

Issue 003, October 2024

**CREEN CHANBER** ...front row insights on legislative governance

A PUBLICATION OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MEDIA & PUBLIC AFFAIRS, NIGERIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, 2024

## Turning the Tide: HOUSE PASSES LANDMARK BILL TO COMBAT SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS Page 02

Legislation aims to uphold ethical standards and protect integrity of student-educator relationship
Offenders risk imprisonment for up to 14 years, with no option for fines



Page 09 - Deputy Speaker rallies support for bill on special Seats for women, 4 other gender bills before house



Page 06 "Legislature and Media; fundamental to national development" - Speaker Abbas



Page 05 Banking Reform: Bill to safeguard customers from fraudulent withdrawals passes second reading





## Turning the Tide: HOUSE PASSES LANDMARK BILL TO COMBAT SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS

By Temidayo Taiwo-Sidiq =

he House of Representatives on Wednesday, passed a landmark bill to combat sexual harassment in tertiary institutions, marking a significant stride in parliamentary efforts to address this pervasive issue.

Titled "A Bill for an Act to Prevent, Prohibit and Redress Sexual Harassment of Students in Tertiary Educational Institutions and for Related Matters (HB.1598)," the bill responds to persistent issues identified in previous assemblies, particularly in the 9th Senate, where it was previously passed.

Reintroduced in the 10th Assembly by Rep. Akin Rotimi Jr., who represents Ekiti North 1 (Ikole/Oye) Federal Constituency and serves as the House Spokesman, the legislation aims to prevent, prohibit, and redress sexual harassment faced by students. It emphasises the importance of ethical standards in education and seeks to protect the trust inherent in the student-educator relationship.

This legislation represents a crucial turning point in the fight against sexual harassment within educational settings. By acknowledging the prevalence of such misconduct and implementing strict measures for accountability, the bill empowers students to speak out and seek justice without fear of retribution. This shift not only fosters a safer learning environment but also signals a broader societal commitment to confronting and dismantling the culture of silence surrounding sexual harassment.

#### Key provisions of the bill include:

**Comprehensive Protections:** Students are safeguarded from sexual harassment by educators, with a clear outline of prohibited behaviors, such as unwanted physical contact, sexually explicit communications, and intimidation.

**Defined Offences:** The bill explicitly categorizes actions as sexual harassment, including soliciting sexual favors or creating a hostile environment.

**Penalties:** Offenders face severe consequences, including imprisonment for up to 14 years for serious violations, and a minimum of 5 years without the option of a fine. Lesser offences may incur penalties of up to 5 years with a minimum of 2 years.

As the bill moves to the Senate for concurrence, its passage marks a critical step toward safeguarding students' rights and ensuring a respectful academic environment. If successful, it will be presented to the President for assent, bringing this vital legislation closer to becoming law.

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Public Petitions to the House	of Representatives
Monday 28th, October - Friday 1	
Tuesday, Ostabar 20, 202	
Tuesday, October 29, 202	
Allowed vetweet by the Federal Ministry	Presented by:
Alleged refusal by the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to pay a sum amounting to N206, 861, 325.00	Rep. Jesse Okey-Joe Onuakalusi (LP, Lagos)
Alleged fradulent acts by the Chairman of the Choba Customary Court, Rivers State	Rep. Nnamdi Ezechi (PDP, Delta)
Alleged sea piracy on the Bonny River Waterways	Rep. Cyril Godwin Hart (PDP, Rivers)
Alleged murder by DSP Uche Okeke and one other of Unity Police Division, Nike, Enugu State	Rep. Onwuegbu Anayo (PDP, Enugu)

	Presented by:
Alleged fraud by the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Force Criminal Investigation Department (FCID), Abuja	Rep. Jesse Okey-Joe Onuakalusi (LP, Lagos)
Alleged refusal by the Management of Swiss Biostadl Limited to pay outstanding balance of gratuity and pension	Rep. Abdullahi Balarabe Dabai (PDP, Katsina)
Alleged corruption and non-payment of salaries and entitlements by the Managing Director of Kimos Smart Parling Nigeria Limited	Rep. Murphy Osaro Omoruyi (LP, Edo)
Alleged refusal to pay insurance maturity claims by the Management of Standard Alliance Assurance Company Limited	Rep. Mark Chidi Obetta (LP, Enugu)



Monday 28th, October - Friday 1st November, 2024

Thursday, October 31, 2024

	Presented by:
Alleged non-payment of gratituties by Addax Petroleum Sinopec/NNPC ANTAN Producing Limited	Rep. Murphy Osaro Omoruyi (LP, Edo)
Alleged stoppage of pension by the Nigerian Army	Rep. Peter Ifeanyi Uzokwe (YPP, Anambra)
Alleged abandonment of Kisa Ogbunike Bridge construction by Daniels Construction Company Limited	Rep. Maureen Chinwe Gwacham (APGA, Anambra)
Alleged extortion of motorists and humiliation of road users by the Joint Task Force in the South East zone	Rep. Jesse Okey-Joe Onuakalusi (LP, Lagos)
Alleged illegal mining operations by Sterling Global	Rep. Patrick Umoh (APC, Akwa Ibom)

**Status:** All petitions were referred to the House Committee on Public Petitions

## Banking Reform: Bill To Safeguard Customers From Fraudulent Withdrawals Passes Second Reading

By Temidayo Taiwo-Sidiq ~

he House of Representatives has passed for a second reading, a bill aimed at protecting victims of fraudulent withdrawals from accounts held at commercial banks.

Titled "A Bill for an Act to Amend the Banks and Other Financial Institutions Act (BOFIA), 2020, to Provide for the Protection of Victims of Fraudulent Withdrawals from Accounts and for Related Matters (HB.1168)," the bill is sponsored by Rep. Moses Oluwatoyin Fayinka (APC, Lagos).

During the lead debate on the floor of the House on Tuesday, Rep. Fayinka underscored the alarming increase in bank fraud and unauthorised withdrawals in Nigeria. He reported that approximately 111,801 cases were documented in 2022, with an additional 48,703 cases reported in 2023, alongside unreported incidents. many These fraudulent activities have resulted in substantial financial losses for bank customers, amounting to billions of naira.

**Rep. Fayinka** emphasised that the rise in financial crimes is largely facilitated through financial institutions, particularly given the prevalence of electronic banking transactions via ATMs, POS systems, and direct cash transfers. Supporting the bill, **Rep. Ahmed Baba** Jaha (APC, Borno) urged Members to unite in safeguarding Nigerians from the menace, particularly vulnerable members of society. He expressed his endorsement for the legislation to hold banks accountable for fraud committed against their customers and to ensure immediate refunds.

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contributors debate Other to the Mohammed included Rep. Bello El-Rufai (APC, Kaduna), who called for the House to take decisive action to Nigerians protect durina these challenging economic times, suggesting that stiffer fines should be imposed on banks as a deterrent against fraud.

**Rep.** Oyeshina Oyedeji (PDP, Oyo) recommended including provisions for Push Payment Scams, advocating that banks should facilitate refunds even when customers mistakenly make payments to incorrect recipients. Similarly, **Rep. Daniel** Asama (LP, Plateau) stressed the necessity for banks to ensure the reversal of unauthorised payments, alleviating the financial burden on Nigerians.

The bill has been referred to the House Committees on Banking Regulations and on Banking and Other Ancillary Institutions for further legislative action.



## "LEGISLATURE, MEDIA: FUNDAMENTAL TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT" - SPEAKER ABBAS

~ By Musa Abdullahi Krishi ~

he Speaker of the House of Representatives, **Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen**, has underscored the critical role of both the legislature and the media as essential institutions for national development.

During а courtesy visit from the of Leadership Group management Limited, publishers of Leadership Newspapers, in Abuja on Wednesday, Speaker Abbas encouraged the publication to prioritise reporting that is "comprehensive and educational for the public's benefit."

He expressed concerns about the impact of sensational or unverified headlines, particularly regarding issues related to the National Assembly, warning that such practices could lead to misconceptions about the House's role and influence, ultimately undermining the democratic process.

The Speaker urged the media to avoid sensationalism and to maintain objectivity and balanced reporting on people and events in Nigeria. He also opportunity to call used the for intentional efforts towards curbing fake misinformation, and news, disinformation, stating, "This is essential in fostering trust between the public and media institutions."

"...ensure that all stories concerning the National Assembly and other government institutions are thoroughly verified," he added.

Further emphasising the House's commitment to transparency, Speaker Abbas highlighted the importance of reporting that reflects this principle, which is vital *"for citizens to fully understand the legislative process and outcomes of policy decisions."* 

In his remarks, Chief **Mike Okpere**, Vice Chairman of the Leadership Newspapers Group Limited, noted that the visit aimed to seek a partnership with the House on various initiatives. He presented an economic and empowerment plan to the Speaker, noting also that *"the House of Representatives is under-reported."* 

Speaker Abbas acknowledged the newspaper's dedication to informing and educating Nigerians, recognising that this empowers citizens to engage meaningfully in national issues. He urged Leadership Newspapers to "continue upholding the public trust, avoiding content that may compromise the integrity of democratic institutions or national development efforts."

### **FLOOD RISKS:** HOUSE TO INVITE ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY, NEMA FOR URGENT ACTION ON DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

~ By McDonald Ntui ~



he House of Representatives has resolved to invite the Federal Ministry of Environment, among other stakeholders, to explain the precautionary measures being implemented to safeguard lives and property in predicted flood zones across the country.

Other government agencies and parastatals to be invited include the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the Hydrological Services Agency, and the Federal Ministry of Finance, to provide insights on the steps being taken to ensure adequate funding for necessary interventions.

This resolution was issued on Wednesday following the adoption of a Matter of Urgent Public Importance brought forward by Rep. Olusesi Whigan (APC, Lagos) during plenary.

Referencing a report from the National Flood Early Warning Systems Centre of the Federal Ministry of Environment, published on October 14, 2024, Rep. Whigan noted that the Federal Government had predicted five days of heavy rainfall, which could lead to flooding in 22 states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). The report identified areas most at risk of severe flooding, including communities along the floodplains of the Dongo, Benue, and Ogun Rivers, in states such as Osun, Delta, Cross River, Anambra, Taraba, Nasarawa, and Kebbi, among others. Rep. Whigan highlighted that the potential flooding is expected to occur from October 14–18, threatening both lives and property.

He also referenced a report by NEMA, as reported by CNN, which revealed that at least 170 people have died, and over 200,000 others have been displaced following weeks of flooding across Nigeria in 2024. The floods have destroyed more than 100,000 hectares of farmland. Additionally, nearly 2,000 people have been injured, underscoring the scale of the ongoing humanitarian crisis.

Rep. Whigan expressed concern that the predicted heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding could have devastating impacts on vulnerable communities, leading to displacement, destruction of property and infrastructure, and potential loss of life if adequate precautionary measures are not urgently implemented to protect citizens.

He also raised concerns that despite early warnings, there might not be enough proactive measures in place—such as timely evacuations, temporary shelters, and support systems for affected communities—thus increasing the risk of a severe humanitarian disaster.

"Flooding is a recurring issue in Nigeria, often exacerbated by inadequate drainage systems, lack of preparedness, and insufficient coordination among disaster management agencies. Immediate action is required to mitigate the predicted floods, and current post-flood recovery efforts need better coordination," he added.

In response, the House called on the Federal Ministry of Environment and relevant state governments to immediately activate evacuation protocols for communities along floodplains, ensuring that affected populations have access to temporary shelters, medical services, and other essential support.

Members also urged the Federal Ministries of Works, Housing and Urban Development, as well as the Federal Ministry of Water Resources, to carry out an immediate assessment of drainage systems and waterways in flood-prone areas, working to reduce blockages that could exacerbate the flooding. The House further called on the Executive arm of government, through its relevant Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), collaborate with to state governments to enhance disaster preparedness, capabilities, and ensure the swift deployment of rescue teams, relief materials, and medical assistance to affected areas.

The House Committees on Environment, Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, Water Resources, and Finance were tasked with ensuring ongoing monitoring and post-flood rehabilitation efforts, ensuring that affected communities receive long-term support in rebuilding infrastructure and restoring livelihoods.

### REPS URGE URGENT RELOCATION OF INEC LGA OFFICES TO NEUTRAL LOCATIONS

#### ~ By Emmanuel Tswam ~

he House of Representatives has called on the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to relocate

its Local Government Área (LGA) offices to secure, neutral locations.

In a recent session, the House urged INEC to allocate sufficient funds for this project in the 2025 budget estimates. Additionally, they mandated the Committee on

Electoral Matters to collaborate with INEC and other relevant stakeholders to ensure compliance, with a report due within four weeks for further legislative action.

The motion was introduced by **Rep. Sunday Nnamchi** (LP, Enugu) during Wednesday's plenary session. He emphasised that Section 157 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) guarantees INEC's autonomy and independence in conducting national elections.

Rep. Nnamchi pointed out that many INEC LGA offices are currently located within Local Government Council Headquarters across the country. He argued that this situation undermines INEC's independence in the electoral

process, potentially exposing it to manipulation and undue influence from Council Chairmen, especially in areas dominated by a single political party.

He expressed concern that this proximity could impede INEC's impartiality, as enshrined in Section 6 of the Electoral Act 2022, and stressed the importance of maintaining public trust and confidence in the electoral process.

### "FINANCIAL INVESTMENT IN WOMEN'S INCLUSION, DIRECT INVESTMENT IN NIGERIA'S FUTURE." - RT HON. KALU

~ By Levinus Nwabughiogu ~



#### - Deputy Speaker rallies support for Bill on Special seats for Women, 4 other Gender Bills before House

he financial investment in women's inclusion has been described as a direct investment in Nigeria's future, as stakeholders call for the removal of barriers hindering women's political advancement in the country.

Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon. Benjamin Rt. Okezie Kalu, led this advocacy on Monday during his welcome address at the International Legislative Dialogue on Women and Constitution Amendment in Nigeria. The event held in Abuja, was organised by the House of Representatives Committee on Constitution Review (HCCR) in collaboration with the Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC), with support from the European Union (EU).

Kalu, who also serves as the HCCR Chairman, lamented the low number of women candidates in the 2023 general elections, with only 1,552 females running for elective seats out of 15,307 candidates produced by 18 political parties. Noting that this statistic is not encouraging, he emphasised that providing women with opportunities to participate in parliamentary activities and governance processes will not only create a legislature that reflects the diverse makeup and values of Nigerian society but will also bring significant benefits to the general populace.

He rallied support for five gender bills aimed at correcting the gender imbalance within government at all levels, including "A Bill for an Act to Alter the Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, to Provide for Seat Reservation for Women in the National and State Houses of Assembly" (HB 1349). A bill seeking to ensure that women are afforded the opportunity to contribute to the political development of the country.

The Deputy Speaker pointed out that the proposed legislation is designed to address the low representation of women by creating additional seats specifically for female candidates in national and state legislatures.

"The bill reflects a pragmatic approach by proposing a temporary measure—an approach that has worked effectively in other countries to fast-track women's representation in *aovernance*. These reserved seats are not a permanent fix but are structured as a 'Temporary Special Measure,' subject to review after four general election cycles, or 16 years. At that time, stakeholders will assess whether the measure should continue, be adjusted, or be phased out based on progress made," he noted.

Highlighting the challenges of implementing such quotas within Nigeria's First-Past-the-Post electoral system, as opposed to proportional systems where party-based gender quotas yield direct outcomes, Rt. Hon. Kalu described this approach as essential.

"Special seats, therefore, offer a feasible solution to ensuring that women not only participate as candidates but are also represented meaningfully within our legislative institutions. Furthermore, we must view the financial investment in women's inclusion as a direct investment in Nigeria's future."

"Countries with higher women in governance consistently show higher rates of progress in health, education, and economic stability. Our society, therefore, stands to gain immensely from a legislature that reflects the diverse makeup of its citizenry and values contributions from all perspectives," he added.

Rt. Hon. Kalu stressed that the advocacy is not just about seats or numbers, but about recognising the invaluable perspectives that women bring to the table, which strengthen our democracy and make it more resilient.

"The popular saying, 'women belong in all places where decisions are being made,' resonates strongly within this context. We must ensure that the National and State Houses of Assembly are inclusive and welcoming to women," the Deputy Speaker stressed.

As Chairman of the House Committee on Constitution Review, the Deputy Speaker urged fellow lawmakers and stakeholders to look beyond the challenges and recognise the transformative potential of a Nigerian democracy that embraces its entire population.

"I implore that the discussions and resolutions should focus on how we can best support the path toward gender inclusivity within our legislative framework. Let us champion these amendments, advocate for the adoption of temporary special measures, and work to remove those that hinder women's political advancement.

Let me reiterate that our commitment to improving women's representation in governance is not just a goal; it is an essential component of our democratic journey. Let us proceed with resolve and vision, ensuring that our policies and constitutional reforms reflect our dedication to a more inclusive and equitable Nigeria," he remarked.



### EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY: REPS WANT INCREASED ALLOCATION FOR NIGERIAN CORRECTIONAL SERVICE

~ By Temidayo Taiwo-Sidiq ~

he Federal Ministry of Finance and the Budget of the Office Federation have been urged to substantially increase capital budget allocations to the Nigerian Correctional Service in the 2025 Appropriation Bill.



This call, according to the House of Representatives, will enable the Correctional Service to complete critical ongoing and abandoned projects, and to increase the per-inmate feeding ratio in line with economic realities.

The resolution was adopted on Thursday following the motion titled "'Need to Increase Allocation for the Nigerian Correctional Service for Effective Delivery of the Nigerian Correctional System," sponsored by Rep. Chinedu Ogah (APC, Ebonyi) during plenary.

In presenting the motion, Rep. Ogah noted that the Nigerian Correctional Service is tasked with the crucial responsibility of safeguarding, fostering, and rehabilitating inmates. However, he emphasised that persistent national security challenges, such as frequent jailbreaks and severe infractions, have underscored the need for urgent reform. He explained that overcrowded facilities, coupled with natural disasters, have led to jail breaks, allowing criminals to escape and reintegrate into society, which in turn fuels rising crime rates and social vices. Rep. Ogah further expressed concern that the

Federal Government's insufficient budget allocations for the Correctional Service have hindered its effectiveness.

As Chairman of the House Committee on Reformatory Institutions, Rep. Ogah pointed out that the capital budget allocation for the Service is insufficient to execute meaningful projects within the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF). He stated that approximately 80% of ongoing projects remain unfinished or abandoned due to inadequate funding.

"The capital budget is a critical tool for government development and management, reflecting national priorities and enabling the realisation of key goals," he said.

Rep. Ogah further highlighted that the 2024 capital budget allocation of N14 billion for the Service is grossly inadequate for essential expenditure items, including the renovation of custodial centres nationwide (which cost about N120 million each), the construction of 3,000-capacity medium

security custodial centres, procurement of security gadgets, skill acquisition programs, psychological support services, and the construction and rehabilitation of staff quarters.

"The current state of custodial centres across the country is unsuitable for rehabilitating inmates, leading to increased recidivism and the recurrence of crime," he noted. In light of this, Rep. Ogah called for an upward review of the Service's capital budget allocation to N30 billion in the 2025 budget, to complete ongoing and abandoned projects.

In addition, Rep. Ogah raised concerns about the overcrowded conditions and

poor living standards in correctional facilities, which contribute to jailbreaks and protests. He also proposed that the per-inmate feeding ratio be increased from the current N1,125 to better reflect market realities and to prevent further unrest in the centres.

In adopting the motion, the House mandated the Committees on Reformatory Institutions and Appropriations to ensure that the necessary adjustments are made to the budget and that the funds are properly allocated to the Nigerian Correctional Service.



NIGERIA-U.S. PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP GROUP HOLDS ROUNDTABLE

Page 12



### PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP GROUP FORGES PATH FOR ENHANCED NIGERIA-U.S. RELATIONS

~ By Temidayo Taiwo-Sidiq ~

he Nigeria-United States Parliamentary Friendship Group on Wednesday, convened a significant roundtable meeting attended by the U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria, Ambassador Richard Mills, Jr., and representatives from the American Business Council in Nigeria.

This productive dialogue reinforced the enduring partnership between our two countries, setting a foundation for expanded cooperation in areas vital to both Nigeria and the United States.

Chairman, Nigeria-U.S. Parliamentary Friendship Group, Emmanuel Rep. Ukpong-Udo (PhD) expressed appreciation for the positive role of the American Business Council in fostering economic growth, job creation, and social development within Nigeria. Today's discussions underscored shared а commitment to advancing these goals, paving the way for strengthened economic ties and mutual support in tackling challenges facing both nations.

"We are encouraged by the American Business Council's contributions to Nigeria's economic landscape and remain committed to deepening our engagement with the United States across various sectors. By working together, we can unlock the potential that exists within our partnership and make meaningful progress for our citizens," said Rep. Emmanuel Ukpong-Udo.

The meeting had in attendance, Fatai Folarin, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Deloitte in Nigeria and West Africa Leader; Nonye Ujam, Government Affairs Lead, African Emerging Markets at Microsoft; Chinwe Odigboegwu, Executive Head, Legal & Regulatory Affairs, ATC Nigeria; Dapo Otunla, Senior Vice President & Chief Corporate Services Officer, IHS (Nigeria) Ltd., and Gimba Mohammed, Director, Government & External Relations, IHS (Nigeria) Ltd.

Others are Zainab Obagun, Head Public Communications, Chivita Affairs & Hollandia (CHI Limited); Joseph Myapurgi, Regional Regulatory Manager at ATC Nigeria Wireless Infrastructure Ltd.; Hon Chukwuemeka Ujam, PhD mni, Managing Partner Nina Jojer; Margaret Olele, CEO/Executive Secretary, American Business Council; and Jov Lawal, Consultant, American Business Council.

The House of Representatives looks forward to ongoing collaboration with our American counterparts, exploring further avenues for development, and building on the friendship and goodwill that have long been a hallmark of Nigeria-U.S. relations.



# WHAT IS A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE?

This refers to Friendship Groups composed of Members of the House of Representatives with the aim of expanding Nigeria's legislative relationship with other countries.

It is constituted at the commencement of the life of the Assembly and its jurisdiction covers exchange of parliamentary programs, practices and procedures to deepen Nigeria's legislative democracy, democratic culture and good governance

This could be done through the exchange of visits, workshops and seminars, and other channels of communication and engagement.

The Tenth House has 71 Parliamentary Friendship Groups.

Source: Order 20, Standing Orders of the House of Representatives (Eleventh Edition)

### S O M E PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP GROUPS INCLUDE:

- Nigeria-Algeria Parliamentary Friendship Group
- Nigeria-Australia Parliamentary Friendship Group

- Nigeria-Brazil Parliamentary Friendship Group
- Nigeria-Cameroon Parliamentary Friendship Group
- Nigeria-Canada Parliamentary Friendship Group
- Nigeria-EU Parliamentary Friendship Group
- Nigeria-Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Group
- Nigeria-Russia Parliamentary Friendship Group
- Nigeria-South Korea Parliamentary Friendship Group
- Nigeria-United States of America Parliamentary Friendship Group

Source: Order 20, Standing Orders of the House of Representatives (Eleventh Edition)

### HOUSE REFERS ASSAULT INCIDENT INVOLVING REP. IKWECHEGH TO ETHICS COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER ACTION

~ By Temidayo Taiwo-Sidiq ~



he House of Representatives has referred the recent incident of assault involving Rep. Alex Mascot Ikwechegh (APGA, Abia) and an e-hailing driver, Citizen Stephen Abuwatseya, to its Committee on Ethics and Privileges for further legislative action within the next two weeks.

This resolution followed a unanimous vote after a Point of Order (Matter of Privilege) was raised by the Leader of the House, **Rep. Julius Ihonvbere** (APC, Edo), during Tuesday's plenary—the first legislative session following the incident.

Seconded by the Deputy Minority Leader, **Rep. Aliyu Sani Madaki** (NNPP, Kano), Rep. Ihonvbere submitted that the matter required the House's immediate attention to preserve the integrity and credibility of the institution. He emphasised the need for appropriate action that not only addresses the issue but also demonstrates to the public that the House holds its members accountable.

In response, Rep. Ikwechegh, under Order 8, Rule 6 (Matter of Personal Explanation), offered a heartfelt apology to Citizen Abuwatseya, the Nigerian Police, the House of Representatives, the National Assembly, and the Nigerian public. Acknowledging the regrettable nature of his actions, the lawmaker confirmed that he and Citizen Abuwatseya were pursuing alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, which he fully supported.

Contributing to the debate, Rep. Babajimi Benson (APC, Lagos) acknowledged Ikwechegh's Rep. apology but urged the House to adhere to its rules in handling such matters. Rep. Babajimi reminded his colleagues that lawmakers must always conduct themselves with integrity and respect toward the Nigerian people, who ultimately hold authority over their representatives.

Presiding over the plenary, Deputy Speaker **Rt. Hon. Benjamin Kalu** emphasised the House's internal processes, noting that the matter would be thoroughly investigated to ensure fairness and justice for all parties involved before further action is taken. The incident, which has attracted widespread media coverage, involves allegations of a physical confrontation between Rep. Ikwechegh and Citizen Abuwatseya, including the use of threatening language. In response to the media reports, the House of Representatives issued a statement on Monday through its Spokesman, **Rep. Akin Rotimi, Jr.,** acknowledging the gravity of the situation.

"As elected officials, we hold ourselves to the highest standards of ethical conduct and accountability in both our official and private engagements. Any behaviour that falls short of these standards is a matter of concern, and we are committed to addressing such issues with the utmost seriousness," the statement read.

In a follow-up statement on Tuesday, the House further reaffirmed its commitment to upholding the core values of accountability, transparency, and ethical behaviour that define the 10th Assembly. The Green Chamber also reiterated its pledge to keep the public informed throughout the investigation process.

The 10th Assembly, House of Representatives has remained resolute in its dedication to these principles, which are fundamental to its responsibilities to constituents and to all Nigerians.



#### Wednesday, October 30, 2024

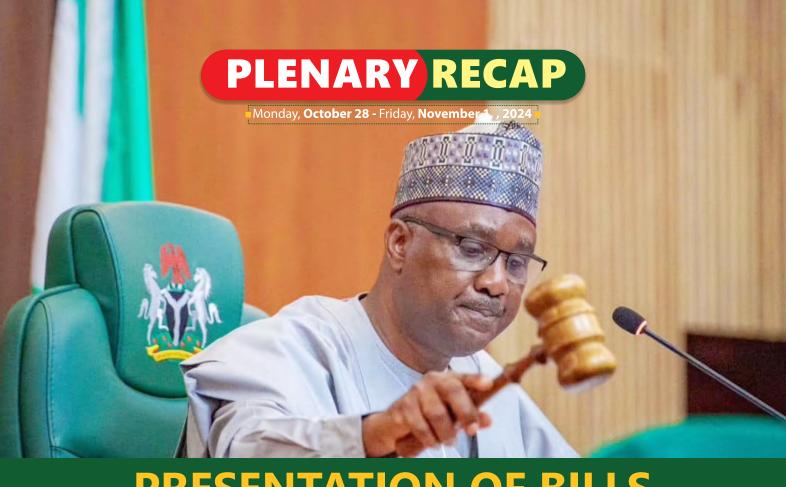
The Leadership of the House has approved the renaming of the **House Committee on Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC)**, to the **House Committee on Regional Development**.

This followed the recent restructuring of Federal Ministries and Ministerial Portfolios by the Executive, leading to the renaming of the Ministry of Niger Delta Development to Ministry of Regional Development, to oversee the activities of all Regional Development Commissions in the country.









## PRESENTATION OF BILLS Third Reading

#### Monday, October 28 - Friday, November 1, 2024

## Tuesday, October 29, 2024

BILLS	STATUS
A Bill for an Act to provide for Establishment of Federal University of Technology, Ilaro to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and for Related Matters (SB. 345)	
A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Youth Service Corps Fund to Provide a Sustainable Source of Fund for the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Skill Acquisition, Training and Empowerment of Corps Members, Training and Retraining of the Personnel of the NYSC, Development of Camps and NYSC Formations and Facilities and for Related Matters (HB.1975)	



🖥 Monday, October 28 - Friday, November 1, , 2024

#### **BILLS**

A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Education (Technical), Gwaram, Jigawa State to Provide Full-Time Courses in Education, Applied Sciences, Instruction and Training in Technology, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management, and other Fields of Related Study, and to Carry out Research in Development and Adaptation of Techniques, and also make provisions for the General Administration of the College and for Related Matters (HB.1384)

A Bill for an Act to Establish the Institute of Chartered Trustees Passed by the of Nigeria (ICTN) Charged with the Responsibility of Regulating and Promoting the Practice of Trusteeship including the Registration and Discipline of its Members and for Related Matters (HB.714)

#### **STATUS**

Passed by the House

# House

### Wednesday, October 30, 2024

BILLS	STATUS
A Bill for an Act to Prevent, Prohibit and Redress Sexual Harassment of Students in Tertiary Educational Institutions and for Related Matters (HB.1598)	
A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Itigidi, Cross River State and for Related Matters (HB.642)	
A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Health Sciences, Gaya, Kano State and Related Matters (HB. 31)	
A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Ikole- Ekiti, Ekiti State and for Related Matters (HB.1037)	



Monday, October 28 - Friday, November 1, , 2024

## Thursday, October 31, 2024

### BILLS

BILLS	STATUS
A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Content in Programmes, Contracts, Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation (NOPCESTI) and It's Council for Planning and Execution of Projects, Promotion of Nigerian Content in Programmes, Contracts, Science, Engineering, Technology, Innovation and Monitoring, Evaluating and Oversight and for Related Matters (HB.1167)	
A Bill for an Act to Upgrade the College of Health Sciences and Technology, Tsafe, Zamfara State to Federal University of Health Sciences and Technology, Tsafe, Zamfara State to Provide FullTime Courses in Health Sciences and Technology and Other Fields of Study and produce high quality Medical Professionals with broad knowledge, skills and value, strengthen institutional capacity for Disease Control and Surveillance as well as bridging the gap in Medical Research and make provision for the General Administration of the University and for Related Matters (SB. 161)	
A Bill for an Act to Reconstitute the Metallurgical Training Institute, Onitsha by Establishing the National Metallurgical Training Institute, Onitsha to Provide Training, Information, Supervision, Guidance and Advice to Students, Researchers And Personnel in Iron and Steel, and Oil and Gas Industries for National Development and for Related Matters (HB.966)	Passed by the House
A Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (as amended) to make provision for Establishment of Federal College of Agriculture, Usung Atiat, Ukanafun Lga, Akwa Ibom State and for Related Matters (HB.971)	
Presented by House Leader, Rep. Julius Ihonvbere (APC, Edo)	



Monday, October 28 - Friday, November 1, 2024

Tuesday, October 29, 2024



A Bill for an Act to Establish Armed Forces Farms and Ranches Scheme to enhance Food Security, Promote Economic Diversification and for Related Matters (HB. 1820)

#### Bill Sponsor: Rep. Babajimi Benson (APC, Lagos)

First Reading: Thursday, October 17, 2024

**Key Objective:** To create a new avenue for the Nigerian Armed Forces to play a significant role in enhancing the nation's food security. By leveraging the active and retired members of the Armed Forces, as well as their expertise, this initiative seeks to contribute to agricultural growth and ultimately boost the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

#### **Bill Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Defence

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A Bill for an Act to Amend the Banks and Other Financial Institutions Act(BOFIA), 2020 to make Provision for the Protection of Victims of Fraudulent withdrawal from Accounts and for Related Matters (HB.1168)



**Bill Sponsor:** Rep. Moses Oluwatoyin Fayinka (APC, Lagos)

First Reading: Thursday, April 30, 2024

**Key Objective:** To establish robust protections for victims of fraudulent withdrawals from bank accounts, ensuring that commercial banks are held accountable for unauthorised transactions. The legislation seeks to enhance consumer confidence in the banking system by mandating immediate refunds for victims and instituting stricter penalties for banks that fail to safeguard their customers' funds.

**Bill Status:** Referred to the House Committees on Banking Regulations and on Banking and Other Ancillary Institutions



Tuesday, **October 29, 2024** 



A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Orile, Lagos State and for Related Matters (HB.291)

Bill Sponsor: Rep. Lanre Okunlola (APC, Lagos)

First Reading: Wednesday, July 26, 2023

**Key Objective:** A critical step in addressing the growing healthcare needs of Lagos State, particularly in Orile and its surrounding areas, where the population is rapidly increasing. With existing primary and secondary healthcare facilities unable to fully meet the demand, this new centre will provide timely and effective treatment for patients in urgent need of care, ultimately improving survival rates and enhancing the overall quality of healthcare delivery across the State.

#### **Bill Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Health Institutions

Wednesday, October 30, 2024



A Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2024 to make Provisions for Establishment of Federal College of Agricultural Technology, Opialu– Ojapo, Benue State, nd for Related Matters (SB.212) (Senate)

**Bill Sponsors:** Rep. Julius Ihonvbere (APC, Edo) - House Leader

First Reading: Tuesday, October 15, 2024

**Key Objective:** To contribute to the development of Nigeria through training of qualitative manpower in Agriculture by adequate exposure to sound theoretical background, practical farm and field demonstration.

#### **Bill Status:** Referred to the Committee of the Whole

PLENARY RECAP

PRESENTATION OF BILLS (SECOND READING)

Wednesday, October 30, 2024

A Bill for an Act to alter the Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to carve out Nasarawa Eggon Federal Constituency from Akwanga/Nasarawa Eggon/Wamba Federal Constituency and for Related Matters (HB.1316)



Bill Sponsor: Rep. Jeremiah Umaru (APC, Nasarawa)

First Reading: Tuesday, May 7, 2024

**Bill Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Constitution Review.

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A Bill for an Act to Amend Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Saki, Oyo State for the Provision of Tertiary Healthcare Services, Medical Education and for Related Matters (HB.1356)

**Bill Sponsors:** Rep. Kareem Tajudeen Abisodun (APC, Oyo)

First Reading: Wednesday, July 17, 2024

Bill Status: Referred to the House Committee on Health Institutions

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Universities of Agriculture Act, Cap. F22 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004, to Establish Federal University of Agriculture, Akure, Ondo State and for Related Matters (HB. 1375)



First Reading: Thursday, May 9, 2024

**Bill Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Agricultural Institutions and Colleges.



Wednesday, October 30, 2024



A Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make Provision for Establishment of Federal College of Agriculture, Mbatie, Buruku, Benue State and for Related Matters (HB.572)

**Bill Sponsors:** Rep. Sekav Dzua lyortyom (APC, Benue)

First Reading: Wednesday, October 3, 2023

Bill Status: Referred to the House Committee on Agricultural Institutions and Colleges.

### **RECOMMITTAL OF BILLS**

#### [Passed by the Preceding Assembly and forwarded to the President for Assent]

- (i) National Broadcasting Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1816); and
- (ii) Federal University, Wukari (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB 1382).

#### **Bill Status:** Re-committed to the Committee of the Whole for consideration. [Pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 17 of the House Standing Orders]



Thursday, October 31, 2024



A Bill for an Act to Provide Guidelines for the Payment of Judgement Debt owed by the Federal government and its Agency and for Related Matters (HB. 344)

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Miriam Onuoha (APC, Imo)

First Reading: Thursday, July 27, 2024

**Key Objective:** To establish clear guidelines for the payment process, protecting public trust and improving the business environment and ensure timely payment of judgement debts by government agencies without compromising public service quality. Additionally, it mandates the National Assembly to carefully scrutinise and approve funds for judgement debts to ensure transparency.

**Bill Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Justice

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Provide for Establishment of Federal Medical Centre, Danbatta, Kano State and for Related Matters (HB.495)

**Bill Sponsor:** Rep. Hamisu Ibrahim (APC, Kano)



First Reading: Wednesday, October 3, 2024

**Key Objective:** To address the healthcare needs of its over 700,000 residents. It also seeks to improve access to quality healthcare, reduce maternal and child mortality, and ease the strain on existing facilities. The centre is expected to stimulate local economic growth and create employment opportunities.

#### **Bill Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Health Institutions



Thursday, October 31, 2024



A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Provide for the Mandatory inclusion of Portfolio(s) in the Nomination (s) of Minister(s) of the Government of the Federation and the Commissioner(s) of the Government of a State prior to submission to the National Assembly and the House of Assembly of a State and for Related Matters (HB. 1552)

#### Bill Sponsors: Rep. Eugene Okechukwu Dibiagwu (APC, Imo)

First Reading: Thursday, June 27, 2024

**Key Objective:** Proposes an amendment to Sections 147 and 192 of the Constitution to require the inclusion of specific portfolios in the nomination of ministers and state commissioners. This will enable thorough scrutiny of nominees' preparedness for their respective roles and enhance public confidence in the nomination process.

#### **Bill Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Constitution Review

A Bill for an Act to make Provisions for the Retirement Age of Health Workers in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.1577)

Bill Sponsor: Rep. Wale Hammed (APC, Lagos)

First Reading: Thursday, October 10, 2024



**Key Objective:** To extend the retirement age of health workers in Nigeria from 60 to 65 years, or 35-40 years of service, whichever comes first. This will help retain experienced professionals in the workforce and ensure a smooth transition by training new personnel as others retire.

#### **Bill Status: Referred to the House Committee on Healthcare Services**



Thursday, October 31, 2024



A Bill for an Act to Establish Child Rights and Welfare Commission for the Protection of Children's Rights and for Related Matters (HB. 558)

**Bill Sponsors:** Rep. Jesse Okey – Joe Onuakalusi (LP, Lagos)

First Reading: Wednesday, October 10, 2023

**Key Objective:** To safeguard and protect children's rights, particularly in vulnerable and volatile environments.

**Bill Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Women Affairs

## **PRESENTATION OF REPORTS**

Report of the Conference Committee on a Bill for an act to amend the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act, Cap. N Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters

**Presented by:** Rep. Abbas A. Adigun, Chairman, House Committee on Narcotics

Report of the Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility on a Bill for an Act to Regulate Corporate Social Responsibility in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 242) (Referred: 8/11/2023)

**Presented by: Rep. Oby Lilian Orogbu (LP, Anambra),** Chairperson, House Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, 2024



Rep. Abbas Tajudeen (APC, Kaduna)  Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024. (Recognition and Development of the geo-political zones in Nigeria) (HB.1850)

- National Institute of Vocational, Technical Education, Citizenship and Leadership Training Centre, Tasha Bala Batagarawa, Katsina state (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1799)
- Federal University of Technology, Rimi, Katsina State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1800)
- Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Charanchi, Katsina State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1802)

Rep. Murtala Usman Banye (APC, Katsina)





Rep. Oboku Abonsizibe Oforji (PDP, Bayelsa)

 Companies Income Tax Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1829)

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, 2024



Rep Bashir Zubairu Usman (APC, Kaduna)  National Vocational Centre, Birnin Gwari, Kaduna State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1830)

 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) (Passing Appropriation Bill with two – Third of Elected Members) Bill, 2024 (HB.1832) Rep. Sesi Oluwaseun Whingan (APC, Lagos)





Rep. Raheem Tunji Olawuyi (APC, Kwara)

 Federal Medical Centres, Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1835)

- National Primary Health Care Development Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1837)
- Merchandise Marks Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1840)

Rep. Moshood Olanrewaju Oshun (APC, Lagos)



Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, 2024



Rep. Mark Useni (APC, Taraba)  National Park Service Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1841)

- Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery Science, Gulu (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1336)
- National Cereals Research Institute, Badeggi (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1337)

Rep. Abdullahi Mamudu (APC, Niger)





Rep. Gabriel Saleh Zock (APC, Kaduna)

- Civil Defence University, Kachia, Kaduna State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 HB.1367)
- Federal University of Science and Technology, Kagarko, Kaduna State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1370)
- Humanitarian, Unemployment Youths, Elderly and Indigent Sustainability Allowance Trust Fund (Establishment) Bill, 20204 (HB.1374)
- Nigerian Neighbourhood Watch and Community Service Corps (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1839)

Rep. Adegboyega Nasir Isiaka (APC, Ogun)



Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, 2024



Rep. Amos Magaji (PDP, Kaduna)

- National Hospital for Women and Children Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1847)
- Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1848)

 Federal Institute of Mining Technology, Adikpo, Benue State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1496) Rep. Terseer Ugbor (APC, Benue)





Rep. Julius Ihonvbere (APC, Edo)

 Federal Colleges of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 1852)

• Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1855) Rep. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali Halims (APC, Kogi)



Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, 2024



Rep. Sesoo Ikpagher (APC, Benue)

- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) (FCT House of Assembly) Bill, 2024 (HB.1783)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) (Multilayer Policing) Bill, 2024 (HB.1807)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) (Compensation in the Land Use Act) Bill, 2024 (HB.1808)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) (Six Special Seats for Special Interest Group) Bill, 2024 (HB.1811)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) (Expand Criminal Categories) Bill, 2024 (HB.1814)
- Compulsory Genotype Screening Bill, 2024 (HB.1812)

Rep. Akintunde Rotimi (APC, Ekiti)





Rep. Cyril Godwin Hart (PDP, Rivers)

 Federal Medical Centres, Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1855)

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, 2024



Rep. Blessing Chigeru Amadi (PDP, Rivers)

- Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Isiokpo, Rivers State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1708)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1731)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1732)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1733)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1734)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1729)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1730)

Rep. Mansur Manu Soro (PDP, Bauchi)



Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, 2024

- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1722)
- Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1723)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1724)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1725)

Rep. Ikeagwuonu Ugochinyere (PDP, Imo)





Rep. Abbas Tajudeen (APC, Kaduna)

 Political Parties (Registration and regulation) Bill, 2024 (HB.1862)

 National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1846) Rep. Tijjani Zanna Zakariya (APC, Yobe)



Rep. Abdullahi Mamudu (APC, Niger)

 National College of Laboratory Technology, Health Sciences and Medical Imaging Agaie (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1340)

#### Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, 2024

- Federal College of Entrepreneurship and Skills Acquisition, Rumuekini, Rivers State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1742)
- Federal University of Science and Technology, Rukpokwu, Rivers State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1743)
- Federal University of Oil and Gas Technology, Ibaa/Obele, Rivers State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1744)

Rep. Blessing Chigeru Amadi (PDP, Rivers)





Rep. Chris Nkwonta (APC, Abia)

• Federal Polytechnics Act (Amendment) (HB.1736)

 Nigerian Extractive Industries Transparency Initiatives (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1752) Rep. Ikeagwuonu Ugochinyere (PDP, Imo)





Rep. Adamu Tanko (PDP, Niger)

 Federal Colleges of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1803)

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, 2024

- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1735)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1727)
- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1728)

Rep. Mansur Manu Soro (PDP, Bauchi)





Rep. Garba Ibrahim Mohammed (NNPP, Kano)

 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1784)

 National Rice Production, Processing and Research Institute, Aji Igbo – Eze, Enugu State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1786) Rep. Simon Chukwuemeka Atigwe (PDP, Enugu)



Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, 2024



 National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1788)

 Federal Universities of Agriculture Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1787) Rep. Chinedu Ogah (APC, Ebonyi)



- Rep. Akintunde Rotimi (APC, Ekiti)
- National Board for Geography Education (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1809)
- National Artificial Intelligence Regulatory Authority (HB.1810)
- Victims' Right Bill, 2024 (HB.1801)
- Execution of Federal Government Contracts (Offence) Bill, 2024. (HB.1790)

Rep. Aderemi Oseni (APC, Oyo)



Congratulations for a Distinguished Public Servant

## Rep. (Dr.) Abubakar Kabir Abubakar (Bichi)

Chairman, House Committee on Appropriation Member Representing Bichi Federal Constituency, Kano State

> On the well-deserved conferment of an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Engineering by the Federal University, Dutsin Ma (FUDMA).

> Your exemplary service and leadership are deserving of this recognition, and we are proud to celebrate this milestone with you.

Signed:

Rep. Akin Rotimi, Jr. Spokesman, House of Representatives



**Rep. Philip Agbese** Deputy Spokesman, House of Representatives

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