

Bill No. 2 of 1960

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CINEMATOGRAPH (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1960.

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS.

Section

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of section 11 of Chapter 127.
3. Effect of licences granted prior to commencement.

A BILL

Intituled

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CINEMATOGRAPH ORDINANCE.

Enacted by the Legislature of British Guiana :—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Cinematograph (Amendment) Ordinance, 1960, and shall be construed and read with the Cinematograph Ordinance, hereinafter referred to as the Principal Ordinance, and any Ordinance amending the same.

Short title.
Cap. 127.

2. Section 11 of the Principal Ordinance is hereby amended by —

Amendment
of section 11
of Chapter
127.

(a) the substitution for the words "half-past eight" in subsection (21) of the word "four"; and

(b) the addition of the following subsection —

"(22) No child who is of or above the age of six years and has not attained the age of fifteen years shall be admitted to any exhibition or other entertainment on premises licensed under this Ordinance between the hours of eight of the clock in the forenoon and four of the clock in the afternoon on any weekday, except Saturdays and public holidays, in a period during which schools are in session:

Provided that any such children may, with the approval of the Director of Education, be admitted at any time to an educational or cultural exhibition or gathering in licensed premises:

Provided further that the Director of Education shall, by publication in the Gazette on or before the first day of September in each year, give notice of those periods during which schools shall be deemed to be in session in the ensuing year for the purposes of this subsection."

3. Where by any licence granted before the commencement of this Ordinance under section 11 of the Principal Ordinance the opening of premises after half-past eight of the clock in the evening on Sundays has been authorised for the purpose for which the licence was granted, such licence shall, while in force (whether by virtue of renewal or otherwise) and without prejudice to any other terms, provisions, conditions or restrictions pertaining thereto, be deemed to authorise the opening of the premises for the said purpose after four of the clock in the afternoon on Sundays.

Effect of
licences
granted prior
to commence-
ment.

OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Cinematograph Ordinance prohibits the granting of licences whereby the opening of cinemas for the purpose of entertainment before half-past eight on Sunday evenings is authorised. This Bill seeks to permit the opening of cinemas for that purpose after four on Sunday afternoons and to amend the Ordinance in order to allow the granting of licences whereby this is authorised. It is felt that the proposed change will be of special benefit to those persons residing in country areas who do not normally have the opportunity of visiting cinemas on weekdays. This change brings the law in line with most other countries, including England.

2. Clause 2 of the Bill also seeks to prohibit the admission of children aged between six and fourteen years (inclusive) to cinemas while schools are in session and thereby to remove one of the principal causes of truancy.

B. S. RAI,

Minister of Community Development and Education.

(M.P.S.W. 10/14).
(Leg Bill 2/1960).