

Status report on Ugandan anti-homosexual legislation for SCYM 2023

The Ugandan parliament has passed a new Kill the Gays bill on Mar 21, 2023. Information below shows specifics of Bill 2023. It is taken from a photograph sent from Uganda.

PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

ANTI HOMOSEXUALITY BILL PENALTIES –SUMMARY

1. Persons convicted of aggravated homosexuality	DEATH
2. Persons who commit the offense of homosexuality	20 yr
3. Person convicted of promotion of homosexuality	20 yr
4. Person recruiting children into homosexuality	20 yr
5. Person who has committed the attempted aggravated homosexuality	14 yr
6. Person who has been convicted of attempted homosexuality	10 yr
7. The owner of the premises that promote homosexuality	10 yr
8. Child found guilty of homosexuality	3 yr
9. Media houses that published materials that promote homosexuality	
Fine 1 billion shillings (approximately \$268,000) & license revoked for 10 yr	

All but 2 of the 387 members of the Ugandan Parliament voted to pass the legislation (168 absent). It only needs President Museveni's signature to become law. He has 30 days from Mar 21, 2023 to sign it.

Other sources report variations or additions to this chart.

NYT reports life imprisonment for engaging in gay sex & 7 yr for trying to have gay sex.

It calls for the death penalty for various homosexual acts, 20 years imprisonment for being homosexual and 20 years prison sentences for anyone assisting homosexuals or not reporting them even if they are a family member. It would also ban any literature or education having homosexual materials. This puts many organizations at risk of being shut down or worse. In other words, destroying all support systems that exist for homosexuals in Uganda.

According to an article in the Western Friend by David Albert of the Olympia Washington Meeting, The Bulungi Shade Tree Friends Meeting is the only unprogrammed, welcoming, and affirming Friends Meeting in East Africa. One worship group leader was killed and

nine were tortured. David's article is attached and it has a link to an article in The Guardian also.

We are asking Meetings and Quaker organizations to write letters of concern and send them to organizations such as other Quaker groups like FWCC and FGC and to political officials both in the US and in Uganda or companies doing business in Uganda. They could also post such statements on social media and in newspapers.

We are deeply concerned about Uganda's anti-homosexual legislation. It only needs the president's signature to become law. It would be against all moral principles to enact this barbaric legislation. It goes against the UN Human Rights Commission and calls for the death penalty for homosexual acts and 20-years in prison for being homosexual. It also calls for 20-year prison sentences for anyone assisting homosexuals or not reporting if someone is homosexual. This includes reporting family members. This is far too barbaric for any nation in the world in 2023. We are asking individuals and organizations to write letters protesting.