



PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION

PROHIBITING THE ACCESS OF CHILDREN UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS TO ALCOHOL, DRUGS, AND CIGARETTES; AND PENALIZING INDIVIDUALS AND ESTABLISHMENTS THAT FURNISH ALCOHOL, DRUGS, AND CIGARETTES TO THEM

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that underage drinking and smoking is engulfing our society. The prevalence of this menace is causing a strain on our society as it has resulted to particularly adolescent children being affected and their actions resulting into violent behavior, sexual offences, mental disorder, drug abuse, suicide and murder;

WHEREAS, Liberia as a Party to the African Charter Convention on the Rights of the Child (“the Charter”) agreed to take all appropriate measures, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to protect children from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as defined in the relevant international treaties, and to prevent the use of children in the illicit production and trafficking of such substances;

WHEREAS, provisions of the Children’s Act of Liberia, 2011 assert that a child is in a situation of special vulnerability if she or he consumes or is exposed to alcohol or any intoxicating or narcotic drug;

WHEREAS, Liberia’s Penal Law Section 16.6 also states: “a parent or any person eighteen years old and above, who sells, sends a child to purchase or serves alcoholic beverages, cigarettes or any narcotic or intoxicating drugs to a child, or who employs a child in the sale of such beverage, cigarettes or narcotics and intoxicating drugs, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree”; and,

WHEREAS, the Government recognizes how vital the role of the youths is in nation building and is obliged to promote and protect their physical, spiritual, moral, and social well-being. The Government herewith embarks on efforts to eliminate the consumption of alcoholic beverage and drug abuse amongst underage children in our society;

NOW THEREFORE, by the Authority and Powers vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the Republic of Liberia, I George Manneh Weah, Sr., President of the Republic of Liberia, do hereby proclaim, declare, order and direct all law enforcement agencies operating within the Republic of Liberia and health authorities to ensure that:

George Manneh Weah, Sr.



1. No parent or guardian contributes to the delinquency of minors by giving or sending a child to purchase or exposing a child to substance use such as narcotics, cigarette, drugs or alcohol.
2. A person who wishes to enter a shop or store, drug store, bar, night club, and entertainment center, for the purpose of selling, purchasing, giving or exchanging alcoholic beverages, drugs or narcotic substances, must exhibit a valid identification card confirming that he/she is eighteen or above before entry;
3. Persons operating shops or stores, drug stores, bars, night clubs, and entertainment centers are prohibited from allowing entry into their premises, any person who does not exhibit valid identification card confirming that he/she is eighteen or above;
4. No person entices or exposes a child to the use or influence of narcotics or intoxicating drugs or alcohol, neither shall any person use a child in the production nor trafficking of such substances.
5. No child under the age of eighteen consumes or purchases narcotics, cigarette, drugs or alcohol whether for himself/herself or someone else;
6. No person endangers the health of another, intentionally and unscrupulously, by giving or serving, or by causing or permitting to be given or served, to a child under the age of eighteen or to persons already manifestly suffering from excessive consumption, alcoholic beverages or spirituous liquors of such kind or in such quantity as to make their injurious effect a certainty or probability; and
7. As there will be the presence of Undercover Compliance Monitors/Security Personnel to conduct spot checks, any person, shop or store, drug store, bar, night club, and entertainment center which contravenes the provisions as stated above shall be subject to sanctions in accordance with due process of law.

In witness whereof, I have set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of Liberia to be hereunto affixed.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA,
THIS 15th DAY OF JANUARY, A.D.
2019.**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George Manneh Weah, Sr.".

George Manneh Weah, Sr.
PRESIDENT