real property tax shall make a monthly report of revenue collected to the Minister responsible for Finance and to the counties. Subsequent to that report, the funds shall be transferred to the respective county revenue fund;

d. With the establishment of county administrations, the reports of property conveyances and deeds submitted to the Minister responsible for Finance on the first of each month as per the Revenue Code of Liberia shall also be submitted to the respective county governments on the same day;

e. The Legislature shall adopt a plan to transfer the administration and collection of the property taxes to the county property tax office within five [5] years of the establishment of county local governments;

f. The Central Government, represented by the Minister responsible for finance shall develop during this five-year period, the capacity of the counties to take over the collection of the property taxes;

g. During this five-year transition period, counties, cities, townships and boroughs shall collaborate with the agency responsible to administer property tax with relevant information on properties, owners, and other parameters to be defined. The aim shall be to develop an automated property tax base, thereby improving revenue collection performance for real property tax in their respective jurisdictions, in preparation of the transfer of collection authority. The mechanisms and format for this transmission or sharing of this information shall be defined by the agency responsible for tax administration; and

h. As required, amendments to the relevant sections of the Revenue Code of Liberia shall be made to ensure implementation of the real property tax and income there from for county, city, township and borough governments.

4.6 Business Licenses and Permits

Counties, cities, townships and boroughs shall collect fees for issuance of annual business licenses and operating permits, regulated under the Revenue Code of Liberia for individuals who practice a profession, or for operating trades or businesses. These shall include:

a. Practicing fees paid by accountants, lawyers, pharmacists, surveyors, building contractors, engineers, etc.
b. Operation of cinemas, bars, night clubs, musical and places of entertainment;
c. Operation of retail businesses such as shops, stores, supermarkets, bakeries, restaurants, "cook shops", "tea shops", hotels, motels, barber shops, liquor retailers, local alcohol distilleries and breweries, motor vehicle repair garages, dry cleaners, building materials, etc.;
d. Licensing of small canoes and attendant fishing gears;
e. Operation of car wash lots;
f. Operation of power chain saws for extraction of timbers;
g. Operation of slaughterhouses;
h. Operation of motorbikes commonly called "Pem-Pems";
i. Community radio/television stations, newspapers, etc.

4.7 Collection of Fees

The agency responsible to administer business licenses, under item (a) (iii) above will continue to collect the fees for local governments.

a. The agency responsible to administer business licenses shall make a monthly report of revenue collected to the Minister responsible for Finance and to the counties, cities, townships and boroughs. Ten [10] working days subsequent to that report, the funds shall be transferred to the respective Revenue Fund of county, city, township and borough governments;
b. The Legislature shall adopt a plan to transfer the administration and collection of the business license fees to the counties, cities and townships within three [3) years of the passage of this Act;
c. The Central Government, represented by the Minister responsible for Finance and the agency responsible to administer business licenses shall develop, during these three (3) years, the capacity of the counties, cities and townships to take over the collection of business license fees;
d. The Legislature shall establish the range of rates for each category of annual business or operating license fees;
e. County, city and township councils shall establish the specific rate to apply for each category of annual business, practitioner or operating license fees in their respective territory, within national range; and
f. The local rates adopted shall be posted in public places in county capitals as well as in cities and townships.

4.8 Fees and Charges for Use of Public Spaces

County, city and township governments shall collect fees and charges for use of public space, which may comprise, but not be limited to, the following purposes:

a. operation of markets;
b. transport parking stations;
c. advertising billboards; and
d. operation of cemeteries.

4.9 Setting of Charges

The rates of these charges shall be set by the respective local councils and the local rates adopted shall be posted in public places in county capitals as well as in cities and townships; and

4.10 Collection of Charges

Each county, city and township council shall determine the means of collection of these charges. Their collection may be outsourced in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Public Procurement and Concessions Act, as necessary.

4.11 Charges for Provision of Public Services

a. County, city and township governments shall collect fees and charges for public services which they provide directly and which may comprise, but not be limited to, the following services:

i. Waste collection, disposal and treatment;
ii. Establishment and maintenance of public toilets;
iii. Sanitation and public cleanliness;
iv. Operation and maintenance of water wells; and
v. Other public services as may be provided by counties, cities and townships.

b. The rates of these charges shall be set by the respective local councils and the local rates adopted.
rates of these charges shall be set by the respective local councils and the local rates adopted shal
posted in public places in county capitals as well as in cities and townships;

c. Each county, city and township council shall determine the means of collection of these charges. Th
collection may be outsourced in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Public Procurem
and Concessions Act.

4.12 Revenues from Rental of Assets

a. County, city and township governments may raise revenues from the rental of public facilities su
as:

i. Administrative halls;
ii. School buildings;
iii. Soccer and other sports stadiums;
iv. Gymnasiums; and,
v. Other recreational facilities.

b. The rental of these facilities shall not interfere with their main purpose to serve for the provision o
public services and access.

4.13 Fees and Charges for Provision of Delegated Services

a. County governments shall provide services on behalf of central government ministries or agencies and
shall collect fees and charges for the provision of these services, which may include, but not limited to:

i. registration and issuance of birth certificates and death certificates;
ii. registration and issuance of marriage certificates;
iii. reproduction of public records and documents;
iv. land registration;
v. building construction permits;
vi. tribal land registries; and
vii. Certification of traditional herbalists.

b.The rates of these fees and charges shall be set by the ministry responsible for finance in consultation
with the respective delegating ministry or agency, and posted visibly and publicly in the place where the
respective services are provided;

c. Each delegating ministry or agency shall also provide via regulation the respective protocols, standards
and requirements for providing the services that are delegated.

4.14 Fines

a. County, city and township governments may levy fines for violation of their ordinances.

b. The Minister responsible for Finance, in consultation with the Minister responsible for Local
Government shall provide guidance and standards for the development of these fines.

c. The rates of county, city and township fines as adopted by the respective local government council
shall be posted in public places in county capitals as well as in cities and townships.

4.15 Transfers and Grants from Central Government

Counties, cities and townships shall receive the following transfers and grants from the central
government:

a. General Fund;

b. Development Fund;
c. Earmarked Transfers for Devolved Functions;
d. Earmarked Transfers for Delegated Functions; and
e. Other transfers or revenue sharing as may be required or developed in the future.

The Local Government Fiscal Board shall develop transparent and equitable allocation formula for the following funds:

a. General Fund;
b. Development Fund; and
c. Earmarked Transfers for Devolved Functions.

Unutilized transfers for the General Fund, Development Fund, and Earmarked Transfers for Devolved Functions shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year and will be available to the counties, cities and townships for application, provided the expenditure is included in the ensuing annual budget and duly approved by the council.

The Earmarked Transfers for Devolved Functions may only be reallocated for the specific sector for which it has been authorized.

Unutilized transfers for Delegated Functions shall be returned to the relevant central government ministry or agency.

4.16 General Fund

a. The central government shall provide an annual transfer to each county, city and township for the purposes of ensuring general administration and operations, including operation of their councils;

b. The one-time initial lump-sum grant distributed in equal amounts and allocated in the first year of the functioning of counties and townships as described in the Transitional Provisions, shall be folded into the General Fund in Year 2;

c. The parameters for allocation of the transfer will be developed by the Local Government Fiscal Board using a transparent and equitable allocation formula; and

d. The General Fund will include an equalization element to provide for redistribution of resources to disadvantaged counties.

4.17 Development Fund

a. The central government shall provide an annual transfer to each county, city and township for the purposes of capital investment and development support;

b. The parameters for allocation of the transfer will be developed by the Local Government Fiscal Board using a transparent transfer allocation formula that will take account of size, infrastructure distribution and population, among other criteria; and

c. In the first year when newly elected county, city and township councils and governments are launched, the central government, upon the coming into force of this Act, shall provide a lump sum for Development Fund, which shall be distributed and shared in equal amounts to all county, city and township governments. This amount shall be distributed according to the formula as indicated in sub-section (b) above, starting from Year two (2).

4.18 Earmarked Transfers for Devolved Functions

a. The central government shall establish transfers for counties, cities and townships to finance functions and responsibilities devolved from central government;

b. Transparent and equitable allocation formula for each sector for which functions are devolved shall be developed by the Local Government Fiscal Board, and the criteria for each sector formula linked to the specific parameters of the functions being devolved; and

c. Respective sector ministries and agencies will be required to provide detailed and accurate data for the respective devolved functions on current funding levels and other information for each county, city and township.

4.19 Earmarked Transfers for Delegated Functions

a. The central government shall ensure that the required funding to carry out delegated functions is made available to counties, cities and townships; and

b. Respective sector ministries and agencies will be required to provide detailed and accurate data for the cost to implement delegated functions for each county, city and township.

4.20 County Social Development Fund

The central government shall transfer to county governments impacted by the operations of concessions, the annual contributions agreed in the concession agreements signed between the companies and the Government of Liberia.

4.21 Obligation to Ensure Timely Transfer of Funds

Upon the adoption of the national budget, the minister responsible for finance shall issue a regulation with the timetable for transferring the various funds and grants to counties, cities, and townships over the course of the fiscal year.

4.22 Funding of Sub-County Structures

a. The county budget should include budget support for local administration and local development project support to districts, chiefdoms, clans and general towns; and

b. In conformity with the national budget guidelines issued by the Minister responsible for Finance, the County Finance Officer will provide detailed guidelines for budget preparation for Districts and Chiefdoms, and subsequent submission to the county for purposes of inclusion in the county budget and final approval by the County Council. District Commissioners and Paramount Chiefs will prepare their budgets in accordance with the guidelines issued.

4.23 External Grants from Donor Community

County, city and township governments shall access fiscal resources from the donor community for specific development purposes through mechanisms established and supervised by the central government through the ministers responsible for finance and local government.

4.24 Short-Term Liquidity Central Bank Overdrafts

The central government through the ministers responsible for Finance and Local Government shall negotiate a standing facility with the Central Bank that would allow counties, cities or townships to borrow funds for short-term liquidity shortfalls, except that:

a. No overdraft may be taken for a period of more than ninety [90] days;

b. All overdrafts must be repaid in full by the end of each fiscal year; and

c. No overdrafts may be authorized during the first sixty [60] days of the fiscal year, barring exceptional circumstances.

4.25 Use of Facility

The following shall be conditions under which the facility may be accessed:

a. Delay in receipt of scheduled transfers from the central government; or
b. Response to a local emergency or natural disaster requiring access to budget contingency fund

The minister responsible for finance shall issue further guidelines for the application process and approval criteria, pricing, oversight, and repayment procedures for county, city and township access to the short-term liquidity overdraft facility.
The minister responsible for local government shall be informed of all requests for use of the overdraft facility made by the local governments.

4.26 Local Government Fiscal Board

There is hereby established, an autonomous National Local Government Fiscal Board for the purpose of:

a. Making annual recommendations to the Legislature with copy to the Minister responsible for Finance and the Minister responsible for local government of annual grant allocations to counties, cities and townships for the grant funds defined above, and with the objective to ensure that the financing of local government is equitable and transparent;

b. Reviewing and commenting on any draft laws / decrees which will have an impact on county, city and township finances, such as transfer of new responsibilities and the associated financing, changes to tax laws, amendments to this Act, etc.;

c. Periodically reviewing and making recommendations to the Legislature on the composition of own source revenues with eventual proposals for sharing of specific national tax revenues to be allocated to counties, cities and townships; and

d. Carrying out periodic (every5 year) reviews of the overall local government financing system and making recommendations to the Legislature to ensure stable and equitable financing of counties, cities and township.

4.27 Independence of the Local Government Fiscal Board

The Local Government Fiscal Board shall carry out its analysis and make its proposals to the Legislature independent of the Minister responsible for Finance, Minister responsible for Local Government, other central government ministries and agencies and from local governments.

4.28 Membership of the Local Government Fiscal Board

The Local Government Fiscal Board shall consist of seven [7] members. They shall be appointed by the President, from among experts nominated by the:

a. Minister responsible for Finance (1 member);
b. Minister responsible for Local Government (1 member);
c. Director-General of the Civil Service Agency (1 member);
d. Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geo-Information Services (1 member);
e. Representative of county superintendents elected by the Superintendents (1 member);
f. Representative of cities selected by the City Mayors (1 member); and
g. Representative of townships selected by the Township Commissioners (1 member)

The qualifications for members of the Local Government Fiscal Board shall be defined by regulation issued by the ministers responsible for finance and local government.

The Chairperson of the Local Government Fiscal Board shall be elected from among its members.

Members of the Board shall serve on a part-time basis for a term of four [4] years, renewable once.

4.29 Secretariat Support Services

The department responsible for decentralization implementation within the ministry responsible for local government shall provide secretariat support services to the Board. When needed, the Board may recruit short-term technical experts to provide specific technical services to inform its work. The services of technical consultants and the cost for such services shall be included in the Board's work plan and budget and financed by the National Budget.

4.30 Parameters to Consider for Allocation of Transfer Funds

In carrying out its functions to determine and recommend the amount of grant allocations to counties, cities, townships and boroughs, the Local Government Fiscal Board shall apply criteria and factors appropriate to each of the transfer funds. Measurable factors and indicators which shall be taken into consideration for the General Fund include, but are not limited to:

a. Area (geographic location, size and topography of territory);
b. Level of socio-economic development, taking into consideration elements such as poverty index and infrastructure distribution);
c. Population size and density;
d. Fiscal potential and tax generation capacity; and
e. Good governance practices reflected by practices such as budget hearings, citizen participation and consultation in development and implementation of county development plans.

Measurable factors and indicators which could be taken into consideration for the Development Fund include, but are not limited to:

a. Population size and density;
b. Infrastructure distribution; and
c. Size and geographic challenges of territory

Measurable factors and indicators which should be taken into consideration for the transfers of devolved functions shall be based on individual sector financing requirements and may take into consideration joint proposals or options of the relevant sector ministry or agency and the minister responsible for Finance.

4.31 Accessing of Internal or External Resources by Local Governments

In accordance with the Public Finance Management Act 2009, the national government shall enter into negotiations with bilateral and multilateral institutions on behalf of county government to access external funding for sustainable local development projects and programs based on proposals from the county consistent with approved development plans and central government aid coordination policies, rules and regulations.

4.32 Aid Coordination at Local Government Level

The county government shall establish an Aid Coordination Unit under the office of the County Development Officer. The functions of this Unit shall include:

a. Registration of the development partners operating in the county;
b. Development of a database of development activities by sector and location in the county;
c. Harmonizing interventions by development and implementing partners with county development plans and budgets;
d. Ensure that agreed program activities to be implemented are in conformity with the priorities stipulated in the approved County Development Agenda;
e. Ensuring that recurrent implications of development interventions are budgeted and accounted for to ensure sustainability; and
f. Preparing an annual report to be reviewed by the County Council for onward transmission to the National Aid Coordination Unit in the ministry responsible for finance.

4.33 Financial Management

The public financial management for the devolved local government structures shall be subject to the existing laws such as the Public Finance Management Act, 2009.The management of public finances of counties, cities, townships and boroughs shall be guided by principles of accountability, unity of the budget, and balanced budget.

4.33a Unity of the Budget

i. County, city, township and borough budget is the instrument for approving the annual estimates of respective local government revenues and expenditures; and

ii. Annual budget estimates shall be in a single document and adopted by an annual budget ordinance, including both recurrent and capital expenditures;

4.33b Balanced Budget

i. In the budget, expenditure outflows shall be balanced by revenues and shall not include financial inflows such as borrowing; and

ii. Recourse to the short-term liquidity overdraft facility shall not be budgeted and any funds obtained from the facility shall be repaid within the respective fiscal year.

4.33c There shall be no expenditure activities outside of an approved budget, except in cases of emergencies. However, emergency expenditures outside of the budget must be approved under regulations issued by the Minister of responsible for finance in consultation with the minister responsible for local government and the Chairman of the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission.

4.33d Revenue Fund

Revenue Funds shall be established for county, city, township and boroughs.

i. All revenues received by counties, cities and townships, pursuant to this Act shall be deposited into the Revenue Fund;
ii. The finance officer has the authority to manage the Revenue Fund to allow for an effective and efficient cash management; and
iii. The functioning and rules which govern the Revenue Fund shall be further specified by regulations to be issued by the Minister responsible for Finance.

4.33e Financial Year

The financial year shall be the same as that of the central government in accordance with the Public Financial Management Act, which is the period of twelve months commencing July 1, every year and ending June 30 of the following year.

4.33f Budget Structure

i. All revenue and expenditure transactions for counties, cities, townships and boroughs are to be structured and classified using the same classifications for both budgeting and accounting;

ii. The Minister responsible for Finance shall prescribe budget classifications for local government budgets and shall further issue detailed instructions for the use of the classifications in the preparation, execution and accounting of the budget; and

iii. County, city, township and borough councils shall review and approve their respective budgets in accordance with public finance management principles stated in this Act, the Public Finance Management Act and related implementing regulations.

4.33g Supplementary Budgets and Mid-Year Review

i. During the fiscal year, the approved county, city, township or borough budget may be amended through supplementary budgets to be approved by the council; and

ii. The preparation, approval and execution of a supplementary budget shall be governed by the same rules applicable to the approval and execution of the budget as specified in this Act, the Public Finance Management Act and related implementing regulations.

4.33h General Rules for Budget Execution

i. The rules related to budget execution shall be detailed in the regulations issued by the Minister responsible for Finance, and further elaborated in guidelines issued from time to time;

ii. Total payments for a detailed budget line in a given fiscal year may not exceed that budget line as amended by any Supplementary Budget;

iii. No payment shall be made from the local Revenue Fund except under an item identified in the adopted annual budget estimates, as amended by any Supplementary Budget; and

iv. An annual spending plan shall be prepared for each administrative department, as well as for each sub-county structure, as well as city and township wards.

4.34 Financial Reporting

The Minister responsible for finance shall provide the format and schedules for the submission of required financial reports and accounts, as well as for the reconciliation of accounts between local and central governments.

4.35 External and Internal Audit of Counties, Cities and Townships

County, City and Township financial reports, accounts and general performance of public finance management, shall be subject to external and internal audits.

4.36 External Audit

Each county, city and township shall be audited on an annual basis by the General Auditing Commission.

4.37 Internal Audit Unit

There shall be an Internal Audit Unit established by the Internal Audit Secretariat in each county, city and township, which shall comprise at least one (1) Internal Auditor. Further organization of the Internal Audit Unit shall be determined by the Internal Audit Secretariat.

4.38 Contracts and Procurement

i. All purchases of goods and services from suppliers, including capital investments shall comply with the provisions prescribed in the Public Procurement and Concessions Act of 2005, as amended, and its enabling regulations;

ii. All contracts, including those established through the simplified Local Purchase Order mechanism shall be considered commitments of the local government;

iii. All contracts should as closely as possible be reflected in the annual procurement plan of the local government, as required by the Public Procurement and Concessions Act; and

iv. The Public Procurement and Concessions Commission shall prepare additional regulations and guidance for procurement by local governments.

4.39 Outsourcing of Certain Services

To reduce recurrent costs and enable the local government to focus on its core business, local government shall outsource certain category of jobs such as security services, janitorial services, gardening and landscaping, carpentry, plumbing, electrical and mechanical services, tile/carpet laying, cooking, painting, bricklaying, roofing, and general laboring. These and similar services shall be outsourced to competent individuals or private sector firms through transparent and merit-based, competitive processes in compliance with the provisions of the Public Procurement and Concessions Act and its regulations.

Chapter 5

Development Planning Unit

5.1 County Development Planning Unit

Counties shall establish a Development Planning Unit headed by the County Development Officer. The Unit shall be responsible for development planning which shall be linked with the central government development planning and aid coordination entities and shall coordinate Development Planning Units to be established in Administrative Districts. Specifically, it shall:

a. Coordinate and facilitate the preparation of county development plans;
b. Supervise the activities of District Development Units;
c. Coordinate activities with sector ministries and non-governmental organizations;
d. Develop project proposals for the county to access donor funds through the appropriate central government institutions;
e. Monitor and evaluate development activities within the county;
f. Collect, document and disseminate county development information and data;
g. Maintain a county-based databank of socio-economic and development information and data for research, development planning, and monitoring and evaluation; and
h. Carry out other functions which may be imposed by law or are incidental to the above.

5.2 County Development Planning Process

a. The development planning process shall be participatory, gender-sensitive, and inclusive of all citizens, residents, minorities and marginalized communities, as we as civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, and private sector entities. Consultations shall commence from the general town level. It shall, specifically, include the following:

i. An assessment of the current social, economic, and environmental situation of districts and chiefdoms to determine development challenges and needs that should be attended;
ii. Prioritization of identified challenges and needs to inform proper determination and sequencing of actions in the development agenda;
iii. An assessment of Capacity Assets: available development resources, skills, and capacities;
iv. Identification for research various development issues of concern in the county development management process; and
v. Organization and leadership in the preparation of county development agendas.

b. The development planning process shall take place every four (4) years to establish a 4-year County Development Agenda, at the beginning of each county council mandate.

c. Upon approval the County Development Agenda shall become the primary instrument for all development programs in the County and all funding available to the County from all sources of revenue shall be committed to the priorities so set.

5.3 County Development Agenda

a. The County Development Agenda shall be a four-year forward-looking strategic document. It shall be a comprehensive and integrated development plan that incorporates the plans of administrative districts and the chiefdoms;
b. The County Development Agenda shall be aligned with the national development priorities of the central government; and
c. The County Development Agenda shall provide for the following:

i. Physical and social infrastructures such as roads, bridges, schools, health facilities, sports and recreation facilities, parks, and conservation reserves;
ii. Delivery of social services, including electricity, water and sanitation, solid waste management, education and health services; sports and recreational services;
iii. Productive activities such as agricultural production;
iv. Capacity building in human and non-human resources;
v. Disaster preparedness and response;
vi. Special programs for youths, women and children, people with disabilities and minority groups; and
vii. Promotion of peace and social cohesion.

d. The County Development Agenda will incorporate annual work and implementation plans to ensure its realization.
e. The County Development Agenda shall be approved by the County Council and submitted to the central government through the minister responsible for local government to inform the overall national development agenda.
f. Annualized components of the County Development Agenda shall be submitted timely through the minister responsible for local government, to the Minister of Finance and Development Planning for inclusion in the national budget 3 months prior to the end of the current fiscal year.

5.4 District Level Development Planning

a. Under the direction of the County Development Officer, there shall be a planning unit established at the district level. The unit shall be responsible for the development of district development plans which shall cover all chiefdoms of the district. District-wide development plans shall be incorporated in the County Development Agenda.

b. The district development planning processes shall be similar to those of the county development planning unit.

c. The Minister responsible for Local Government shall provide guidelines, including templates for the structure and content of district and county development agendas and annual implementation plans.

5.5 Development Planning in Chiefdoms

a. Development Focal Persons shall be appointed in chiefdoms by the District Commissioner for the purpose of overseeing development planning activities in the chiefdoms. Their primary function shall be to oversee the collection of relevant development information and data required by the district development units; and

b. The County Development Unit shall provide capacity building training for district development planning personnel and chiefdom focal persons.

5.6 Monitoring and Evaluation

In conformity with the practices of good governance, local governments shall, in collaboration with the Governance Commission, undertake performance monitoring and evaluation of their programs. The Minister responsible for Local Government shall prescribe the frequency, coverage and form which monitoring and evaluations shall take.

Chapter 6

Inclusive Local Governance

6.1 Gender Mainstreaming

Local governments shall take proactive measures to promote gender equality and women's empowerment at all levels and in all areas of local government administration. The principles to guide integration of a gender perspective in local government shall include the following:

a. Participation: promoting equal access to participation of women and men in decision-making;
b. Representation: promoting equal access of women, men, minorities and people with disabilities in recruitment, established committees, and local government service;
c. Protection: protecting the equal rights of women and girls and enhancing their security from gender-based violence; and
d. Capacity-development: designing and implementing gender-sensitive policies and programs that enhance the capacity of men, women, children and people with disabilities to have equal access to decision-making, local government leadership, work and other opportunities.

6.2 Participation

Local governments shall ensure equal access to participation of women in local government decision-making as well as in all critical sectors of development, including agriculture, health, education and governance, as well as contractual services offered by various local government administrations.

6.3 Representation

Local governments shall ensure equal access to opportunities for women representation in structures of local government decision-making such as local government councils, advisory boards, as well as in other areas of local government service.

6.4 Protection

Local governments shall commit to protect and promote the rights and security of women, girls and children and invest in improving structures and community mechanisms that will assist in the prevention of child abuse and sexual and gender based violence.

6.5 Capacity Enhancement

a. Local governments shall support training programs to enhance women's access to participation in local government leadership and decision-making, as well as access to employment and contractual service opportunities; and
b. Local governments shall undertake affirmative action as stipulated in the Girls' Education Policy as a framework for investing in education of girls.

6.6 Reversing Discrimination

Local governments shall take proactive measures to reverse discrimination by identifying and rectifying discriminatory practices within local government set ups and governance processes that may negatively affect women or men.

6.7 Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups

a. Local governments shall also work to promote the empowerment, participation and integration of vulnerable and marginalized groups and persons with special needs such as the physically and mentally challenged, the elderly, orphaned and abandoned children in all aspects of development at local levels.

b. Specifically, local governments shall ensure that:

i. The physically challenged have access to participation in local government decision-making and to user-friendly, physical infrastructures;

ii. The physically challenged have equal access to employment and social services being provided the people;

iii. Local government programs are children-friendly and responsive to the needs of orphans and abandoned children;

iv. Local government programs take into account the needs of the elderly in local communities; and

v. Local government health services programs attend to the needs of persons mentally challenged.

Chapter 7

Standards of Transparency and Accountability in Local Government

7.1 Anti-Corruption Measures for Local Governments

All local governments shall prioritize adoption of systems and measures to prevent corruption and improve internal controls in the administration of the county, city and township's affairs. Such measures shall include adoption of the Code of Conduct, adoption of all anti-corruption standards and regulations contained in the Acts creating the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission and the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission, as well as standards, rules and regulations of the Civil Service.

7.2 Standards of Transparency and Accountability

Standards of transparency and accountability applicable to officials of central government shall be equally applicable to local government officials in the discharge of their duties. These shall be inclusive of financial and non-financial standards such as provided under the Public Procurement and Concession Act and the Public Finance Management Act 2009, as well as their other regulations.

7.3 The Code of Conduct Adopted

The Code of Conduct, as enacted into law for all public officials and employees of the three branches of government, shall also apply to all officials and employees in the service of local governments.

7.4 Additional Proactive Anti-corruption Measures

The Office of the County Administrative Officer shall collaborate with the Civil Service Agency, the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission, the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission, and other national integrity institutions in anti-corruption and public ethics advocacy which shall include:

a. Compulsory Anti-corruption and Ethics Training – Training and certification in professional ethics in the public service and the benefits of eradicating corruption, which shall be compulsory for all officials and civil servants in local government services. The training shall also include awareness of the national Anti-Corruption and Public Procurement legislations; and

b. Public Awareness and Sensitization Campaigns– County-wide ethics and anti-corruption, public procurement sensitization and public awareness programs through flyers, billboards, local radio talk shows, workshops and seminars, as well as the print and other media.

7.5 Civil Service in Local Government

a. Civil Service Management

i. Human resources management of all non-elected, civilian employees of the county, city, township and borough administrations shall adhere to the civil service rules and regulations;

ii. All civilian employees of county, city, township and borough administrations shall be subjected to the policies and regulations of the Civil Service Agency; and

iii. Human resource management issues such as recruitment and retention, classification, pay and benefits; promotions and transfers; retirement and pensions; grievances and grievance handling shall all be subjected to the policies and regulation of the Civil Service Agency.

b. Mobility within the Service

The Civil Service Agency shall issue a standing order to ensure that there is mobility, both vertically and horizontally, within the civil service, allowing for upward career growth, development and movement as well as cross-agency and cross-county-of-origin recruitment, placement, and transfers such that employees, or certain category of employees, of an agency or local government are not predominantly from one gender or region of the country.

c. Rotational Assignments

The Civil Service Agency shall ensure that civil servants who occupy the following positions in local governments are rotated from one county to another after having served for a period of four (4) years in a particular county:

i. County Administrative Officer;
ii. County Finance Officer; and
iii. County Development Officer.

Chapter 8

Land Governance and Management in Local Government

8.1 Land Governance and Administration

a. All land governance and administration functions, including land administration, management, and land alternative dispute resolutions, shall remain under the jurisdiction of the national agency responsible for land;

b. All land related functions including those related to determination of rights to land, surveying and mapping, deed and title registration, valuation of land, and collection and management of land information shall be administered by the national agency responsible for land;

c. In Pursuit of its functions and the exercise of its authority and powers, the national agency responsible for land shall establish and mobilize structures at local government levels as it deems necessary for the effective and efficient administration and regulation of land;

d. All land governance and administration functions, including land governance and administration at the national and local government levels, shall be governed by land laws enacted by the Legislature as well as by policies formulated and regulations issued by the national agency responsible for land;

e. The national agency responsible for land shall establish standards and processes in various areas of land governance and administration including but not limited to land: acquisition, transfer, surveying, valuation, and title processing; and

f. All public and private surveyors accredited and licensed by the professional surveyors' board and providing services to private and public individuals and institutions shall register with the county office of the national agency responsible for land in the county in which they intend to practice surveying.

8.2 Harmonization of Boundaries

The national agency responsible for land shall provide *advice and technical assistance* to the Minister responsible of local government in the harmonization of administrative boundaries between counties, districts, chiefdoms, clans, and general towns, as well as cities and townships.

8.3 Devolved Functions and Services

The national agency responsible for land shall, from time to time, devolve certain of its functions and powers to the counties. Accordingly, immediately following the coming into effect of this law, the following services shall be de-concentrated from the national agency responsible for land to local governments: (i) survey services; and (ii) land registration services, including updating and storage of land records services.

8.4 Capacity Building

The national agency responsible for land shall work with local governments to build their capacities to facilitate the devolution and/or delegation of certain of its functions and powers, commencing initially, with capacity building for the devolution of the following activities: *(i) survey services; and (ii) land registration services, including updating and storage of land records services.*

Chapter 9

Miscellaneous Provisions

9.1 Oath of office

All local government officials shall, before taking office, take a solemn oath affirming their loyalty to the sovereign state of Liberia and pledging that they will uphold the Constitution, the local government laws and all other laws of Liberia, as well as perform the duties and functions that have been assigned to them.

9.2 Incorporation of Counties, Cities, Townships and Boroughs

Counties, cities and townships shall be established by the Legislature with perpetual succession and a common seal and shall have the right to invest in and own real property; levy taxes, fees and charges on residents under delegated authority from the Central Government from which a county, city and township shall fund its budget, without prejudice to taxes, fees and other charges imposed by and collected for the central government.

9.3 Councils' Power to Make Bylaws or Adopt Internal Rules

County, city, and township councils shall make bylaws and/or adopt internal rules to govern their operations regarding matters such as procedures for introducing draft regulations and ordinances, debates, attendance of meetings, standing committees, quorums, and voting, provided that such bylaws and/or internal rules are not inconsistent with the Constitution, this Act, and other enacted laws of the country, or their own ordinances.

9.4 Minister to provide Guide lines for By-Laws

The Minister responsible for Local Government, in consultation and collaboration with other relevant central government officials, shall provide guidelines, including templates, to facilitate county, city, and township councils to develop by-laws or internal operating procedures.

Chapter 10

Effective Date

This Act shall take effect immediately upon publication in handbills.
Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

-2018-

ATTESTATION TO:

"AN ACT TO REPEAL THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW TITLE 20, LIBERIAN CODES OF LAW REVISED AND TO ESTABLISH IN ITS STEAD, A NEW TITLE 20 TO BE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 2018"

for VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA/
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

pp SECRETARY, LIBERIAN SENATE

SPEAKER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, R.L.

CHIEF CLERK, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, R.L.

-2016-

FIFTH SESSION OF THE FIFTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

HOUSE'S ENGROSSED BILL NO.52 ENTITLED:

"AN ACT TO REPEAL THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW TITLE 20, LIBERIAN CODES OF LAW REVISED AND TO ESTABLISH IN ITS STEAD, A NEW TITLE 20 TO BE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 2018"

On Motion, Bill read. On Motion, the Bill was adopted on its first reading and sent to Committee Room on Tuesday, July 12, 2016 at the hour of 11:20 G.M.T.

On Motion, Bill taken from the Committee Room for its Second reading. On motion, under the suspension of the rule, the second reading of the Bill constituted its third and final reading and the Bill was adopted, passed into the full force of the law and ordered engrossed today, Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at the hour of 13:03 G.M.T. during its Extra-Ordinary Session

Mildred W. Sayon

CHIEF CLERK, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, R.

-2018-

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH LEGISLATUR THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

SENATE'S ENDORSEMENT TO HOUSE'S ENGROSSED BI NO. 52 ENTITLED:

"AN ACT TO REPEAL THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT TITLE 20, LIBERIAN CODES OF LAW REVISED AND ESTABLISH IN ITS STEAD, A NEW TITLE 20 TO BE KN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 2018"

On Motion, Bill read. On Motion, the Bill was adopted o first reading and sent to Committee Room on Tues September 29, 2016 at the hour of 11:26 G.M.T.

On motion, Bill taken from the Committee Room for its sec reading. On motion, under the suspension of the rule, the sec reading of the Bill constituted its third and final reading and Bill was adopted, passed into the full force of the law ordered engrossed today, Tuesday, September 4, 2018 @ 15 G.M.T.

Jarnawe Verdier Massaquoi

pp SECRETARY, LIBERIAN SENATE, R.L.

THE HONORABLE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Capitol Building
P.o. Box 9005
Monrovia, Liberia
Website:www.legislature.gov.lr

Office of the Chief Clerk

-2018-

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

SCHEDULE OF HOUSE'S ENROLLED BILL NO. 13 ENTITLED:

"AN ACT TO REPEAL THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW TITLE 20, LIBERIAN CODES OF LAW REVISED AND TO ESTABLISH IN ITS STEAD, A NEW TITLE 20 TO BE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 2018"

PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA FOR EXECUTIVE APPROVAL.

APPROVED THIS: 19th DAY OF September A.D. 2018

AT THE HOUR OF 11:13

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA