

**REPORT OF AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL BIOSAFETY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ACT, 2015 TO ENLARGE THE SCOPE OF APPLICATION OF THE ACT BY INCLUDING THE EMERGING ASPECTS OF MODERN BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSECURITY IN NIGERIA WITH A VIEW TO PREVENTING ANY ADVERSE EFFECT TO HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2019 (HB. 1578).**

**ENACTED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA —**

| <b>PROVISION OF BILL</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION</b> | <b>REMARK</b> |
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| <p><b>Amendment of the National Biosafety Management Agency Act.</b></p> <p>1. The National Biosafety Management Agency Act (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as follows:</p>                                                                                                                                                            | Retained                          |               |
| <p><b>Amendment of section 3.</b></p> <p>2. Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by -</p> <p>(a) inserting a new "paragraph (j)" as follows -</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">"(j) put in place measures to ensure Bio-Security; and</p> <p>(b) subsequently re-number the existing paragraphs accordingly.</p>                                             | Retained                          |               |
| <p><b>Insertion of new section 25A.</b></p> <p>3. Insert, after section 25 of the Principal Act, a new section 25A as follows -</p> <p><b>Application of gene drive, gene editing and synthetic biology.</b></p> <p>"25A. No person, Institution or Body shall carryout Gene Drive, Gene Editing and Synthetic Biology except with the approval of the Agency".</p> | Retained                          |               |
| <p><b>Amendment of section 43.</b></p> <p>4. Section 43 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the following definitions in alphabetical order -</p> <p>"Biosecurity" includes measures to prevent, respond to and recover harmful biological substances or genetically modified organisms that may threaten the health of</p>                                | Retained                          |               |

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| <p>humans, animals, environment and the economy;</p> <p>“Gene drive” means a genetic engineering technology that can propagate a particular suite of genes throughout a population by adding, deleting, disrupting or modifying genes. Gene drives can only spread from sexually reproducing parents to their offspring;</p> <p>“Gene editing” means a type of genetic engineering in which DNA is inserted, deleted, modified or replaced in the genome of a living organism;</p> <p>“Synthetic biology” means the design and construction of novel artificial biological pathways, organisms or devices, or the redesign of existing natural biological systems.</p> |                 |  |
| <p><b>Citation.</b></p> <p>5. This Bill may be cited as the National Biosafety Management Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Retained</b> |  |
| <p><b>EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM</b></p> <p>This Bill seeks to Amend the National Biosafety Management Agency Act, 2015, to Enlarge the Scope of its Application to ensure the Regulation of Gene Drive, Gene Editing, Synthetic Biology and Bio-Security and Related Matters.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Retained</b> |  |