

**LEAD DEBATE ON NATIONAL LOTTERY ACT 2005
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017 (SB. 454).**

Sponsor: Senator Obinna Ogba (*Ebonyi Central*)

Mr. President, Distinguished colleagues, permit me to lead the debate of this important Bill which seeks to amend the National Lottery Act 2005 to make consequential provisions for the effective operation of lottery in Nigeria.

The Bill was read for the First time on the floor of the Senate on Wednesday, 22nd March, 2017.

Mr. President, Distinguished colleagues, this amendment seeks to ensure a fair lottery for the nation, protect the integrity of the lottery, protect players and maximize funds for good causes.

The operation of the National lottery in Nigeria has not been encouraging as it has only remitted about ~~N~~5 billion naira to the National Lottery Trust Fund in the past ten years of its operations.

This Bill is therefore an attempt to re-position the National Lottery Commission to realize its full potentials as a veritable source of revenue generations that can impact the GDP significantly.

You will recall Mr. President, my highly respected Colleagues that this Bill was passed by the National Assembly and sent to Mr. President for Assent and was returned back to the National Assembly by Mr. President C-in-C after raising some observations on the Bill

The essence of this debate is for the Bill to be referred to the Conference Committee that had worked on it to look into the observations raised by the President C-in-C and for further legislative action in accordance with Rule 88 of the Senate Standing Order (as Amended 2015).

I therefore urge my distinguished colleagues to support the Second Reading of this Bill.

Thank you.