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Laws of Her Majesty's Province of Newfoundland, passed in the year 1858.

21 Victoria – Chapter 21

An Act to provide for the Execution of the Office of Speaker of the House of Assembly in certain cases. (Passed 10th May, 1858.)

Whereas great Public inconvenience might ensue from the unavoidable absence of the Speaker of the House of Assembly, from illness, at any time when any sitting of the said House of Assembly ought to be held; and His Excellency the Governor being advised thereof, hath, in Her Majesty's name, consented that the Legislature should adopt such measures as to them might appear expedient to avoid such inconvenience.

Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly, in Legislative Session convened, as follows:—

That whenever the Speaker of the House of Assembly shall be unable to attend the House by reason of illness, and upon the same being certified to the satisfaction of the House, it shall be lawful for the Members, or a majority of them present, to elect from amongst them one of such Members, who shall, during the illness of the said Speaker, take the Chair and act as Speaker; and every act passed and every order made and thing done by the said Assembly while such Member is acting as Speaker as aforesaid, shall be as valid and effectual, to all- intents and purposes, as if done while the Speaker himself was presiding in the Chair.