

The following Bills, which will in due course be presented to the House of Representatives for enactment, are published for general information.

A BILL FOR

AN ORDINANCE FURTHER TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL CODE (SCHEDULE TO
CHAPTER 42 OF THE LAWS OF NIGERIA, 1948)

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislature of the Federation of Nigeria as follows :

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Criminal Code (Age of Consent) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1958, and shall apply in respect of the Federal territory of Lagos.

2. Sections 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 222A and 222B of the Criminal Code are amended :

(a) by the substitution of the words "thirteen years" for the words "eleven years" wherever those words occur in the said sections ; and

(b) by the substitution of the words "sixteen years" for the words "thirteen years" wherever those words occur in the said sections.

Title.

Date of
commence-
ment.

Enactment.

Short
title and
applica-
tion.

Amendment
of sections
218, 219,
220, 221,
222, 222A-
and 222B of
Criminal
Code,
Chapter 42,
Schedule.

Restriction
on defence
of reason-
able belief.

3. Notwithstanding anything contained in sections 220, 221 and 222 of the Criminal Code, it shall only be a defence to a charge of any of the offences defined in section 219, paragraph (1) of section 221 and section 222 of the Criminal Code, as amended by section 2 of this Ordinance, to prove that the accused person believed, on reasonable grounds, that the girl was of or above the age of sixteen years if the accused person was under the age of twenty-one years at the time when the offence is alleged to have been committed and has not previously been charged with any of such offences.

Objects and Reasons

Clause 2 of the Bill is designed to raise the age under which girls are protected from defilement by sections 218 to 222s of the Criminal Code from eleven years (in the case of aggravated offences) and thirteen years to thirteen years and sixteen years respectively.

Clause 3 restricts the defence in such charges that the accused person believed on reasonable grounds that the girl had attained the statutory age to cases where the accused person is under 21 and is charged for the first time with an offence of that nature.

J. M. JOHNSON,
Minister of Labour and Welfare

SML(SW) 8.

A BILL FOR

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORISE THE RAISING IN NIGERIA OF A LOAN OR LOANS NOT EXCEEDING TWENTY MILLION POUNDS FOR PURPOSES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ECONOMIC PROGRAMMES AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATION AND OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS IN NIGERIA.

Title.

Commence-
ment.

[]

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislature of the Federation of Nigeria as follows—

Enactment.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Loan (Internal Borrowing) Ordinance, 1958.

Short title.

2. (1) The Governor-General is hereby authorized to raise a loan or loans in Nigeria not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of Twenty Million pounds and such further sum or sums as may be necessary to defray expenses in connection with the raising thereof.

Authority
to raise
loan in
Nigeria.

(2) Such loan or loans shall be raised in any manner provided by the Local Loans (Registered Stock and Securities) Ordinance, and references in that Ordinance to the general revenue and assets of Nigeria shall be construed as references to the general revenue and assets of the Federation of Nigeria

Cap. 120.

Applica-
tion of
loan.

3. The sums raised under the provisions of this Ordinance shall, save in respect of the amount or amounts necessary to defray the expenses in connection with the raising thereof, be appropriated and applied in respect of the following purposes—

(a) for the Economic Programme of the Federal Government as set out in Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956 and approved by resolution of the House of Representatives on the 15th March, 1956, as such may be amended by the House of Representatives from time to time;

(b) for lending, in accordance with such terms and conditions as may be approved by the Governor-General, to the Government of any Region or to the Government of the Southern Cameroons, if a law has been enacted by the legislature of that Region or of the Southern Cameroons—

(i) empowering the Government of that Region or the Southern Cameroons to borrow money from the Government of the Federation;

(ii) charging any such loan on the revenues of that Region or of the Southern Cameroons;

(iii) providing that the purposes to which any such loan may be applied shall be limited to meeting in whole or in part capital expenditure comprising part of a development programme approved by the legislature of that Region or of the Southern Cameroons.

4. The Nigeria Local Loan Ordinance, 1951, is repealed.

Repeal
No. 18 of
1951.

Objects and Reasons

The Nigeria Local Loan Ordinance, 1951, authorises a loan to be raised in Nigeria for expenditure on a large number of varied purposes specified in the Schedule to that Ordinance. The object of this Ordinance is to replace that Ordinance and to permit such borrowing for the purpose of the present Economic Programme of the Federation, and for the purposes of lending to Regions for the implementation of their own development programmes.

F. S. OKOTIE-EBON,
Federal Minister of Finance

F10181/S. 2