

CHAPTER 28**PROMISSORY OATHS****ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS****SECTION**

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CHAPTER 28

PROMISSORY OATHS

An Act to amend the law relating to Promissory Oaths.

1870-1.
1961-28.
1964-15.
1978-39.
L.N. 168/
1967.

[5th August, 1870] Commence-
ment.

1. This Act may be cited as the Promissory Oaths Act. Short title.

2. The oath in this Act referred to as the official oath shall be in the following form— Official oath.

“ I do swear that I will well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Her Heirs and Successors in the office of

So help me God. ”

3. The oath of allegiance, the official oath, and the judicial oath are to be administered except as is otherwise provided by the Constitution by the Governor-General or by such person or the holder of such public office as may be appointed by the Governor-General to administer them either generally or in any particular case. Administration of oaths. L.N. 168/1967.

4. The oath of allegiance and judicial oath shall be taken as soon as may be after his acceptance of office by each of the following officers, namely magistrates and Justices of the Peace. Oaths to be taken by magistrates and Justices of the Peace. 1961-28.

5. If any officer declines or neglects, when any oath required to be taken by him under this Act is duly tendered, to take such oath, he shall, if he has already entered on his office, vacate the same, and if he has not entered on the same, be disqualified from entering on the same, but no person shall be compelled in respect of the same appointment to the same Penalty for neglecting to take oaths.

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office to take such oath or such affirmation as hereinafter mentioned more times than one.

Oath for
Privy
Councillors.
1961-28.
L.N. 168/
1967.

6. In addition to the oath of allegiance the following oath shall be taken by all members of the Privy Council—

“ I as a member of the Privy Council of this Island, do swear that I will to the best of my judgment, at all times when thereto required, freely give my counsel and advice as a Privy Councillor to the Governor-General, for the good management of the public affairs of this Island; that I will not directly or indirectly reveal such matters as shall be debated or discussed in Privy Council, and committed to my secrecy, but that I will in all things be a true and faithful Privy Councillor. So help me God.”

Affirmations.

7. When an oath is required to be taken under the Constitution or under this Act, every person for the time being by law¹ permitted to make solemn affirmation or declaration instead of taking an oath may, instead of taking such oath, make a solemn affirmation in the form of the oath, substituting the words, “solemnly, sincerely, and truly declare and affirm” for the word “swear”, and omitting the words “So help me God.”

Declarations.

8. (1) Where in any case not otherwise provided for by the Constitution or by this Act an oath is required to be taken by any person on or as a condition of his accepting any employment or office, a declaration shall be substituted for such oath to the like effect in all respects as such oath.

(2) The making a declaration in pursuance of this section shall in all respects have the same effect as the taking of the oath for which such declaration is substituted would have had if this Act had not been passed.

Penalty in
default of
declaration.

9. If any person required by this Act to make a declaration instead of an oath declines or neglects to make such declara-

¹See Evidence Act, Cap. 121, sections 30 and 31.

tion, he shall be subject to the same penalties and disabilities, if any, as he would have been subjected to for declining or neglecting to take the oath for which the declaration provided by this Act is substituted.

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Printed in England by Eyre and Spottiswoode Limited, 2 Serjeants' Inn, London EC4,
by authority of the Government of Barbados