



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 6 June, 2018

1. The House met at 11.22 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Wednesday, 6 June, 2018.
The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.
3. **Announcements**
 - (a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**
Mr Speaker recognised the presence of the following:
 - (i) Members of the Students Union Government, *Auchi Polytechnic*, Auchi, Edo State;
 - (ii) Staff and Students of *Kingdom Heritage Model Schools*, Durumi Phase II, Abuja;
 - (iii) Staff and Students of *Bethel Academy*, Masaka, New Karu, Nasarawa State; and
 - (iv) Staff and Students of *De Angels Academy Schools*, Masaka, Nasarawa State.
 - (b) **Bereavement:**
Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai (*Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of Martins Chukwudeme Nwoseh, a former member (*Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency 1979 – 1983*), who passed away on Wednesday, 18 April, 2018.
A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.
4. **Petition**
A petition from Rotimi Sunday, on the alleged theft of his Peugeot 406 car by Umar Danladi Gambo of the Nigeria Immigration Service, was presented and laid by Hon. Tajudeen Ayo Yusuf (*Ijumu/Kabba-Bunu Federal Constituency*).

Petition referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)

(i) *Need to Investigate the Infractions of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 in the Execution of Zonal Intervention Projects by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of the Federal Government from 2015 – 2017:*

Hon. Chukwuka Onyema Wilfred (*Ogbaru Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

(a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and

(b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need to Investigate the Infractions of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 in the Execution of Zonal Intervention Projects by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of the Federal Government from 2015 - 2017:

The House:

Notes that Zonal Intervention projects are projects for Members of the National Assembly to drive democracy dividends down to the grassroots;

Also notes that funds for the execution of these projects were specifically provided for in the Appropriation Acts for the period under review;

Worried that MDAs misapplied the funds provided for the projects in the Appropriation Acts for some other purposes and therefore denied payment to contractors who diligently completed their works;

Cognizant that the above infraction violates the Public Procurement Act, 2007 and the Appropriation Acts for the respective years under review;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Public Procurement to investigate the allegations and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Chukwuka Wilfred Onyema — Ogbaru Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Zonal Intervention projects are projects for Members of the National Assembly to drive democracy dividends down to the grassroots;

Also noted that funds for the execution of these projects were specifically provided for in the Appropriation Acts for the period under review;

Worried that MDAs misapplied the funds provided for the projects in the Appropriation Acts for some other purposes and therefore denied payment to contractors who diligently completed their works;

Cognizant that the above infraction violates the Public Procurement Act, 2007 and the Appropriation Acts for the respective years under review;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Public Procurement to investigate the allegations and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 203/06/2018).

- (ii) ***Need to Investigate Alleged Extra Budgetary Spending, Financial Improprieties and other unwholesome practices by some Service Providers, Terminal Operators and Commissioned Agents, etc. engaged by the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) and to ensure urgent and full recovery of all Revenues due to Nigeria Ports Authority:***

Hon. Gaza Jonathan Gbewfi (Karu/Keffi/Kokona Federal Constituency and 1 other) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need to Investigate the Alleged Extra Budgetary spending, Financial Improprieties and other unwholesome practices by some Service Providers, Terminal Operators and Commissioned Agents, etc. engaged by the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) and to ensure urgent and full recovery of all Revenues due to Nigeria Ports Authority:

The House:

Notes that Nigeria, as a democratic country, is governed by laws where individuals, corporate bodies and governments are required to observe and obey all applicable laws of the land;

Also notes that the Nigerian Ports Authority was established by law as a corporate body with the rights to enter into agreements and carry out contracts with individuals and corporate bodies in the discharge of its mandates;

Aware that the Nigerian Ports Authority entered into several agreements, covenants and contracts with 'Legal Persons' such as Terminal Operators, Service providers, Commissioned Agents, etc.;

Also aware that those agreements were entered into with the aim of not only encouraging the growth and efficiency of the Nigerian Ports Authority in attaining set targets but also in growing the Nigerian economy;

Disturbed by series of allegations that some of these Service Providers have been in contention with the NPA with respect to the observance of the relevant agreements; with several claims and counter claims between the parties while millions of dollars due to tax payers are trapped in the endless arguments;

Also disturbed by further allegations that some Service Providers are said to have been engaged in presenting inaccurate information during the budget process, and engaging in an illegal extra budgetary spending of revenues due to the Authority, incurring unapproved expenses, and thus wasting huge unbudgeted revenues without due process and in breach of all extant laws and practices;

Worried that some of these Service Providers are allegedly spending millions of dollars due to government illegally including paying themselves dubiously approved and unbearably high commission-rates in breach of legitimate and due agreements and the budgetary provisions and without approvals and/or any credit notes from the Authority;

Also worried that some of these Service Providers and Commissioned Agents engaged by NPA are alleged to be owing the Authority large sums of money, despite collecting such monies from Service Users real time, most times in dollars, failing in meeting up the development plans based upon which they secured the agreements in the first place and engaging in other unwholesome practices including surcharging the Authority interest on bank loans which the NPA was not part of the negotiation I spending, and acting as double agents to both the Authority and its facility users which are alleged to be both unethical and criminal;

Alarmed that despite repeated efforts by Authority and Government to ensure that these Service providers observe the laws and covenants in their agreements, some of these providers have continued to hold the Authority and by extension Nigeria to ransom by their alleged 'sharp practices';

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Ports, Harbours and Waterways to:

- (i) carry out a comprehensive investigation of these service providers and other NPA commissioned agents etc, to determine how much monies have been collected by them on behalf of the Authority or government, in which denominations and whether such monies have been remitted as appropriate or spent in accordance with the budget provision and processes of the Authority;
- (ii) investigate the observance of all properly approved covenants, articles and obligations in all legitimate agreements between NPA and these service providers with respect to meeting development plans in all such agreements and vice versa by NPA to the service providers; and
- (iii) ensure that no further funds are appropriated to any defaulting service provider until all government revenues withheld or spent by such providers without recourse to the budget as approved by the National Assembly and due process and approval of the authority are repaid to the Authority and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Gaza Jonathan Gbewfi — Karu/Keffi/Kokona Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Nigeria, as a democratic country, is governed by laws where individuals, corporate bodies and governments are required to observe and obey all applicable laws of the land;

Also noted that the Nigerian Ports Authority was established by law as a corporate body with the rights to enter into agreements and carry out contracts with individuals and corporate bodies in the discharge of its mandates;

Aware that the Nigerian Ports Authority entered into several agreements, covenants and contracts with 'Legal Persons' such as Terminal Operators, Service providers, Commissioned Agents, etc.;

Also aware that those agreements were entered into with the aim of not only encouraging the growth and efficiency of the Nigerian Ports Authority in attaining set targets but also in growing the Nigerian economy;

Disturbed by series of allegations that some of these Service Providers have been in contention with the NPA with respect to the observance of the relevant agreements; with several claims and counter claims between the parties while millions of dollars due to tax payers are trapped in the endless arguments;

Also disturbed by further allegations that some Service Providers are said to have been engaged in presenting inaccurate information during the budget process, and engaging in an illegal extra budgetary spending of revenues due to the Authority, incurring unapproved expenses, and thus wasting huge unbudgeted revenues without due process and in breach of all extant laws and practices;

Worried that some of these Service Providers are allegedly spending millions of dollars due to government illegally including paying themselves dubiously approved and unbearably high commission-rates in breach of legitimate and due agreements and the budgetary provisions and without approvals and/or any credit notes from the Authority;

Also worried that some of these Service Providers and Commissioned Agents engaged by NPA are alleged to be owing the Authority large sums of money, despite collecting such monies from Service Users real time, most times in dollars, failing in meeting up the development plans based upon which they secured the agreements in the first place and engaging in other unwholesome practices including surcharging the Authority interest on bank loans which the NPA was not part of the negotiation I spending, and acting as double agents to both the Authority and its facility users which are alleged to be both unethical and criminal;

Alarmed that despite repeated efforts by Authority and Government to ensure that these Service providers observe the laws and covenants in their agreements, some of these providers have continued to hold the Authority and by extension Nigeria to ransom by their alleged 'sharp practices';

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Ports, Harbours and Waterways to:

- (i) carry out a comprehensive investigation of these service providers and other NPA commissioned agents etc, to determine how much monies have been collected by them on behalf of the Authority or government, in which denominations and whether such monies have been remitted as appropriate or spent in accordance with the budget provision and processes of the Authority;
- (ii) investigate the observance of all properly approved covenants, articles and obligations in all legitimate agreements between NPA and these service providers with respect to meeting development plans in all such agreements and vice versa by NPA to the service providers; and

- (iii) ensure that no further funds are appropriated to any defaulting service provider until all government revenues withheld or spent by such providers without recourse to the budget as approved by the National Assembly and due process and approval of the authority are repaid to the Authority and report back within four (4) weeks (H.R. 204.06/2018).

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4) to enable it take more than 2 matters of urgent public importance" (Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

- (iii) *Need to Rescind the Decision of the National Security Council as Announced by the Minister of Defence Calling on States to Suspend Ranching and Open Grazing Law:*
Hon. John Dyegh (Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:
- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need to Rescind the Decision of the National Security Council as Announced by the Minister of Defence Calling on States to Suspend Ranching and Open Grazing Law:

The House:

Notes that the Herdsmen crises in Nigeria predate the present administration of Muhammadu Buhari;

Also notes that for over 7 years, the clashes between herdsmen and farmers have been on the increase, with many lives lost while farmlands and villages overtaken by herdsmen, making farmers to abandon their ancestral homes and God given lands to live in camps as refugees where they die for lack of food and proper medical care;

Further notes that the unprovoked Agatu killings by herdsmen which claimed over 800 lives and ravaged over 20 villages, made Benue eminent sons and daughters to come together to find a lasting solution to the problem. The communities engaged in serious debates on the matter and recommended the enactment of **ANTI-OPEN GRAZING LAW** and called on the State Government to process it as a Bill into law;

Aware that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), in Section 4 (7), gives express powers to the State Assemblies to make laws for the good governance of the states;

Also aware that this is not the only State that has made laws for good governance of the State. For instance we have seen States making laws against trading in alcohol and prostitution and such laws are obeyed by visitors and indigenes alike without interference by the Federal Government;

Further aware that since Nigeria is a Federation that believes in democracy and the Rule of Law, it is totally wrong for the Federal Government to dabble into the affairs of the States, ignoring the laws of the land in such a manner as it has done in this case, knowing that the Land Use Act has given powers over lands to the State Governors;

Cognizant that 11 States, as recently revealed by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development some time ago, have agreed to donate enough land to accommodate herdsmen and their cows in colonies to end this crises; more so that even the National Economic Council, in one of its meetings also agreed that Ranching is the best way to end this crises;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Security Council to rescind its decision calling on States to suspend Anti Open Grazing Law;
- (ii) call on the Federal Government to submit a supplementary Budget to the National Assembly to develop colonies immediately in those States that have agreed to donate land for colonies; and
- (iii) invite the Minister of Defence to appear before the House for interaction on Thursday, 7 June, 2018 (*Hon. John Dyege — Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Prayer (iii) (Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Immuneochi Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Herdsmen crises in Nigeria predate the present administration of Muhammadu Buhari;

Also noted that for over 7 years, the clashes between herdsmen and farmers have been on the increase, with many lives lost while farmlands and villages overtaken by herdsmen, making farmers to abandon their ancestral homes and God given lands to live in camps as refugees where they die for lack of food and proper medical care;

Further noted that the unprovoked Agatu killings by herdsmen which claimed over 800 lives and ravaged over 20 villages, made Benue eminent sons and daughters to come together to find a lasting solution to the problem. The communities engaged in serious debates on the matter and recommended the enactment of **ANTI-OPEN GRAZING LAW** and called on the State Government to process it as a Bill into law;

Aware that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), in Section 4 (7), gives express powers to the State Assemblies to make laws for the good governance of the states;

Also aware that this is not the only State that has made laws for good governance of the State. For instance we have seen States making laws against trading in alcohol and prostitution and such laws are obeyed by visitors and indigenes alike without interference by the Federal Government;

Further aware that since Nigeria is a Federation that believes in democracy and the Rule of Law, it is totally wrong for the Federal Government to dabble into the affairs of the States, ignoring the laws of the land in such a manner as it has done in this case, knowing that the Land Use Act has given powers over lands to the State Governors;

Cognizant that 11 States, as recently revealed by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development some time ago, have agreed to donate enough land to accommodate herdsmen and their cows in colonies to end this crises; more so that even the National Economic Council, in one of its meetings also agreed that Ranching is the best way to end this crises;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Security Council to rescind its decision calling on States to suspend Anti Open Grazing Law; and
- (ii) call on the Federal Government to submit a supplementary Budget to the National Assembly to develop colonies immediately in those States that have agreed to donate land for colonies (HR. 205/06/2018).

6. Privileges (Order Six, Rule 2)

- (i) Hon. Sunday Karimi Steve (*Yagba East/Yagba West/Mopamuro Federal Constituency*), invited the attention of the House to a statement credited to Hon. Abdulmumin Jibrin, on the Joint Sitting of the National Assembly of Tuesday, 5 June, 2018, in an online media titled ***“Impeachment Threat: National Assembly Parliamentary Support Group issues a counter statement”***, where he claimed that the Joint Sitting was orchestrated by the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) to mislead the public. Hon. Karimi Steve considered this as a misrepresentation of facts and a breach of the collective privilege of the House. He therefore stressed the need for the House to investigate the matter.

Matter referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.

- (ii) Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai (*Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*), drew the attention of the House to a publication in *ThisDay* Newspaper of Wednesday, 6 June, 2018, on page nine (9), where Hon. Mohammed Gudaji Kazaure was quoted to have said that he “Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai”, was collecting signatures for an impeachment motion against the President. He considered the matter as a breach of his privilege and urged the House to look into the matter.

Ruling: Mr Speaker ruled that during investigation into the matter of breach of his privilege, Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai would not preside over the Committee on Ethic and Privileges which he chairs.

Matter referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges. Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai to excuse himself from presiding over the matter.

- (iii) Hon. Beni Lar (*Langtang North/Langtang South Federal Constituency*), called the attention of the House to the incident that occurred on Thursday, 31 May, 2018, while she was presiding over a public hearing on the Bills referred to the Committee on Science and Technology. She noted that the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Science and Technology walked into the venue and disrupted proceedings, ordering her staff out of the Committee Room. She considered the action of the Permanent Secretary a contempt of the House and a breach of its collective privilege. She urged the House to investigate the matter.

Ruling: Mr Speaker remarked that the matter bordered on contempt of the legislature, and in line with the principle of fair hearing, referred the matter to the Committee on Justice to report back within two (2) weeks after resumption from the recess.

7. A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure Act, Cap. N3, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB. 206) — *Third Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure Act, Cap. N3, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB. 206) be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and Passed.

8. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Institute of Personnel Management of Nigeria Act, Cap. I15, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review Fines Upwards; and for Related Matters (HB. 212) — *Third Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Institute of Personnel Management of Nigeria Act, Cap. I15, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review Fines Upwards; and for Related Matters (HB. 212) be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and Passed.

9. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Engineers (Registration, etc.) Act, Cap. E11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB. 1092) — *Third Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Engineers (Registration, etc.) Act, Cap. E11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB. 1092) be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and Passed.

10. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Council for the Regulation of Travel Agents in Nigeria to Provide for Registration of Persons who by way of Business, negotiate for or otherwise act in relation to Selling of Travel Services on behalf of Transport Carriers to facilitate Carriage by Air, Rail or Road of Passengers and for the Control, Regulations and Orderly Development of Passengers Travel Distribution in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1321) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Council for the Regulation of Travel Agents in Nigeria to Provide for Registration of Persons who by way of Business, negotiate for or otherwise act in relation to Selling of Travel Services on behalf of Transport Carriers to facilitate Carriage by Air, Rail or Road of Passengers and for the Control, Regulations and Orderly Development of Passengers Travel Distribution in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1321) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Immuneochi Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Aviation.

11. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Rural Electrification Agency for the Promotion, Funding, Management and Regulation of Rural Electrification, as a Statutory Corporation and an Autonomous Agency Independent of the Nigerian Electric Power Regulatory Commission (NERC) and the Rural Electrification Fund established under the Nigerian Electric Power Sector Reform Act; and for Related Matters (HB. 1335) — *Second Reading*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

12. A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Health Insurance Scheme Act, Cap. N42, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make it Mandatory for every Nigerian to key into the Scheme and Protect families from financial hardship; and for Related Matters (HB. 1465) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Health Insurance Scheme Act, Cap. N42, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make it Mandatory for every Nigerian to key into the Scheme and Protect families from financial hardship; and for Related Matters (HB. 1465) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Anayo Nnebe — Awka North/Awka South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Healthcare Services.

13. Attempted Rape and Brutal Attack on Students of Methodist Girls Model Secondary School, Ovim, Isuikwuato Local Government Area (L.G.A.), Abia State and the Need to Guarantee Safety in Schools Across the Country

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the primary responsibility of government at all levels is to guarantee the security and well-being of all Nigerians including school children and especially the girl child;

Regrets that the girl child has unfortunately become, on an increasing basis, a target of various forms of assaults, attacks and abduction by terrorist groups and other criminal gangs in the country as witnessed in Government Secondary School, Chibok, Borno State, Lagos State Model College, Igbonla, Eppe, Turkish International School, Isheri, Ogun State, Babington Macaulay Junior Secondary School, Ikorodu, Lagos, and most recently, Government Girls Science and Technical College, Dapchi, Yobe State;

Informed of the attempted rape and brutal attack on students of Methodist Girls Model Secondary School, Ovim, Isuikwuato L.G.A., Abia State, where a gang of hoodlums invaded the School dormitory on Friday, May 25, 2018 at about 2.00 a.m. and demanded that all the girls strip off their clothes in a bid to gang-rape them;

Also informed that the brave ones among them refused to succumb to the hoodlums' demand which led to the brutal assault on the girls by the hoodlums with cutlasses, iron rods and other dangerous weapons;

Worried that over Fifteen (15) innocent school girls who ought to be at school learning ended up in the hospital with varying degrees of injuries sustained from the hoodlums on the eve of the Children's Day celebration;

Also worried that the attack depicts the degree of evil among individuals and the depth of moral decadence that pervades our society today;

Concerned that the increasing rate of assaults, attacks and abduction of school children, especially the girl child in Nigeria may not only result in psychological and trauma for victims but also possesses the capacity, if unchecked, to negatively affect the educational development of the girl child in particular and the society in general, with attendant negative consequences for the country at large;

Believes that Government at all levels must rise up to the challenge of insecurity in the country and ensure the protection and security of schools across the country in order to forestall the recurrence of these attacks;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn the attempted rape and brutal attack on students of Methodist Girls Model Secondary School, Ovim, Isuikwuato L.G.A., Abia State on Friday, May, 25 2018;
- (ii) urge the Inspector-General of Police to conduct investigations into the incidence with a view to bringing the criminals to book; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on National Security and Intelligence, and Police Affairs to ensure implementation (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Immuneochi Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* Prayers (ii) and (iii) and *insert* a new Prayer as follows:
“Urge The National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), to investigate matter with a view to prosecuting any culprit” (*Hon. Edward Pwajok Gyang — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:
“Mandate the Committee on Human Rights to ensure implementation” (*Hon. Edward Pwajok Gyang — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the primary responsibility of government at all levels is to guarantee the security and well-being of all Nigerians including school children and especially the girl child;

Regretted that the girl child has unfortunately become, on an increasing basis, a target of various forms of assaults, attacks and abduction by terrorist groups and other criminal gangs in the country as witnessed in Government Secondary School, Chibok, Borno State, Lagos State Model College, Igbonla, Eppe, Turkish International School, Isheri, Ogun State, Babington Macaulay Junior Secondary School, Ikorodu, Lagos, and most recently, Government Girls Science and Technical College, Dapchi, Yobe State;

Informed of the attempted rape and brutal attack on students of Methodist Girls Model Secondary School, Ovim, Isuikwuato L.G.A., Abia State, where a gang of hoodlums invaded the School dormitory on Friday, May 25, 2018 at about 2.00 a.m. and demanded that all the girls strip off their clothes in a bid to gang-rape them;

Also informed that the brave ones among them refused to succumb to the hoodlums' demand which led to the brutal assault on the girls by the hoodlums with cutlasses, iron rods and other dangerous weapons;

Worried that over Fifteen (15) innocent school girls who ought to be at school learning ended up in the hospital with varying degrees of injuries sustained from the hoodlums on the eve of the Children's Day celebration;

Also worried that the attack depicts the degree of evil among individuals and the depth of moral decadence that pervades our society today;

Concerned that the increasing rate of assaults, attacks and abduction of school children, especially the girl child in Nigeria may not only result in psychological and trauma for victims but also possesses the capacity, if unchecked, to negatively affect the educational development of the girl child in particular and the society in general, with attendant negative consequences for the country at large;

Believed that Government at all levels must rise up to the challenge of insecurity in the country and ensure the protection and security of schools across the country in order to forestall the recurrence of these attacks;

Resolved to:

- (i) condemn the attempted rape and brutal attack on students of Methodist Girls Model Secondary School, Ovim, Isuikwuato L.G.A., Abia State on Friday, May, 25 2018;
- (ii) urge The National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), to investigate with a view to prosecuting any culprit; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Human Rights to ensure implementation (HR. 206/06/2018).

14. Investigation on Shortchanging of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Other Corporate Organizations on the Sales and Remittances of Low Pour Fuel Oil (LPFO) by Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC)

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Nigeria, with a population of over One hundred and Ninety Eight Million (198,000,000) people, growing at an average rate of 2.7% per annum and an economic growth rate of about 5.7% in the past five years, has a steady growth of industrialization in both rural and urban areas, therefore, there is a consistent correlation between the market for Low Pour Fuel Oil and Economic growth/sustainability;

Also notes that the nation's demand for Low Pour Fuel Oil (LPFO) currently stands at an estimated twenty million (20,000,000) liters per day at a current price of ₦103.60/litre, and Nigeria currently generates Two Billion, and Seventy-Two Million Naira per day (₦2,072,000,000.00) and a monthly average of Sixty-Two Billion, One Hundred and Sixty Million Naira (₦62,160,000,000.00) on the sales of the popularly known Low Pour Fuel Oil (LPFO);

Aware that Nigeria's LPFO is one of the best in the world and is exported in mass volumes from our refineries due to high demand by European and American refiners;

Concerned that LPFO, which manufacturing industries rely greatly on, is a critical product which could generate huge revenue for Nigeria, but is often ignored, and as a result, the huge sales and transaction of LPFO in the country go on mostly unnoticed;

Also aware that all over the world, the sale and purchase of Petro-Chemical and other Oil Products is usually done through a network of coordinators and facilitators who ensure a smooth transaction between the seller/supplier and the buyer/end-buyer;

Regrets that a lot of illicit transactions have transpired during the course of the business transactions of LPFO among the buyers with the NNPC over the years and the Nigerian Government has lost a substantial amount of revenue due to lack of diligence, efficiency and economic management of LPFO transactions;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to carry out a comprehensive investigation on all transactions relating to LPFO and the losses to the Federal Republic of Nigeria and recommend steps to be taken for recovery of all funds (underpayment), and report back within six (6) Weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Edward Pwajok Gyang — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency and 3 others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Nigeria, with a population of over One hundred and Ninety Eight Million (198,000,000) people, growing at an average rate of 2.7% per annum and an economic growth rate of about 5.7% in the past five years, has a steady growth of industrialization in both rural and urban areas, therefore, there is a consistent correlation between the market for Low Pour Fuel Oil and Economic growth/sustainability;

Also noted that the nation's demand for Low Pour Fuel Oil (LPFO) currently stands at an estimated twenty million (20,000,000) liters per day at a current price of ₦103.60/litre, and Nigeria currently generates Two Billion, and Seventy-Two Million Naira per day (₦2,072,000,000.00) and a monthly average of Sixty-Two Billion, One Hundred and Sixty Million Naira (₦62,160,000,000.00) on the sales of the popularly known Low Pour Fuel Oil (LPFO);

Aware that Nigeria's LPFO is one of the best in the world and is exported in mass volumes from our refineries due to high demand by European and American refiners;

Concerned that LPFO, which manufacturing industries rely greatly on, is a critical product which could generate huge revenue for Nigeria, but is often ignored, and as a result, the huge sales and transaction of LPFO in the country go on mostly unnoticed;

Also aware that all over the world, the sale and purchase of Petro-Chemical and other Oil Products is usually done through a network of coordinators and facilitators who ensure a smooth transaction between the seller/supplier and the buyer/end-buyer;

Regretted that a lot of illicit transactions have transpired during the course of the business transactions of LPFO among the buyers with the NNPC over the years and the Nigerian Government has lost a substantial amount of revenue due to lack of diligence, efficiency and economic management of LPFO transactions;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to carry out a comprehensive investigation on all transactions relating to LPFO and the losses to the Federal Republic of Nigeria and recommend steps to be taken for recovery of all funds (underpayment), and report back within six (6) Weeks for further legislative action (H.R. 207/06/2018).

15. Investigation into the Death of Oluwaseun Ezekiel Due to Negligence by some Medical Staff of the University College Hospital (UCH), Ibadan

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Medical Personnel, such as Doctors, Nurses, and Cardiologists etc. are employed at various Medical Institutions across the country to give adequate treatment to patients, and heal them of their ailments;

Also notes that Medical Personnel are expected to show affection to patients, and also carry out their duties diligently in line with the ethics of their profession;

Further notes that the Managements of various Medical Institutions are expected to always monitor the general performance of their staff, most especially medical personnel, during the course of their duties;

Aware that Late Oluwaseun Ezekiel was admitted into the Emergency Unit of the University College Hospital (UCH), Ibadan on March 16, 2018 due to a cardiac ailment;

Also aware that the medical personnel and the cashier who attended to Oluwaseun Ezekiel during the Nineteen (19) hours she spent at the Emergency Unit of UCH betrayed the ethics of their Professions, which eventually led to the death of the innocent young lady;

Further aware that throughout the Nineteen (19) hours spent by Late Oluwaseun Ezekiel in the Hospital, no cardiologist attended to her despite the fact that her ailment was cardiac related;

Observes that many incidences of negligence on the part of medical personnel in various hospitals across the country have resulted in loss of lives;

Worried that if the unholy trend continues unabated, most people may lose hope in our medical institutions;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the negligent conduct on the part of some medical personnel at the University College Hospital (UCH), Ibadan that led to the death of Oluwaseun Ezekiel on March 16, 2018 and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Adedapo Lam-Adesina — Ibadan Northeast/Ibadan Southeast Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer *leave out* the words "Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee" and *insert* the words "Mandate the Committee on Health Institutions" (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Medical Personnel, such as Doctors, Nurses, and Cardiologists etc. are employed at various Medical Institutions across the country to give adequate treatment to patients, and heal them of their ailments;

Also noted that Medical Personnel are expected to show affection to patients, and also carry out their duties diligently in line with the ethics of their profession;

Further noted that the Managements of various Medical Institutions are expected to always monitor the general performance of their staff, most especially Medical Personnel, during the course of their duties;

Aware that Late Oluwaseun Ezekiel was admitted into the Emergency Unit of the University College Hospital (UCH), Ibadan on March 16, 2018 due to a Cardiac ailment;

Also aware that the Medical Personnel and the Cashier who attended to Oluwaseun Ezekiel during the Nineteen (19) hours she spent at the Emergency Unit of UCH betrayed the ethics of their Professions, which eventually led to the death of the innocent young lady;

Further aware that throughout the Nineteen (19) hours spent by Late Oluwaseun Ezekiel in the Hospital, no Cardiologist attended to her despite the fact that her ailment was Cardiac related;

Observed that many incidences of negligence on the part of Medical Personnel in various Hospitals across the Country have resulted in loss of lives;

Worried that if the unholy trend continues unabated, most people may lose hope in our Medical Institutions;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Health Institutions, to investigate the negligent conduct on the part of some medical personnel at the University College Hospital (UCH), Ibadan that led to the death of Oluwaseun Ezekiel on March 16, 2018 and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 208/06/2018).

16. **Call on the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) to Resume Regular Stocking and Operation of the Floating Mega Station at Bonny**
Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes that the Federal Government in 2005, in response to the plight and pitiable condition of Communities in the riverine areas of Nigeria, occasioned by severe difficulty in getting petroleum products, and sometimes at exorbitant and unauthorized prices, directed the construction of floating Mega Stations to ameliorate the situation;

Aware that in order to give effect to the laudable intervention, about ₦700m-₦900m was invested in building each Station with an installed capacity of 300,000 litres to ensure regular supply of Premium Motor Spirit (PMS), Automotive Gas Oil (AGO) and Dual Purpose Kerosene (DPK) at approved retail prices in the creeks to ease the difficulty of the Riverine Communities and to boost their commercial activities;

Concerned that for over a year, NNPC has refused or neglected to stock the floating Mega Station at Bonny in Rivers State with products thereby defeating the noble intent of the government, and as a result, plunged the entire Communities dependent on the said Station into untold hardship, difficulty in accessing petroleum products and subjecting them to exploitative "black market" prices and the hazards of adulterated products;

Worried that the gains of price stability, relative peace from restiveness, ease of living and doing business, and the sense of belonging has been lost in the Riverine Communities;

Disturbed that illegal bunkering, adulterated products, "black market" and other related crimes are now finding opportunity to thrive;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the NNPC/NNPC Retail Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum Resources to resume regular supply of product to the said Station; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream), and Legislative Compliance to work out modalities for ensuring compliance and report back within four (4) weeks for legislative action (*Hon. Awaji-Inombek Dagomie Abiante — Andoni/Opobo/Nkoro Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

In Prayer (i) immediately after the word "to" *leave out* the words "said Station" and *insert* the words "all mobile floating mega stations in the riverine areas of the Niger Delta Region" (*Hon. Brown Randolph Iwo Oruene — Degema/Bonny Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Federal Government in 2005, in response to the plight and pitiable condition of Communities in the riverine areas of Nigeria, occasioned by severe difficulty in getting petroleum products, and sometimes at exorbitant and unauthorized prices, directed the construction of floating Mega Stations to ameliorate the situation;

Aware that in order to give effect to the laudable intervention, about ₦700m-₦900m was invested in building each Station with an installed capacity of 300,000 litres to ensure regular supply of Premium Motor Spirit (PMS), Automotive Gas Oil (AGO) and Dual Purpose Kerosene (DPK) at approved retail prices in the creeks to ease the difficulty of the Riverine Communities and to boost their commercial activities;

Concerned that for over a year, NNPC has refused or neglected to stock the floating Mega Station at Bonny in Rivers State with products thereby defeating the noble intent of the government, and as a result, plunged the entire Communities dependent on the said Station into untold hardship, difficulty in accessing petroleum products and subjecting them to exploitative "black market" prices and the hazards of adulterated products;

Worried that the gains of price stability, relative peace from restiveness, ease of living and doing business, and the sense of belonging has been lost in the Riverine Communities;

Disturbed that illegal bunkering, adulterated products, "black market" and other related crimes are now finding opportunity to thrive:

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the NNPC/NNPC Retail Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum Resources to resume regular supply of product to all mobile floating mega stations in the riverine areas of the Niger Delta Region; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream), and Legislative Compliance to work out modalities for ensuring compliance and report back within four (4) weeks for legislative action (HR. 209/06/2018).

17. Rescission of some Sections of the Petroleum Industry and Governance Bill, 2018, Pursuant to Order Nine, Rule 1 (6) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives
Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes that the Petroleum Industry and Governance Bill was passed by the House on Thursday, 25 January, 2018 and is awaiting the Assent of the President;

Aware that during the process of cleaning and authentication of the content of the Bill by the Directorates of Legal Services, observable defects were noticed in Clauses 17, 20, 33, 47, 95 and 102 of the Bill;

Desirous of the need to strengthen the law to be more functional in its operations;

Resolves to:

Rescind its decision on Clauses 17, 20, 33, 47, 95 and 102 of the Bill and recommit same to the Committee of the Whole for reconsideration and passage (*Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

18. Rescission of some Sections of the Climate Change Bill, 2018, Pursuant to Order Nine, Rule 1 (6) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives
Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes that the Climate Change Bill was passed by the House on Wednesday 8 November, 2017 and is awaiting the Assent of the President;

Aware that during the process of cleaning and authentication of the content of the Bill by the Directorates of Legal Services, observable defects were noticed in Clauses 2, 4, 7 and 17 of the Bill;

Desirous of the need to introduce additional Clauses 8 and 9 and renumber accordingly to strengthen the law to be more functional in its operations;

Resolves to:

Rescind its decision on Clauses 2, 4, 7 and 17 of the Bill, introduce new clauses 8 and 9 and recommit same to the Committee of the Whole for reconsideration and passage (*Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

19. Suspension of Order Seven, Rule 2 (2)

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do suspend Order Seven, Rule 2 (2) to enable Mr Speaker preside in the Committee of the Whole" (*Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

20. Consideration of Reports

- (i) **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Provisions of the Electoral Act, No. 6, 2010 to further Improve the Electoral Process; and for Related Matters (HB.1425) (Committee of the Whole):**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do resume consideration of the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Provisions of the Electoral Act, No. 6, 2010 to further Improve the Electoral Process; and for Related Matters (HB.1425) and approve the recommendations" (*Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku — Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS OF THE
ELECTORAL ACT, NO. 6, 2010 TO FURTHER IMPROVE THE ELECTORAL PROCESS;
AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 1425)

Clause 16: Amendment of Section 46.

Section 46 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection (1), a new subsection "2"—

- "(2) Documentary evidence shall be put in and may be read or taken as read by consent, such documentary evidence shall be deemed demonstrated in open court and the parties in the petition shall be entitled to address and urge argument on the content of the document, and the tribunal or court shall scrutinize or investigate the content of the documents as part of the process of ascribing probative value to the documents or otherwise" (*Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku — Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 16 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 24: Substitution for Section 67: Disputed election.

Substitute for section 67 of the Principal Act, a new section "67" —

- "67. (1) A Collation Officer or Returning Officer at an election shall collate and announce the result of an election, subject to his verification and confirmation that the —

- (a) number of accredited voters stated on the collated result are correct and consistent with the number of accredited voters recorded and transmitted directly from polling units under section 49 (2) of this Bill; and
 - (b) the votes stated on the collated result are correct and consistent with the votes or results recorded and transmitted directly from polling units under section 63 (4) of this Bill.
- (2) Subject to subsection (1), a Collation Officer or Returning Officer shall use the number of accredited voters recorded and transmitted directly from polling units under section 49 (2) of this Bill and the votes or results recorded and transmitted directly from polling units under section 63 (4) of this Bill to collate and announce the result of an election if a collated result at his or a lower level of collation is not correct.
- (3) Where during collation of results, there is a dispute regarding a collated result or the result of an election from any polling unit, the Collation Officer or Returning Officer shall use the following to determine the correctness of the disputed result —
 - (a) the original of the disputed collated result or result for each polling unit where the election is disputed;
 - (b) the Smart Card Reader or other technological device used for accreditation of voters in each polling unit where the election is disputed for the purpose of obtaining accreditation data directly from the Smart Card Reader or technological device;
 - (c) data of accreditation recorded and transmitted directly from each polling unit, where the election is disputed, as prescribed under section 49 (2) of this Bill; and
 - (d) the votes and result of the election recorded and transmitted directly from each polling unit where the election is disputed, as prescribed under section 63 (4) of this Bill.
- (4) If the disputed result under subsection (3) were otherwise found not to be correct, the Collation Officer or Returning Officer shall re-collate and announce a new result using the information in subsection (3) (a), (b), (c) and (d).
- (5) Where the dispute under subsection (3) arose at the final level of collation and the Returning Officer has satisfied the provision of subsection (3), the Returning Officer shall accordingly declare the winner of the election.
- (6) A Returning Officer or Collation Officer, as the case may be, commits an offence if he intentionally collated or announce false result is liable on conviction, to a term of at least five years' imprisonment, without an option of a fine" (*Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku — Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency*).

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately before the words "Collation Officer or Returning Officer" wherever it appears in this Clause, *insert* the words "Presiding Officer" (*Hon. Jones Onyereri — Nkwerre/Isu/Nwangele/Njaba Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment made — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 24 as amended, stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 36: Amendment of Section 140.

Section 140 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting, after subsection (4), a new subsection "(5)" —

"(5) If, at the point of display or distribution of ballot papers by the Commission, a candidate or his agent discovers that his name or the name or logo of his party is omitted, a candidate or his agent shall notify the Commission and the Commission shall —

- (a) postpone the election to rectify the omission; and
- (b) appoint another date to conduct the election, not later than 90 days (*Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku — Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency*).

Amendment Proposed:

In Subclause (5), line 2, immediately after the word "that", *leave out* the words "his name or" (*Hon. Adeyinka Ajayi — Ifelodun/Boripe/Odo-Otin Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment made — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 36 as amended, stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole resumed consideration of the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Provisions of the Electoral Act, No. 6, 2010 to further Improve the Electoral Process; and for Related Matters (HB.1425) and approved Clause 16, approved Clauses 24 and 36 as amended.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

Conference Committee on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Provisions of the Electoral Act, No. 6, 2010 to further Improve the Electoral Process; and for Related Matters:

Mr Speaker announced the Membership of the Conference Committee as follows:

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|---|----------|
| (1) | Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku | — | Chairman |
| (2) | Hon. Pwajok Gyang Dung | — | Member |
| (3) | Hon. Rita Orji | — | Member |
| (4) | Hon. Sunday Katung | — | Member |
| (5) | Hon. Chinda Kingsley | — | Member |
| (6) | Hon. Kingsley Ebenyi | — | Member |

- (ii) *A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Associated Gas Re-injection Act, Cap. A25, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB. 217) (Committee of the Whole): Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Associated Gas Re-injection Act, Cap. A25, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB. 217) and approve the recommendations" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).*

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL THE ASSOCIATED GAS
RE-INJECTION ACT, CAP. A25, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF
NIGERIA, 2004; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 217)

Clause 1: Amendment of Cap. A25, LFN, 2004.

The Associated Gas Re-Injection Act, Cap. A25, Laws of Federation Nigeria, 2004 is repealed (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 1 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 2: Citation.

This Bill may be cited the Associated Gas Re-Injection (Repeal) Bill, 2018 (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 2 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill repeals the Associated Gas Re-injection Act, Cap. A25 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Associated Gas Re-Injection Act, Cap. A25, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB. 217) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill:

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Associated Gas Re-injection Act, Cap. A25, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB. 217) and approved Clauses 1 - 2, the Explanatory Memorandum and the Long Title of the Bill.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

- (iii) *A Bill for an Act to Amend the Private Guard Companies Act, Cap. P30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Vest Licensing of Private Guard Companies expressly in the hands of the Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and review penalties upward; and for Related Matters (HB. 225 and HB. 348) (Committee of the Whole):*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Private Guard Companies Act, Cap. P30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Vest Licensing of Private Guard Companies expressly in the hands of the Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and review penalties upward; and for Related Matters (HB. 225 and HB. 348) and approve the recommendations" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency and 1 other).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE PRIVATE GUARD COMPANIES ACT,
CAP. P30, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO VEST LICENSING OF
PRIVATE GUARD COMPANIES EXPRESSLY IN THE HANDS OF THE NIGERIAN SECURITY
AND CIVIL DEFENCE CORPS (NSCDC) AND REVIEW PENALTIES UPWARD
AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS (HB. 225 & HB. 348)

Clause 1: Amendment of the Principal Act.

The Private Guard Companies Act Cap. P30 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act) is amended as set out in this Bill (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency).

Question that Clause 1 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 2: Amendment of Section 19.

Section 19 of the Principal Act is hereby amended to read:

Section 19 The Licensing Authority for Private guard is the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency).

Question that Clause 2 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 3: Substitution of the Section 32 (1) of the Principal Act.

Section 32 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting existing subsection (1) for new subsection (1) —

- (a) in the case of an individual, to a fine of ₦250,000 or imprisonment for twelve months or to both such and imprisonment; and
- (b) in the case of a body (whether corporate or otherwise), to a fine of not less than ₦1,000,000 (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency).

Question that Clause 3 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 4: Amendment of Section 36.

Section 36 of the Principal Act which is the Interpretation Section is amended by defining "Licensing Authority" to mean Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 4 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 5: Citation.

This Bill is cited as the Private Guard Companies Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 5 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to amend the Private Guard Companies Act, Cap. P30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria by vesting Licensing of Private Guard Companies expressly in the Hands of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and Review Penalties Upward and to stipulate Maximum Amount of fine (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Private Guard Companies Act, Cap. P30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Vest Licensing of Private Guard Companies Expressly in the Hands of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and Review Penalties Upward and Other Related Matters (HBs 225 & 348) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Private Guard Companies Act, Cap. P30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Vest Licensing of Private Guard Companies expressly in the hands of the Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and review penalties upward; and for Related Matters (HB. 225 and HB. 348) and approved Clauses 1 - 4, the Explanatory Memorandum, and the Long Title of the Bill.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

- (iv) ***A Bill for an Act to Amend the Wages Boards and Industrial Councils Act, Cap. W1, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review Upwards the Fines Stipulated for Offences under the Act; and for Related Matters (HB. 282)(Committee of the Whole):***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Wages Boards and Industrial Councils Act, Cap. W1, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review Upwards the Fines Stipulated for Offences under the Act; and for Related Matters (HB. 282), and approve the recommendations" (Hon. Peter O. Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE WAGES BOARD AND INDUSTRIAL
COUNCIL ACT, CAP. W1, LFN, 2004 TO REVIEW UPWARDS THE FINES STIPULATED
UNDER THE ACT OTHER RELATED MATTERS (HB. 282)

Clause 1: Amendment of Cap. W1, LFN, 2004.

The Wages Board and Industrial Council Act, Cap. W1, 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill (*Hon. Peter O. Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 1 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 2: Amendment of Section of 12 of the Principal Act.

Section 12 of the Principal is amended in —

- (a) subsection (1) by substituting for the amounts "₦200" and "₦50", the amounts "₦500,000 and "₦50,000" respectively.
- (b) subsection (3) by substituting for the amounts "₦200" and "₦50", the amounts "₦500,000 and "₦50,000" respectively (*Hon. Peter O. Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 2 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 3: Amendment of Section of 15 of the Principal Act.

Section 15 of the Principal is amended by in paragraph (b) (ii) by substituting for the amount "₦100" and "₦10", the amounts "₦250,000" and "₦25,000" respectively (*Hon. Peter O. Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 3 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 4: Amendment of Section of 23 of the Principal Act.

Section 23 of the Principal Act is amended by substitution for the —

- (a) amount "₦200" the amount "₦500,000;" and
- (b) words "three months" in the last line, the words "one year" (*Hon. Peter O. Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 4 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 5: Amendment of Section of 24 of the Principal Act.

Section 24 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (3) by substitution for —

- (a) amount "₦200" the amount "₦500,000"; and
- (b) words "three months" in the last line, the words "one year" (*Hon. Peter O. Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 5 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 6: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the Wages Board and Industrial Council (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (*Hon. Peter O. Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 6 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Explanatory Memorandum:

(This memorandum does not form of the above Act, but is intended to explain its purport)

This Bill seeks to amend the Wages Board and Industrial Council Act (Cap. W1, LFN, 2004, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004) to amongst other things review upwards the fines stipulated for offences under the Act (*Hon. Peter O. Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Wages Board and Industrial Council Act, Cap. W1, LFN, 2004 to Review Upwards the Fines Stipulated under the Act Other Related Matters (HB. 282) (*Hon. Peter O. Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Speaker in the Chair reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Wages Boards and Industrial Councils Act, Cap. W1, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review Upwards the Fines Stipulated for Offences under the Act; and for Related Matters (HB. 282), and approved Clauses 1 - 6, the Explanatory Memorandum, and the Long Title of the Bill.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(v) Committee on Health Institutions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Health Institutions on a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of a National Agency for the Research and Management of Persons with Special Needs; and for Related Matters (HB. 837) and approve the recommendations" (Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
NATIONAL AGENCY FOR THE RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT OF PERSONS
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS (HB. 837)

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 1: Establishment of the National Agency for the Research and Management of Persons with Special Needs.

(1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the National Agency for the Research and Management of Persons with Special Needs (in this Bill referred to as "the Agency") which shall be supervised by the Federal Ministry of Health.

(2) The Agency —

(a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal; and

(b) may sue and be sued in its corporate name (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 1 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 2: Establishment and composition of the Governing Council of the Agency.

There is hereby established for the Agency a Governing Council (in this Bill referred to as "the Council") which shall consist of —

(a) Chairman;

(b) one representative of the Federal Ministry of Employment who shall not be, less than a Director, as *ex-officio*;

(c) one representative of the Federal Ministry of Health who shall not be, less than a Director, as *ex-officio*

(d) one representative of the Federal Ministry of Information and Communications, who shall not be less than a Director, as *ex-officio*;

(e) one person each to represent the following:

(i) the Association Chief Medical Directors (CMDs)/Medical Directors (MDs) of Tertiary Health Institutions,

(ii) the Nigerian Medical Association,

(iii) the National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Midwives,

(iv) Non-Governmental Organizations working in any of the special needs fields,

(v) the Director-General shall be Secretary to the Council (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 2 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 3: Membership of the Council.

The Chairman and other Members of the Council shall be appointed by the President (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 3 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 4: Tenure of Office.

- (1) The Chairman and members of the council, other than ex-officio members, shall hold office for a term of four years in the first instance and may be reappointed for further term of four years and no more.
- (2) A person shall cease to hold office as a member if:
 - (a) he dies;
 - (b) he becomes bankrupt, suspend payments or compounds with his creditors;
 - (c) he is convicted by a court of law of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty or fraud; or
 - (d) he becomes of unsound mind, or incapable of carrying out his duties; or
 - (e) he resigns his appointment by a letter addressed to the President, through the Chairman; or
 - (f) in the case of qualified professional, he is disqualified or suspended from practicing his profession in any part of the world by order of a competent authority made in respect of that mailer.
- (3) If a member cease to hold office for any reason whatsoever, before the expiration of the term for which he is appointed, another person representing the same interest as that member shall be appointed to the council for his un-expired term
- (4) A member may be removed by the President if he is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Agency or in the interest of the Public that the member continues in office (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 4 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 5: Emoluments, etc.

The Chairman and members of the council shall be paid such emoluments, allowances and benefits as the President may from time to time approve (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 5 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 6: Functions of the Agency.

The Agency shall:

- (a) co-ordinate various research, programmes and projects aimed at improving the health, social and economic well-being of persons with special needs;

- (b) collaborate with other Agencies and Ministries of Government, development institutions, Research Institutions and NGOs;
- (c) co-ordinate, monitor and advise on all social protection activities of government related to any special needs field;
- (d) maintain a data bank on all special needs issues;
- (e) maintain an outreach to International Donor Agencies and Development Partners for the welfare of persons with special needs in the country (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 6 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 7: Powers of the Council.

- (1) The council shall have powers to:
 - (a) regulate all programmes and activities of the Agency;
 - (b) relate with Community Based Organizations (CBO), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), International Donor Agencies (IDA) and other major stakeholders to facilitate the development of the capacity and capabilities of persons with special needs as well as foster partnership among them;
 - (c) initiate and implement programmes geared towards the integration of persons with special needs into the society;
 - (d) design strategies aimed at removing all forms of discrimination against persons with special needs in Nigeria (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 7 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 8: Structure of the Agency.

- (1) The Agency shall be structured into two (2) Directorates and four (4) Departments as follows:
 - (a) Directorate of Finance and Administration (F&A);
 - (b) Directorate of Personnel;
 - (c) Department of Neurological Deficit Disorders
 - (d) Department of Hereditary Blood Disorders
 - (e) Department of Albinism and Related Disorders
 - (f) Department of Non-Communicable Chronic Skin Disorders (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 8 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:**Clause 9: Staff of the Agency.**

- (1) There shall be appointed for the Agency by the President, a Director-General who shall be a Medical Physician of not less than Fifteen years post-qualification in any of the focused special needs Health areas.

Functions of the Director-General.

- (2) The Director General shall be —
 - (a) the Chief Executive of the Agency;
 - (b) be responsible for the day -to-day administration of the Agency, keep the books and records of the Council; and
 - (c) be subject to the supervision and control of the Chairman and the Council.

Tenure of Office.

- (3) The Director-General shall hold office for a term of 4 (four) years and may be renewed for another term and no more.

Other Staff of Agency.

- (4) The Council may from time to time, appoint for the Agency such other, staff, as it may deem necessary to assist the Director-General in the performance of the function of the Agency and the Council.
- (5) The Terms and Conditions of service (including remuneration, allowances, benefits and pensions) of officers and employees of the Agency shall be determined by the Council on the recommendation of the Federal Civil Service Commission.
- (6) The staff of the Council shall be:
 - (a) Public Servants as defined in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and
 - (b) Governed by the rules governing the Civil Service of the Federation (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 9 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:**Clause 10: Pension.**

- (1) Service in the "Agency" shall be approved service for the purpose of the Pensions Act and accordingly, officers and other persons employed in the Agency shall, in respect of their services in the Agency, be entitled to pension, gratuities and other retirement benefits as are prescribed there under.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the Agency may appoint a person to any office on the terms, which preclude the grant of a pension, gratuity or retirement benefits.

- (3) For the purpose of the application of the Pension Act, any power exercisable there under by a Minister or other authority of the Government of the Federation other than the power to make regulations is hereby vested and shall be exercisable by the Council and not by other persons or authority (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 10 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 11: Funds of the Agency.

- (1) The Agency shall establish and maintain a fund from which shall be defrayed all expenditure incurred by the Agency.
- (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established pursuant to Sub-section (1) of this Section:
- (a) any allocation to the Agency from the Federation Account;
 - (b) such monies as may, from time to time be granted or lent to the Agency by the Federal Government or a State Government or, Local Government Council;
 - (c) such money as may from time to time, be granted or received from:
 - (i) the organized private sector;
 - (ii) international or donor organizations and Non-governmental organizations;
 - (iii) all monies raised for the purposes of the Agency by way of gift, loan, grant-in-aid, testamentary disposition, or otherwise;
 - (iv) all other assets that may, from time to time accrue, to the Agency (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 11 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 12: Expenditure of the Agency.

- (1) The Agency shall from time to time, apply proceeds of the fund:
- (a) to the cost of administration of the Agency;
 - (b) for reimbursing members of the "Council" or any Committee setup by the council for such expense as may authorized by the council in accordance with the rates approved by the Federal Government;
 - (c) for the payment of salaries, fees, other remuneration or allowances, pension and other recruitment benefits, payable to the employee of the Agency;
 - (d) for the maintenance of any property acquired or vested in the Agency;

- (e) for and in connection with all or any of the functions of the Agency under this Bill (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 12 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 13: Annual Estimate and Expenditure.

- (1) The council shall, not later than 30th September each year submit to the National Assembly an estimate of the expenditure and income of the Agency during the next preceding year.
- (2) The Agency shall keep proper account in respect of each financial year and shall cause the accounts to be audited not later than six (6) months after the end of each financial year by auditors appointed from the list of qualified auditors recognized and in accordance with guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General of the Federation (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 13 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 14: Annual Report.

The Agency shall submit to the National Assembly not later than 30th June each year, a report, in such form as the National Assembly may direct in the activities of the Agency during the immediate preceding year, and shall include in the report a copy of the audited accounts of the Agency for the financial year and the auditor's report therein (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 14 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 15: Power to Borrow.

The Agency may with consent of the President, borrow on such terms and conditions as the Agency may determine, such money required for the carrying out its functions (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 15 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 16: Gift to the Agency.

- (1) The Agency may accept any gift, grant or donation from any person upon such terms and conditions specified by the person making the gift, grant or donation.
- (2) The Agency shall not accept any gift, grant under subsection (1) of this section if the conditions attached hereto are inconsistent with the functions of the Agency under this Bill (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 16 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Amendment Proposed:

Retain the provision of Clause 18 of the original Bill and renumber (*Hon. Pwajok Edward Gyang — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendments be made — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 18 of the original Bill stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 17: Power of Minister to give directives.

The Minister may give directives of a general or special character to the Agency relating to the performance by the Agency of any or all of its functions under this Bill, and it shall be the duty of the Agency to comply and give effect to the directives (Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency).

Question that Clause 17 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Amendments Proposed:

Retain the provisions of Clauses 19 - 21 of the original Bill (Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendments be made — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 19 - 21 of the original Bill stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 18: Regulations.

The Minister may make regulations for carrying into effect the provisions of this Bill (Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency).

Question that Clause 18 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 19: Interpretation.

In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Agency" means the National Agency for the Research and Management of Persons with Special Needs (Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency).

Question that the meaning of the word "Agency" be as defined by the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Council" means the Governing Council (Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency).

Question that the meaning of the word "Council" be as defined by the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"President" means the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation Republic of Nigeria (Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency).

Question that the meaning of the word "President" be as defined by the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Public Service" has the meaning assigned to it in the 1999 Constitution (as amended) (Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency).

Question that the meaning of the words "Public Service" be as defined by the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Persons with Special Needs" means persons afflicted with:

- (a) Albinism and Hypo-pigmentation;
- (b) Downs Syndrome;
- (c) Autism;
- (d) Cerebral Palsy;
- (e) Hydrocephalus/Neural tube disorders;
- (f) Psoriasis;
- (g) Vitiligo;
- (h) Lupus;
- (i) Scleroderma;
- (j) Severe Atopic Dermatitis;
- (k) Lamellar Ichthyosis;
- (l) Sickle Cell Disorder;
- (m) Thalassemia;
- (n) Hemophilia;
- (o) and any other related medical disorders as may be diagnosed by Medical Experts (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Persons with Special Needs" be as defined by the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Department of Neurological Deficit Disorders" means the department responsible for Persons afflicted with: Downs Syndrome, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Hydrocephalus/Neural tube disorder and any other related disorders as diagnosed by Medical experts (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Department of Neurological Deficit Disorders" be as defined by the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Department of Hereditary Blood Disorders" means the department responsible for Persons afflicted with: Sickle Cell Disorder, Thalassemia, Hemophilia and any other related disorders as diagnosed by Medical experts (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Department of Hereditary Blood Disorders" be as defined by the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Department of Albinism and Related Disorders" means the department responsible for Persons afflicted with: Albinism and any other related disorders as diagnosed by Medical experts (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Department of Albinism and Related Disorders" be as defined by the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Department of Non-Communicable Chronic Skin Disorders" means the department responsible for persons afflicted with: Psoriasis, Vitiligo, Lupus, Scleroderma, Severe Atopic Dermatitis, Lamellar Ichthyosis and any other related disorders as diagnosed by Medical experts (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Department of Non-Communicable Chronic Skin Disorders" be as defined by the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 19 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 20: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the National Agency for the Research and Management of Persons with Special Needs (Establishment) Bill, 2018 (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 20 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

SCHEDULE

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNCIL, ETC

Proceeding of the Council

1. (1) Subject to this Bill and section 27 of the interpretation Act, the council may make standing order regulating its proceedings, or those of any of its committees.
- (2) The quorum of the Council shall be the Chairman or the person presiding at the meeting and eight other members of the council and the quorum of any committee of the council shall be determined by the council.
2. (1) The council shall meet not less than five times in each year and subject thereto, the council shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman and if the Chairman is required to do so by notice given to him by not less than four other members, he shall summon a meeting of the council to be held within 26 days from the date of which the notice is given.
- (2) At any meeting of the council, the Chairman shall preside but if he is absent, the members present at the meeting shall appoint one of their members to preside at the meeting.
- (3) Where the council desires to obtain the advice of any person on a particular matter, the council may co-opt him to the council for such period as it deem fits, but a person who is in attendance by virtue of this sub paragraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the council and shall not count towards a quorum.

Committees

3. (1) The council may appoint one or more committees to carry out on behalf of the committee such functions as the council may determine.
- (2) A committee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of a such number of persons as may be determined by the council and a person shall hold office on the committee in accordance with the terms of his appointment.
- (3) A decision of a committee shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the council (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Question that the provisions of the Schedule stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to establish the National Agency for the Research and Management of Persons with Special Needs for purposes of coordinating various programmes and projects aimed at improving the health, social and economic well-being of persons with special needs (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of a National Agency for the Research and Management of Persons with Special Needs and for Other Related Matters (HB. 837) (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Health Institutions on a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of a National Agency for the Research and Management of Persons with Special Needs; and for Related Matters (HB. 837) and approved Clauses 1 - 17, approved Clauses 18 - 21 of the original Bill as amended, approved Clauses 18 - 20, the Schedule and the Long Title of the Bill.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

21. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 7 June, 2018 at 11.00 a.m. ((Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.20 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker

CORRIGENDUM

In the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 5 June, 2018, page 3,181, on the referral of item 8, immediately after the word “on”, *leave out* the word “Works” and *insert* the words “Tertiary Education and Service”.