

CHAPTER 29

PROCESSIONS AND PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF PROCESSIONS AND
PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES

3 of 1956
6 of 1967
LN 46A of 1978

[29th May, 1956]

1. This Act may be cited as the Processions and Public
Assemblies Act.

Short title

2.—(1) The Prime Minister may make rules general or
particular and relating to the public generally or to any portion of
the public for—

Processions and
public
assemblies
LN 46A of 1978

(a) the government of processions and public
assemblies;

(b) defining routes of processions and the places at
which public assemblies may or may not be held;

(c) preventing obstruction by reason of processions and
public assemblies; and

(d) securing the due maintenance of the public peace and
tranquillity during processions and public assemblies.

(2) Rules made under this section may be—

(a) general and apply to every plantation, place and
public highway in Solomon Islands; or

(b) special and apply only to particular plantations,
places and public highways to be specified in the rules.

(3) Rules made under this section may absolutely prohibit the
holding of processions and public assemblies at the places
mentioned generally or particularly in the rules or may impose
conditions under which they may be held.

(4) Every person who contravenes any of the rules made
under this Act shall be liable to a fine of forty dollars or to
imprisonment for six months.

6 of 1967, Sched

3. Any person offending against this Act may be arrested
without warrant by any police officer within whose view the
offence is committed and by him detained until he can be
brought before a Magistrate.

Power of arrest
6 of 1967, Sched

CHAPTER 29

PROCESSIONS AND PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES

Subsidiary Legislation

LN 123/1988

PROCESSIONS AND PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES RULES

(Section 2)

[11th November 1988]

Title

1. These Rules may be cited as the Processions and Public Assemblies Rules.

Permission
required for the
holding of
certain public
assemblies and
processions

2. No procession or public assembly may be collected, convened, formed or held in any road, street, square or other public thoroughfare or in any place to which the public has access, other than a building, without permission in writing being first had and obtained under rule 3. This rule shall not apply to marriage or funeral processions.

Application for
permission

3. On an application for permission to collect, convene, form or hold such procession or public assembly being made to a Provincial Secretary or in the absence of such officer, to a police officer not below the rank of Inspector he may grant or refuse such permission:

Provided that no such permission shall be granted in respect of any procession or public assembly unless —

(a) the application is made not less than forty-eight hours before it is desired to hold such procession or public assembly, and is made by representatives resident in the locality in which it is proposed to hold such procession or public assembly of the religion or organisation to which such procession or public assembly pertains; and

(b) written notice of the intention to collect, convene or form the procession or public assembly has been given by the applicant to the appropriate Government Ministry fourteen days prior to the date of the application and stating in writing the intention to presenting any petition or making any speech or both, as the case may be, to that Government Ministry as the objective of such procession or public assembly.

4. Permission under the last preceding rule may be granted subject to any one or more of the following conditions —

Conditions upon
which
permission may
be granted

(a) that the public assembly or procession shall be collected, convened, formed or held in the roads, streets, squares or other public places mentioned in the permit and in no other throughfare;

(b) that the procession or public assembly shall not be held before or after the times specified in the permit;

(c) that no musical instrument, loudspeaker, band, flag or symbol be included in the procession or public assembly without permission;

(d) that no sticks, offensive weapons, fireworks or crackers, torches or firesticks shall be carried by any member of the procession or public assembly;

(e) that the applicant for the permit or a nominee acceptable to the grantor of the permit shall attend the procession or public assembly;

(f) that all lawful orders for the control and direction of traffic shall be obeyed;

(g) that a Provincial Secretary or police officer not below the rank of Inspector may, if he considers it necessary for the preservation of peace and order, at any time cancel or amend a permit issued under these Rules.

5. Any Provincial Secretary or police officer not below the rank of Inspector who has reasonable cause to believe that any procession or public assembly held in any place to which the public has access other than a building is a danger to public peace and tranquillity or is an obstruction may order such procession or public assembly to disperse.

Assembly or
procession may
be ordered to
disperse

6. Any person taking part in a procession or public assembly which is forbidden by these Rules or after such procession or public assembly has been lawfully ordered to disperse shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of forty dollars or to imprisonment for three months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Offences