

Child Labor Laws in Liberia



At the moment, Liberian Law doesn't protect children in the work force enough

What is the problem?

The Decent Work
Act's punishments and
solutions do not prevent
people from breaking the
law.

What punishments are in place now?

Fines under the current Decent Work Act (Section 6.5) are L\$500 for violations (USD \$3.16).

Why is this not enough?

This fine is too small to stop emplyers from violating the Act and employing children.

How can this be improved?

Proposed amendments would impose fines up to \$80,500 (USD \$500) and/or up to 1 year imprisonment.

At the moment, Liberian Law doesn't protect children working on hazardous activities enough

What is the problem?

Hazardous activities are not clearly defined, which makes enforcement difficult or even impossible.

What could make enforcement easier?

A Hazardous Work List regulation that lists activities prohibited for children would make enforcement easier and make work safer for children.

What would this list include?

Activities considered dangerous for children and therefore activities children should not be employed in.

Could children ever work on these activities?

Yes, if an employer:

- 1. Took the steps to make the work safer
- 2. Provided adequate training, supervision, and safety protections.

Liberian Law should be updated to protect 13 and 14 year olds at work

What are the current Laws?

Liberian Law permits children aged 13 and 14 to engage in light work if it does not interfere with school, or physically harm them.

What could improve the Law?

A Light Work list identifying work safe for children would facilitate safe work and make enforcement easier.









