



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 26 February, 2019

1. The House met at 11.16 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Second Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 29 January, 2019.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Message**
Mr Speaker read the following Message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

17th January, 2019

Rt. Hon. Yakubu Dogara
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

Dear Rt Hon. Y. Dogara,

**PRESIDENTIAL DECISION TO DECLINE ASSENT TO THE
NATIONAL OIL SPILL DETECTION AND RESPONSE AGENCY
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2018**

Pursuant to Section 58 (4) of Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), I hereby convey to the House of Representatives, my decision, on 17th January, 2019 to decline Presidential Assent to the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Amendment) Bill, 2018 recently passed by the National Assembly.

2. *I am declining assent to the Bill because:*

- (i) *The Bill, in a number of important sections undermines the powers of the Honourable Minister of Petroleum Resources and the functions and responsibilities of the Ministry of Petroleum Resources. The sections in this regard include: Section 3, Section 6 (1) (a)-(f), (2)-(5), Section 7 (A) and 7 (B), Section 8, Section 9 and Section 11.*
- (ii) *The Bill seeks to enable NOSDRA to function as technical regulator in the issuance of guidelines and standards for the Oil and Gas Industry which is a responsibility already embedded in the Ministry of Petroleum Resources under the Petroleum Act.*
- (iii) *Section 8 of the Bill imposes a new charge on the industry of 0.5% of operations funds of oil companies for the enforcement of the environmental legislations in the petroleum sector. This imposition is an additional burden to the industry particularly given that it is unclear what "operations funds" means for the purpose of applying the provision of the Bill.*

3. *Please accept, Right Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.*

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

4. **Adjournment**

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 12 March, 2019 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 11.26 a.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker