

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL THE ELECTORAL ACT NO. 6, 2010 AND ENACT THE ELECTORAL ACT 2021, TO REGULATE THE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS IN THE FEDERAL, STATE AND AREA COUNCILS IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

PROVISIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL ACT	PROVISIONS OF THE BILL	COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATION
<p>87. Nomination of Candidates by Parties</p> <p>-(1) A political party seeking to nominate candidates for elections under this Act shall hold primaries for aspirants to all elective positions.</p> <p>(2) The procedure for the nomination of candidates by political parties for the various elective positions shall be by direct or indirect primaries.</p> <p>(3) A political party that adopts the direct primaries procedure shall ensure that all aspirants are given equal opportunity of being voted for by members of the party.</p>	<p>84. Nomination of Candidates by Parties</p> <p>(1) A political party seeking to nominate candidates for elections under this Bill shall hold direct primaries for aspirants to all elective positions, which may be monitored by the Commission.</p> <p>(2) The procedure for the nomination of candidates by political parties for the various elective positions shall be by direct primaries.</p> <p>(3) A political party that adopts the direct primaries procedure shall ensure that all aspirants are given equal opportunity of being voted for by members of the party.</p> <p>(4) A political party that adopts the system of indirect primaries for the choice of its candidate shall adopt the procedure outlined below –</p> <p>(a) in the case of nominations to the position of presidential candidate, a political party shall –</p> <p>(i) hold a special presidential convention at a designated centre in the Federal Capital Territory or any other place within the Federation that is agreed to by the National Executive Committee of</p>	<p>84. Nomination of Candidates by Parties</p> <p>-(1) A political party seeking to nominate candidates for elections under this Act shall hold primaries for aspirants to all elective positions which shall be monitored by the Commission.</p> <p>(2) The procedure for the nomination of candidates by political parties for the various elective positions shall be by direct, indirect primaries <i>or consensus</i></p> <p>(3) A political party that adopts the direct primaries procedure shall ensure that all aspirants are given equal opportunity of being voted for by members of the party and shall adopt the procedure outlined below:</p> <p>a) In the case of Presidential Primaries, all registered members of the party are to vote for aspirants of their choice at a designated centre at each ward of the Federation.</p> <p>b) Similar procedure as in (a) above, shall be adopted for Gubernatorial, Senatorial, Federal and State Constituencies.</p> <p>c) Special Conventions should be held to ratify the candidate with the highest number of votes at</p>

<p>(4) A political party that adopts the system of indirect primaries for the choice of its candidate shall adopt the procedure outlined below:</p> <p>(a) In the case of nominations to the position of Presidential candidate, a political party shall,</p> <p>(i) hold special conventions in each of the 36 States of the Federation and FCT, where delegates shall vote for each of the aspirants at designated centres in each State Capital on specified dates.</p> <p>(ii) a National Convention shall be held for the ratification of the candidate with the highest number of votes.</p> <p>(iii) the aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting in the 36 States of the Federation and FCT, shall be declared the winner of the Presidential primaries of the political party and the aspirant's name shall be forwarded to the Independent National Electoral Commission as the candidate of the party after ratification by the national convention.</p> <p>(b) In the case of nominations to the position of the Governorship candidate, a political party shall, where they intend to sponsor candidates:</p>	<p>the party where delegates shall vote for each of the aspirants; and</p> <p>(ii) the aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting, shall be declared the winner of the Presidential primaries of the political party and the aspirant name shall be forwarded to the Commission as the candidate of the party;</p> <p>(b) in the case of nominations to the positions of Governorship candidate, a political party shall, where it intends to sponsor candidates –</p>	<p>designated centres at the National, State, Senatorial, Federal and State Constituencies.</p> <p>(4) A political party that adopts the system of indirect primaries for the choice of its candidate shall adopt the procedure outlined below:</p> <p>(a) In the case of nominations to the position of Presidential candidate, a political party shall,</p> <p>(i) hold a special presidential convention at a designated centre in the Federal Capital Territory or any other place within the Federation that is agreed to by the National Executive Committee of the party.</p> <p>(ii) the aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting, shall be declared the winner of the Presidential primaries of the political party and the aspirant name shall be forwarded to the Commission as the candidate of the party;</p>
--	--	--

<p>(i) hold special congress in each of the local government areas of the States with delegates voting for each of the aspirants at the congress to be held in designated centres on specified dates.</p> <p>(ii) The aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting shall be declared the winner of the primaries of the party and aspirant's name shall be forwarded to the Commission as the candidate of the party, for the particular State.</p> <p>(c) In the case of nominations to the position of a Senatorial candidate, House of Representatives and State House of Assembly a political party shall, where they intend to sponsor candidates:</p> <p>(i) hold special congresses in the Senatorial District, Federal Constituency and the State assembly constituency respectively, with delegates voting for each of the aspirants in designated centres on specified dates.</p> <p>(ii) The aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting shall be declared the winner of the primaries of the party and the aspirant's name shall be forwarded to the Independent National Electoral Commission as the candidate of the party.</p> <p>(d) In the case of the position of a Chairmanship candidate of an Area council a political party shall, where they intend to sponsor candidates:</p>	<p>(i) hold a special congress in the State Capital or any other place within the State with delegates voting for each of the aspirants at the congress to be held on a specified date appointed by the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the party; and</p> <p>(ii) the aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting shall be declared the winner of the primaries of the party and the aspirant's name shall be forwarded to the Commission as the candidate of the party, for the particular State;</p> <p>(c) in the case of nominations to the position of a candidate to the Senate, House of Representatives and State House of Assembly, a political party shall, where they intend to sponsor candidates –</p> <p>(i) hold special congresses in the Senatorial District, Federal Constituency and the State Assembly constituency respectively, with delegates voting for each of the aspirants in designated centre on specified dates; and</p> <p>(ii) the aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting shall be declared the winner of the primaries of the party and the aspirant's name shall be forwarded to the Commission as the candidate of the party; and</p> <p>(d) in the case of the position of a Chairmanship candidate of an Area Council, a political party shall, where it intends to sponsor candidates –</p>	<p>(b) in the case of nominations to the positions of Governorship candidate, a political party shall, where it intends to sponsor candidates –</p> <p>(i) hold a special congress in the State Capital or any other place within the State with delegates voting for each of the aspirants at the congress to be held on a specified date appointed by the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the party; and</p> <p>(ii) the aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting shall be declared the winner of the primaries of the party and the aspirant's name shall be forwarded to the Commission as the candidate of the party, for the particular State;</p> <p>(c) In the case of nominations to the position of a Senatorial candidate, House of Representatives and State House of Assembly a political party shall, where they intend to sponsor candidates:</p> <p>(i) hold special congresses in the Senatorial District, Federal Constituency and the State assembly constituency respectively, with delegates voting for each of the aspirants in designated centres on specified dates.</p> <p>(ii) The aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting shall be declared the winner of the primaries of the party and the aspirant's name shall be forwarded to the Independent National Electoral Commission as the candidate of the party.</p>
--	---	---

<p>(i) hold special congresses in the Area Councils, with delegates voting for each of the aspirants at designated centres on a specified date.</p> <p>(ii) The aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting shall be declared the winner of the primaries of the party and the aspirant's name shall be forwarded to the Independent National Electoral Commission as the candidate of the party.</p> <p>(5) In the case of a councillorship candidate, the procedure for the nomination of the candidate shall be by direct primaries in the ward and the name of the candidate with the highest number of votes shall be submitted to the Independent National electoral commission as the candidate of the party.</p> <p>(6) Where there is only one aspirant in a political party for any of the elective positions mentioned in subsection (4)(a), (b), (c) and (d), the party shall convene a special convention or congress at a designated Centre on a specified date for the confirmation of such aspirant and the name of the aspirant shall be forwarded to the Independent National Electoral Commission as the candidate of the party.</p> <p>(7) A political party that adopts the system of indirect primaries for the choice of its candidate shall clearly outline in its constitution and rule the procedure for the democratic election of delegates to vote at the convention, congress or meeting.</p>	<p>(i) hold special congresses in the Area Council, with delegates voting for each of the aspirants at designated centres on a specified date; and</p> <p>(ii) the aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting shall be declared the winner of the primaries of the party and the aspirant's name shall be forwarded to the Commission as the candidate of the party.</p> <p>(5) In the case of a Councillorship candidate, the procedure for the nomination of the candidate shall be by direct primaries in the ward and the name of the candidate with the highest number of votes shall be submitted to the Commission as the candidate of the party.</p> <p>(6) Where there is only one aspirant in a political party for any of the elective positions mentioned in subsection (4) (a), (b), (c) and (d), the party shall convene a special convention or congress at a designated centre on a specified date, for the confirmation of such aspirant and the name of the aspirant shall be forwarded to the Commission as the candidate of the party.</p> <p>(7) A political party that adopts the system of indirect primaries for the choice of its candidate shall clearly outline in its constitution and rules the procedure for the democratic election of delegates to vote at the convention, congress or meeting, in addition to delegates already prescribed in the constitution of the party.</p>	<p>(d) In the case of the position of a Chairmanship candidate of an Area council a political party shall, where they intend to sponsor candidates:</p> <p>(i) hold special congresses in the Area Councils, with delegates voting for each of the aspirants at designated centres on a specified date.</p> <p>(ii) The aspirant with the highest number of votes at the end of voting shall be declared the winner of the primaries of the party and the aspirant's name shall be forwarded to the Independent National Electoral Commission as the candidate of the party.</p> <p>(5) In the case of a councillorship candidate, the procedure for the nomination of the candidate shall be by direct primaries in the ward and the name of the candidate with the highest number of votes shall be submitted to the Independent National electoral commission as the candidate of the party.</p> <p>(6) Where there is only one aspirant or <i>a consensus candidate</i> in a political party for any of the elective positions mentioned in subsection (4)(a), (b), (c) and (d), the party shall convene a special convention or congress at a designated Centre on a specified date for the confirmation of such aspirant and the name of the aspirant shall be forwarded to the Independent National Electoral Commission as the candidate of the party.</p> <p>(7) A political party that adopts the system of indirect primaries for the choice of its candidate shall clearly outline in its constitution and rule the</p>
--	---	--

<p>(8) No political appointee at any level shall be a voting delegate at the Convention or Congress of any political party for the purpose of nomination of candidates for any election.</p> <p>(9) Where a political party fails to comply with the provisions of this Act in the conduct of its primaries, its candidate for election shall not be included in the election for the particular position in issue.</p> <p>(10) Notwithstanding the provisions of the Act or rules of a political party, an aspirant who complains that any of the provisions of this Act and the guidelines of a political party has not been complied with in the selection or nomination of a candidate of a political party for election, may apply to the Federal High Court or the High Court of a State, for redress.</p> <p>(11) Nothing in this section shall empower the Courts to stop the holding of primaries or general elections under this Act pending the determination of the suit.</p>	<p>(8) A political appointee at any level shall not be an automatic voting delegate at the convention or congress of any political party for the purpose of nomination of candidates for any election, except where such a political appointee is also an officer of a political party.</p> <p>(9) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Bill or rules of a political party, an aspirant who complains that any of the provisions of this Bill and the guidelines of his political party has not been complied with in the selection or nomination of a candidate of the political party for election, may apply for redress to the Federal High Court of State or FCT within whose territorial jurisdiction the election was conducted.</p> <p>(10) Nothing in this section shall empower the courts to stop the holding of primaries or general election or the processes thereof under this Bill pending the determination of the suit.</p>	<p>procedure for the democratic election of delegates to vote at the convention, congress or meeting.</p> <p>(8) No political appointee at any level shall be a voting delegate or be voted for at the Convention or Congress of any political party for the purpose of nomination of candidates for any election.</p> <p>(9) Where a political party fails to comply with the provisions of this Act in the conduct of its primaries, its candidate for election shall not be included in the election for the particular position in issue.</p> <p>(10) <i>Notwithstanding the provisions of the Act or rules of a political party, an aspirant who complains that any of the provisions of this Act and the guidelines of a political party has not been complied with in the selection or nomination of a candidate of a political party for election, may apply to the Federal High Court for redress.</i></p> <p>(11) Nothing in this section shall empower the Courts to stop the holding of primaries or general elections under this Act pending the determination of the suit.</p>
---	---	---