

Zambia

Printed Publications Act, 1947

Chapter 161

Legislation as at 31 December 1996

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Printed Publications Act, 1947

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Zambia

Printed Publications Act, 1947

Chapter 161

Commenced on 1 March 1964

[This is the version of this document at 31 December 1996.]

[31 of 1947; 13 of 1956; 44 of 1969; 13 of 1994; Government Notices 110 of 1964; 304 of 1964; 497 of 1964]

An Act to make provision for the registration of newspapers; to provide for the printing and publication of books and the preservation of printed works published in Zambia; and to provide for matters incidental to or connected with the foregoing.

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Printed Publications Act.

2. Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

"book" includes every part or division of a book, pamphlet, newspaper, sheet of letterpress, sheet of music, map, plan, chart or table separately published;

"Director" means the Director of the National Archives of Zambia appointed in terms of section five of the National Archives Act;

[Cap. 175]

"editor" includes the person or persons actually and finally responsible for the collation or inclusion in any newspaper of the contents thereof, whether such person or persons are expressly employed for such purposes or not;

"newspaper" means any periodical publication published at intervals of not more than one month and consisting wholly, or for the greater part, of political or other news, or of articles relating thereto, or to other current topics, with or without advertisements, and with or without illustrations, but does not include any publication which is proved not to be intended for public sale or public dissemination;

and expressions referring to printing shall be construed as including references to any other means of representing or reproducing words in visible form by impressing one material on another.

[As amended by No. 13 of 1956, G.N. No. 110 of 1964 and No. 44 of 1969]

3. Imprint on books printed and published in Zambia

(1) Every book printed and published in Zambia shall bear an imprint in legible type showing—

- (a) the full and correct name of the printer and the place where the book was printed;
- (b) the full and correct name of the publisher and his place of business; and
- (c) the year of publication.

(2) Any person who knowingly and wilfully prints or publishes, or causes to be printed or published, any book not containing the particulars required by this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding seven hundred and fifty penalty units, and, in default of payment of such fine, to imprisonment not exceeding one month.

- (3) The Minister may, by statutory instrument, make rules excepting from the provisions of this section such classes of printed matter used for the purposes of the Government, of courts of justice, of public authorities and of trade and business as may be specified in such rules.

[As amended by G.N. No. 304 of 1964 and Act [No. 13 of 1994](#)]

4. Delivery of books published in Zambia to the Director

- (1) The publisher of every book published in Zambia shall, within two months of the publication, deliver at his own expense a copy of the book to the Director at Lusaka, who shall give a written receipt for every copy received by him.
- (2) Every copy delivered under the provisions of this section shall be a copy of the whole book with all maps and illustrations belonging thereto, finished and coloured in the same manner as the best copies of the book are published, and shall be bound, sewn or stitched together, and on the best paper on which the book is printed.
- (3) If any publisher fails to comply with the provisions of this section, he shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding six hundred penalty units. When any person is convicted of such offence, the court may, in addition to imposing a penalty, order the person so convicted to comply with the provisions of this section by delivering a copy of the book to the authority to whom delivery ought to have been made. The court may, instead of making such order, impose a further fine not exceeding the amount of the published price of the book.
- (4) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any second or subsequent edition of a book unless such edition contains additions or alterations either in the letterpress or in the maps, prints or other illustrative material belonging thereto.
- (5) The Minister may, by statutory instrument, make rules excepting from the provisions of this section publications wholly or mainly in the nature of trade advertisements or such classes of such other publications as may be specified in the rules, and thereupon it shall not be necessary for the publisher of any publication so excepted to deliver a copy of such publication to the authority mentioned in subsection (1) unless, as respects any particular publication, a written demand for the delivery thereof is made by such authority.

[As amended by G.N. Nos. 110, 304 of 1964, No. 44 of 1969 and Act [No. 13 of 1994](#)]

5. Registration of newspapers

- (1) No person shall print or publish, or cause to be printed or published, any newspaper until there has been registered at the office of the Director at Lusaka the full and correct title thereof and the full and correct names and places of abode of every person who is or is intended to be the proprietor, editor, printer or publisher of such newspaper, and the description of the premises where the same is to be published. Every alteration in such particulars shall forthwith be registered in like manner.
- (2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding three thousand penalty units.

[As amended by No. 13 of 1956, G.N. No. 110 of 1964, No. 44 of 1969 and Act [No. 13 of 1994](#)]

6. Certified extracts from register to be received in evidence

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Director to keep a register in which shall be entered the particulars mentioned in the last preceding section.
- (2) Any person wishing to obtain an extract from such register, signed by the Director, showing the particulars therein contained in regard to any newspaper, shall be entitled to obtain the same on application to the Director and on payment of a fee of four fee units for every such extract.

- (3) The production of any such extract, signed as aforesaid, in any proceedings, civil or criminal, in any court of justice shall be *prima facie* proof of the facts therein stated in regard to the names of the proprietors, printers and publishers of the newspaper therein named.
- (4)
 - (a) At the trial of any person for an offence against subsection (3) of section four or subsection (2) of section five, any document purporting to be a certificate under the hand of the Director that such person has failed to comply with the requirements of the subsection under which such person is charged may be used in evidence against him.
 - (b) When any certificate is so used, the court may, if it thinks fit, summon and examine the Director as to the subject-matter therein.

[As amended by G.N. No. 110 of 1964, Act [No. 44 of 1969](#) and Act [No. 13 of 1994](#)]