



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 13 May, 2025

1. The House met at 11.11 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House sang the National Anthem and recited the National Pledge.
3. **Votes and Proceedings**  
Mr Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 8 May, 2025.

*The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.*

4. **Announcement**

(i) ***Visitors in the Gallery:***

Mr Deputy Speaker announced the presence of the Staff and Students of Arise and Shine Private Schools, Nursery, Primary and Secondary, Dutse Alhaji, Bwari, Abuja.

(ii) ***Bereavement:***

Mr Deputy Speaker read a communication from Hon. Sanni Egidi Abdulraheem (*Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*), announcing the death of his mother, Mrs Aramatu Sanni Egidi, who died on Sunday, 11 May, 2025.

(iii) ***Conference Committee on the Tax Reform Bills:***

Mr Speaker announced the membership of the Committee as follows:

- |      |                              |   |                 |
|------|------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| (1)  | Hon. Julius Ihonvbere        | — | <i>Chairman</i> |
| (2)  | Hon. Madaki Aliyu Sani       | — | <i>Member</i>   |
| (3)  | Hon. James Abiodun Faleke    | — | <i>Member</i>   |
| (4)  | Hon. Ahmed Idris             | — | <i>Member</i>   |
| (5)  | Hon. Sada Soli               | — | <i>Member</i>   |
| (6)  | Hon. Fred Agbedi             | — | <i>Member</i>   |
| (7)  | Hon. Iduma Igariwey          | — | <i>Member</i>   |
| (8)  | Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba      | — | <i>Member</i>   |
| (9)  | Hon. Nicholas Mutu           | — | <i>Member</i>   |
| (10) | Hon. Muktar Aliyu Betara     | — | <i>Member</i>   |
| (11) | Hon. Babajimi Benson Adegoke | — | <i>Member</i>   |

(12)	Hon. Chinwe Nnabuiife	—	<i>Member</i>
(13)	Hon. Fatima Talba	—	<i>Member</i>
(14)	Hon. Hart Cyril Godwin	—	<i>Member</i>
(15)	Hon. Garba Inuwa	—	<i>Member</i>

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

(i) ***Abduction of 18 Persons by Sea Pirates Along Bille and Bonny Waterways in Rivers State:***  
Hon. Hart Cyril Godwin (*Degema/Bonny Federal Constituency*), and One 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 5 (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 5 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.*

***Abduction of 18 Persons by Sea Pirates Along Bille and Bonny Waterways in Rivers State:***

The House:

*Notes* with serious concern that on Tuesday, 6 May, 2025, boats carrying 18 passengers including a pregnant woman, and children with goods quantified to be in millions of Naira, heading to Bille and Bonny Kingdom in Rivers state, were abducted by sea pirates;

*Aware* that the only means of transportation of humans and materials resources to Bonny and Bille communities is by water, and with wooden and fibre boats. Therefore, any threat to lives on these sea routes means a total shutdown of economic activities in those communities;

*Worried* that the pirates kidnapped 18 persons from Bille and Bonny communities and made away with cargo boats conveying food supplies and properties worth millions of Naira, which significantly impacts the local economy and jeopardizes the livelihood of the people of Bille and Bonny;

*Also worried* that an attack of this nature had occurred on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, where six (6) passengers were abducted, and one of the victims, later killed after a ransom, was fully paid. This is to highlight the escalating nature of these sea criminals along the waterways;

*Concerned* about the urgency of this situation, as repeated incidents not only threaten lives but also undermine public confidence in our security architecture;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) demand the immediate and unconditional release of the 18 persons kidnapped by the sea pirates without any further delay;
- (ii) urge the Inspector-General of Police to deploy the recently donated gunboats to facilitate the rescue of the victims and implement strict security measures; to include a stationed security house boats at strategic points to prevent future occurrence;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Navy, and Police Affairs to ensure compliance and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Hart Cyril Godwin — Degema/Bonny Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Insert a new Prayer (iv) as follows:*

*“Urge the Joint Task Force “Operation Delta Safe” to intensify effort in securing the Creeks of the Niger Delta region” (Hon. Donald Ojogo — Ilaje/Ese-Odo Federal Constituency).*

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed.*

*Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed.*

The House:

*Noted* with serious concern that on Tuesday, 6 May, 2025, boats carrying 18 passengers including a pregnant woman, and children with goods quantified to be in millions of Naira, heading to Bille and Bonny Kingdom in Rivers state, were abducted by sea pirates;

*Aware* that the only means of transportation of humans and materials resources to Bonny and Bille communities is by water, and with wooden and fibre boats. Therefore, any threat to lives on these sea routes means a total shutdown of economic activities in those communities;

*Worried* that the pirates kidnapped 18 persons from Bille and Bonny communities and made away with cargo boats conveying food supplies and properties worth millions of Naira, which significantly impacts the local economy and jeopardizes the livelihood of the people of Bille and Bonny;

*Also worried* that an attack of this nature had occurred on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, where six (6) passengers were abducted, and one of the victims, later killed after a ransom, was fully paid. This is to highlight the escalating nature of these sea criminals along the waterways;

*Concerned* about the urgency of this situation, as repeated incidents not only threaten lives but also undermine public confidence in our security architecture;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) demand the immediate and unconditional release of the 18 persons kidnapped by the sea pirates without any further delay;
  - (ii) urge the Inspector-General of Police to deploy the recently donated gunboats to facilitate the rescue of the victims and implement strict security measures; to include a stationed security house boats at strategic points to prevent future occurrence;
  - (iii) urge the Joint Task Force “Operation Delta Safe” to intensify effort in securing the Creeks of the Niger Delta region
  - (iv) mandate the Committees on Navy, and Police Affairs to ensure compliance and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 125/05/2025**).
- (ii) ***Unilateral Blockade of the Tabera - Tandun Road Linking the Border Communities Okuta, Baruten Local Government Area, Kwara State, Nigeria with Tadun Parakou, Republic of Benin on the Order of the President of Benin Republic:***  
Hon. Mohammed Omar Bio (Baruten/Kaiama 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 5 (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 5 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.*

**Unilateral Blockade of the Tabera - Tandun Road Linking the Border Communities Okuta, Baruten Local Government Area, Kwara State, Nigeria, with Tadun Parakou, Republic of Benin on the Order of the President of Benin Republic:**

The House:

*Notes* that on May 6, 2025, the Beninese Security operatives in Joint operation with the country's Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce unilaterally blocked the link road between border communities of Okuta Baruten Local Government Area, Kwara State, Nigeria, and Tandun, Parakou, Benin Republic, on the orders of the President of Benin Republic, thereby making life unbearable for the inhabitants of those communities;

*Also notes* that Nigeria and Benin Republic has maintained a long standing bilateral relationship in areas of free movement of citizens, goods and services;

*Aware* of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) protocols and convention which permits free movement amongst Member States;

*Also aware* of the proximity between Nigeria and Benin Republic through the Tabera - Tandun and neighbouring communities making socio-economic and agro-business easy amongst the inhabitants;

*Worried* that the unilateral blockade of the road between the hours of 1.00 a.m. - 5.00 a.m. in a most uncivilized manner has adversely affected the movements of goods and services, thereby hampering trade relations between the two countries;

*Also worried* that the unilateral blockade of the roads, could result to rancor, and further escalate the current security challenges in the affected communities;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to initiate diplomatic representations to the Government of Republic of Benin to resolve the problem and ensure reversal of the blockade for free movement of people, goods and services in accordance with agreements between the two countries and ECOWAS policy;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Integration in Africa, and Treaties, Protocols and Agreements to intervene and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Mohammed Omar Bio — Baruten/Kaiama Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

In Prayer (ii), immediately after the word "Agreements", *insert* the words "and Inter-Parliamentary Relations" (*Hon. Jimbo Ernest Clement — Abak/Etim Ekpo/Ika Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed.*

*Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed.*

The House:

*Noted* that on May 6, 2025, the Bennes Security operatives in Joint operation with the country's Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce unilaterally blocked the link road between border communities of Okuta Baruten Local Government Area in Kwara State, Nigeria, and Tandun, Parakou in Benin Republic, on the orders of the President of Benin Republic, thereby making life unbearable for the inhabitants of those communities;

*Also noted* that Nigeria and Benin Republic has maintained a long standing bilateral relationship in areas of free movement of citizens, good and services;

*Aware* of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) protocols and convention which permits free movement amongst membership of the ECOWAS communities;

*Also aware* of the proximity between Nigeria and Benin Republic through the Tabera - Tandun and neighbouring communities making socio-economic and agro-business easy amongst the inhabitants;

*Worried* that the unilateral blockade of the road between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. in a most uncivilized manner has adversely affected the movements of goods and services, thereby hampering trade relations between the two countries;

*Also worried* that the unilateral blockade of the roads, could result to rancor, and further escalate the current security challenges in the affected communities.

*Resolved to:*

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to initiate diplomatic representations to the Government of Republic of Benin to resolve the problem and ensure reversal of the blockade for free movement of people, goods and services in accordance with agreements between the two countries and ECOWAS policy;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Integration in Africa, Treaties, Protocols and Agreements, and Inter-Parliamentary Relations to intervene and report within four (4) weeks **(HR. 126/05/2025)**.

**6. Presentation of Bills**

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) FCT Statutory Appropriation Bill, 2025 (HB.2305).
- (2) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2025 (HB.2299).
- (3) National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2300).
- (4) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2025 (HB.2301).
- (5) Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology, Mani, Katsina State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2216).

- (6) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2025 (HB.2302).
- (7) Character Risk Management Institute of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2303).
- (8) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2025 (HB.2304).
- (9) Institute of Safety Professionals of Nigeria Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2025 (HB.1937).
- (10) Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Ikara, Kaduna State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.1785).

## 7. Presentation of Reports

### (i) **Committee on Federal Colleges of Education:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Federal Colleges of Education on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education, Ijesha, Lagos State and for Related Matters (HB.355)” (*Hon. Adamu Tanko — Gurara/Suleja/Tafa Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

### (ii) **Committee on Federal Colleges of Education:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Federal Colleges of Education on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education, Oyin Akoko, Ondo State and for Related Matters (HB. 1600)” (*Hon. Adamu Tanko — Gurara/Suleja/Tafa Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

### (iii) **Committee on Federal Colleges of Education:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Federal Colleges of Education on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Establish Federal College of Education, Suleja, Niger State and for Related Matters (HB.1803)” (*Hon. Adamu Tanko — Gurara/Suleja/Tafa Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

### (iv) **Committee on Federal Colleges of Education:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Federal Colleges of Education on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education (Technical), Faskari, Kastina State and for Related Matters (HB. 1418)” (*Hon. Adamu Tanko — Gurara/Suleja/Tafa Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

(v) ***Committee on Federal Colleges of Education:***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Federal Colleges of Education on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal College of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Establish Federal College of Education (Technical), Ogute-Okpella, Edo State and for Related Matters (HB.912)” (*Hon. Adamu Tanko — Gurara/Suleja/Tafa Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

8. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to remove from Independent National Electoral Commission, the Powers of Registration and Regulation of Political Parties in Nigeria and Transfer same to the Office of the Registrar General of Political Parties and for Related Matters (HB. 2227) — *Second Reading***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to remove from Independent National Electoral Commission, the Powers of Registration and Regulation of Political Parties in Nigeria and Transfer same to the Office of the Registrar General of Political Parties and for Related Matters (HB. 2227) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*), and *One other*.

*Debate.*

*Debate adjourned till another legislative day.*

9. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Cap. C23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for the Principle of Rotation of the Offices of the President and the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria among the Six Geopolitical Zones of the Country, Namely: North Central, North East, North West, South East, South South, and South West and for Related Matters (HB. 2291) — *Second Reading***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Cap. C23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for the Principle of Rotation of the Offices of the President and the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria among the Six Geopolitical Zones of the Country, Namely: North Central, North East, North West, South East, South South, and South West and for Related Matters (HB. 2291) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*Debate.*

*Debate adjourned till another legislative day.*

10. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Cap. C23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to provide for Establishment, Independence, and Functions of the Office of the State Auditors-General for Local Governments and the Federal Capital Territory Area Councils, to Strengthen Fiscal Oversight, Promote Accountability and enhance Good Governance at the Grassroots and for Related Matters (HB.2288) — *Second Reading***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Cap. C23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to provide for Establishment, Independence, and Functions of the Office of the State Auditors-General for Local Governments and the Federal Capital Territory Area Councils, to Strengthen Fiscal Oversight, Promote Accountability and enhance Good Governance at the Grassroots and for Related Matters (HB.2288) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*Debate.*

*Debate adjourned till another legislative day.*

11. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Cap. C23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to provide for the Number of Judges of the Federal High Court to be not less than one hundred or such other Number as may be prescribed by an Act of the National Assembly and for Related Matters (HB.2279) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Cap. C23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to provide for the Number of Judges of the Federal High Court to be not less than one hundred or such other Number as may be prescribed by an Act of the National Assembly and for Related Matters (HB.2279) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*Debate.*

*Debate adjourned till another legislative day.*

12. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Cap. C23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to expand the jurisdiction of the Federal High Court to include Admiralty Jurisdiction, including Shipping and Navigation on the River Niger, River Benue and their effluents, and on such other Inland Waterways as may be designated by an Act of the National Assembly as International Waterways, all Federal Ports, and Carriage by Sea and for Related Matters (HB.2280) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Cap. C23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to expand the jurisdiction of the Federal High Court to include Admiralty Jurisdiction, including Shipping and Navigation on the River Niger, River Benue and their effluents, and on such other Inland Waterways as may be designated by an Act of the National Assembly as International Waterways, all Federal Ports, and Carriage by Sea and for Related Matters (HB.2280) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*Debate.*

*Debate adjourned till another legislative day.*

13. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Empower the National Judicial Council to Fix and Review, in conjunction with the National Salaries, Incomes and Wages Commission, the Salaries, Allowances, and other Emoluments of Judicial Officers and Staff of the Judiciary, and for Related Matters (HB.2281) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Empower the National Judicial Council to Fix and Review, in conjunction with the National Salaries, Incomes and Wages Commission, the Salaries, Allowances, and other Emoluments of Judicial Officers and Staff of the Judiciary, and for Related Matters (HB.2281) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*Debate.*

*Debate adjourned till another legislative day.*

14. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Create Ughelli East Local Government Area in Delta State and for Related Matters (HB.2248) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Create Ughelli East Local Government Area



in Delta State and for Related Matters (HB.2248) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Waive Ejiroghene Farcis — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency).

*Debate.*

*Debate adjourned till another legislative day.*

**15. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Tertiary Education Trust Fund Act, No.16, 2011 to Provide for the Inclusion of Inter-University Centres among beneficiaries of the Tax Imposed under the Act; and for Related Matters (HB.1754) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Tertiary Education Trust Fund Act, No.16, 2011 to Provide for the Inclusion of Inter-University Centres among beneficiaries of the Tax Imposed under the Act; and for Related Matters (HB.1754) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Muktar Tolani Shagaya — Ilorin West/Asa Federal Constituency), and Eight others.

*Debate.*

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

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on TETFUND and Other Services.*

**16. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Livestock Development, Kusada, Katsina State to Provide Training, Research and Extension Services in Livestock Production and Management and for Related Matters (HB. 2220) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Livestock Development, Kusada, Katsina State to Provide Training, Research and Extension Services in Livestock Production and Management and for Related Matters (HB. 2220) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Abubakar Yahaya Kusada — Ingawa/Kankia/Kusada Federal Constituency).

*Debate.*

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

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Livestock Development.*

**17. A Bill for an Act to Establish a Standardized and Mandatory Framework for Risk Management Reporting by Registered firm to Promote a Culture of Risk awareness, effective Risk management practices, and Accountability among Businesses, Contributing to Stability and resilience of the National Economy in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 1951) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish a Standardized and Mandatory Framework for Risk Management Reporting by Registered firm to Promote a Culture of Risk awareness, effective Risk management practices, and Accountability among Businesses, Contributing to Stability and resilience of the National Economy in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 1951) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Abubakar Makki Yalleman — Mallam Madori/Kaugama Federal Constituency).

*Debate.*

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

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Commerce.*

**18. A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of the Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Isiokpo, Rivers State and for Related Matters (HB.1708) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of the Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Isiokpo, Rivers State and for Related Matters (HB.1708) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Blessing Chigeru Amadi — Port Harcourt Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

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

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.*

**19. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Ijero Ekiti, Ekiti State to offer Full-Time Courses leading to the award of Certificates in Nursing and Midwifery and for Related Matters (HB.1642) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Ijero Ekiti, Ekiti State to offer Full-Time Courses leading to the award of Certificates in Nursing and Midwifery and for Related Matters (HB.1642) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Omoleye Abiodun Francis — Ijero/Ekiti West/Efon Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

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

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.*

**20. Need to Restore the Suppressed Ughelli South Second State Constituency in Delta State by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that prior to 1999, Ughelli South had two State Constituencies, Ughelli South Constituency 1 and Ughelli South Constituency 2, under the defunct Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1979;

*Also notes* that the second Ughelli South Constituency produced Hon. Member, like Hon. J.K.W Jinghu in Delta State House of Assembly during the 1991 General Election before its suppression by the Independent Electoral Commission (INEC) in 1998;

*Believes* that the Independent Electoral Commission (INEC)'s exclusion of the second Ughelli South Constituency from the 1999 General Elections was deemed ultra vires and unconstitutional;

*Aware* that of the provisions of Section 91 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 which provides that "a House of Assembly of a State shall consist of three or four times the number of seats which that State has in the House of Representatives divided in a way to reflect, as far as possible, nearly equal population";

*Also aware* that Delta State currently has ten (10) seats in the House of Representatives, and by the above stated position is expected to have at least 30 State Constituencies, but unfortunately has only

28 by reason of the suppressed Second Ughelli South Constituency;

*Worried* that the people of Ughelli South has since been subjected to under representation at the State House by reason of the suppressed constituency which has left the Local Government of over 291,000 people (Fourth Largest LGA in Delta State) with just one seat at the State House, making it one of the most under developed Local Government Area in the State;

*Recalls* that Mr Godwin and five others filed a case with the Federal High Court, Warri presided over by Justice Shitu Abubakar in 2014, who delivered a judgment ordering the INEC to restore the second Ughelli State Constituency, but the Court order is yet to be carried out till date;

*Cognizant* that Section 114 (1) the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 provides for periodic review of State Constituencies, which states that the Independent National Electoral Commission shall review the division of every State into constituencies at intervals of not less than ten years, and may alter such constituencies following the provision of this section to such extent as it may consider desirable in the light of the review;

*Also Cognizant* that the INEC is in the process of restoring some suppressed State Constituencies in which case it is appropriate for the Commission to restore the second Ughelli South Constituency in line with Court judgment and provisions of the Constitution;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the INEC to restore the suppressed second Ughelli South Constituency of Delta State; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Electoral Matters, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Waive Ejiroghene Francis — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed.*

The House:

*Noted* that prior to 1999, Ughelli South had two State Constituencies, Ughelli South Constituency 1 and Ughelli South Constituency 2, under the defunct Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1979;

*Also noted* that the second Ughelli South Constituency produced Hon. Member, like Hon. J.K.W Jinghu in Delta State House of Assembly during the 1991 General Election before its suppression by the Independent Electoral Commission (INEC) in 1998;

*Believes* that the Independent Electoral Commission (INEC)'s exclusion of the second Ughelli South Constituency from the 1999 General Elections was deemed ultra vires and unconstitutional;

*Aware* that of the provisions of Section 91 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 which provides that "a House of Assembly of a State shall consist of three or four times the number of seats which that State has in the House of Representatives divided in a way to reflect, as far as possible, nearly equal population";

*Also aware* that Delta State currently has ten (10) seats in the House of Representatives, and by the above stated position is expected to have at least 30 State Constituencies, but unfortunately has only 28 by reason of the suppressed Second Ughelli South Constituency;

*Worried* that the people of Ughelli South has since been subjected to under representation at the State House by reason of the suppressed constituency which has left the Local Government of over 291,000 people (Fourth Largest LGA in Delta State) with just one seat at the State House, making it one of the most under developed Local Government Area in the State;

*Recalled* that Mr Godwin and five others filed a case with the Federal High Court, Warri presided over by Justice Shitu Abubakar in 2014, who delivered a judgment ordering the INEC to restore the second Ughelli State Constituency, but the Court order is yet to be carried out till date;

*Cognizant* that Section 114 (1) the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 provides for periodic review of State Constituencies, which states that the Independent National Electoral Commission shall review the division of every State into constituencies at intervals of not less than ten years, and may alter such constituencies following the provision of this section to such extent as it may consider desirable in the light of the review;

*Also Cognizant* that the INEC is in the process of restoring some suppressed State Constituencies in which case it is appropriate for the Commission to restore the second Ughelli South Constituency in line with Court judgment and provisions of the Constitution;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the INEC to restore the suppressed second Ughelli South Constituency of Delta State; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Electoral Matters, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR. 127/05/2025**).

**21. Need to Enforce the Right of Every Child to Basic Education as Provided under the Universal Basic Education Scheme**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that in partial fulfillment of its duty to provide education for citizens of Nigeria, the State had enacted the Child's Rights Act, 2003 and the Compulsory Free Universal Basic Education Act, 2004;

*Also notes* both laws guarantee the right of every Nigerian Child to Compulsory Basic Education from Primary to Junior Secondary School at the expense of the State.

*Aware* that with respect to the funding of the Universal Basic Education Scheme, the Federal Government is required to contribute 2% of its Consolidated Revenue Fund to the Universal Basic Education Fund (UBEF) annually while State Governments are entitled to access the Universal Basic Education Fund through the provision of counterpart funding;

*Also aware* that to ensure compliance with the law, parents and guardians who refuse to allow their children and wards to be educated by the State are liable to be prosecuted.

*Concerned* that in spite of the clear provisions of both legislations, the Country continues to witness increase in the number of out of school children, insufficient funding, uneven distribution of resources, poor teacher quality, socio-cultural barriers such as child labour, early marriage, gender bias against girl education;

*Also concerned* that millions of children of school age are found on the streets either begging for alms or hawking goods, thus increasing the number of out-of-school children which will eventually lead to serious crisis in the nearest future;

*Disturbed* that according to UNICEF, as of September 2024, Nigeria has 18.3 million out of school, one of the highest figures in the world;

*Also disturbed* that the crisis has continued to escalate the insurgency in the North East region, which has led to the closure of schools on account of the abduction of school children, displacement of parents and children, and destruction of schools by the Boko Haram sect and other terrorist Organizations in the country;

*Cognizant* of the need for the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) to provide a supervisory role on the scheme and ensure an impressive enrollment of Children for basic education in the Country;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Universal Basic Education Commission to ensure that every Nigerian child has access to Free and Compulsory Education as contained in Article 17 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, Section 15 of the Child's Rights Act, and Section 2 of the Compulsory Free Universal Basic Education Act, 2004;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to invite the Management of the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) to provide report on the implementation of the scheme; and
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to ensure compliance (*Hon. Obinna Aguocha — Ikwuano/Umuahia North/Umuahia South Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendments Proposed:**

- (i) *Leave out* all the words in Prayer (ii), and *insert* as follows:  
“mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to investigate the poor implementation of the policy by the Management of the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC)” (*Hon. Oyediji Najimdeen Oyeshina — Iseyin Itesiwaju/Kajola/Iwajowa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed.*

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv) as follows:  
“Also mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to consider a complete review of the existing policy on education in Nigeria” (*Hon. Oyediji Najimdeen Oyeshina — Iseyin Itesiwaju/Kajola/Iwajowa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed.*

*Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed.*

The House:

*Noted* that in partial fulfillment of its duty to provide education for citizens of Nigeria, the State had enacted the Child's Rights Act, 2003 and the Compulsory Free Universal Basic Education Act, 2004;

*Also noted* both laws guarantee the right of every Nigerian Child to Compulsory Basic Education from Primary to Junior Secondary School at the expense of the State.

*Aware* that with respect to the funding of the Universal Basic Education Scheme, the Federal Government is required to contribute 2% of its Consolidated Revenue Fund to the Universal Basic

Education Fund (UBEF) annually while State Governments are entitled to access the Universal Basic Education Fund through the provision of counterpart funding;

*Also aware* that to ensure compliance with the law, parents and guardians who refuse to allow their children and wards to be educated by the State are liable to be prosecuted.

*Concerned* that in spite of the clear provisions of both legislations, the Country continues to witness increase in the number of out of school children, insufficient funding, uneven distribution of resources, poor teacher quality, socio-cultural barriers such as child labour, early marriage, gender bias against girl education;

*Also concerned* that millions of children of school age are found on the streets either begging for alms or hawking goods, thus increasing the number of out-of-school children which will eventually lead to serious crisis in the nearest future;

*Disturbed* that according to UNICEF, as of September 2024, Nigeria has 18.3 million out of school, one of the highest figures in the world;

*Also disturbed* that the crisis has continued to escalate the insurgency in the North East region, which has led to the closure of schools on account of the abduction of school children, displacement of parents and children, and destruction of schools by the Boko Haram sect and other terrorist Organizations in the country;

*Cognizant* of the need for the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) to provide a supervisory role on the scheme and ensure an impressive enrollment of Children for basic education in the Country;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) urge the Universal Basic Education Commission to ensure that every Nigerian child has access to Free and Compulsory Education as contained in Article 17 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, Section 15 of the Child's Rights Act, and Section 2 of the Compulsory Free Universal Basic Education Act, 2004;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to:
  - (a) investigate the poor implementation of the policy by the Management of the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC),
  - (b) consider a complete review of the existing policy on education in Nigeria, and ensure compliance (**HR. 128/05/2025**).

**22. Need for Executive Arm of Government to Procure and Lease Mechanized Agricultural Machineries to Farmers at Subsidized Rate in all the Local Government Areas Across the Federation**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the uncontrollably high cost of food and related items has left the average Nigerian income struggling to keep up, thereby increasing the cost of living in the country;

*Aware* that the primary responsibility of the government is to ensure food security and control food and related product prices to minimize their impact.

*Observed* that the continuous increase in the prices of food is largely triggered by factors like

insecurity, high cost of agricultural inputs, and low production, aligned to the fact that most farmers in Nigeria engage only in subsistence farming systems, which can only produce meagre outputs;

*Cognizant* of the need for the Executive Arm of Government, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, to aggressively encourage small farmers to engage in modern mechanized farming to increase agricultural production and ensure food security by providing modern farming machines, introducing modern farming skills with the aid of technology to boost food production in Nigeria;

*Also aware* of the need for the Executive Arm of Government, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and Sustainable Development Goals Office, with the Development Partners in collaboration with the Thirty-Six States, FCT, and the 774 Local Government Areas to set up farm settlements in each of the local government areas, equip them with modern farming machinery and other agricultural inputs for leasing to farmers, some of which will be sold to farmers at subsidized rate, to boost production and ensure food security;

*Also notes* that these measures, when implemented, will revolutionize the agricultural value chain and food production sector, make it more attractive, encourage more people to go into farming, and attract investment to the sector;

*Further aware* that timely and effective implementation of this program will be a very smart and easy way of getting our teaming youths to embrace agriculture, which will in turn bring in fresh energy, vibes, and innovation into the sector for the prosperity of our dear nation.

*Resolves to:*

- (i) mandate the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services to invite the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, and Sustainable Development Goals office to work out a modality to Procure and Lease Mechanized Agricultural Machineries to Farmers at subsidized rate in all the Local Government Areas Across the Federation;
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Aderemi Abasi Oseni — Ibarapa East/Ido Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendments Proposed:**

- (i) In Prayer (i), immediately after the word “Services”, *insert* the words “and Appropriations” (*Hon. Dominic Okafor — Aguata Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed.*

- (ii) In Prayer (i) as amended, immediately after the word “Federation”, *insert* the words “as well as include mandatory specialised training program that would help user of the machine to learn and deliver scalable results” (*Hon. Uchenna Harris Okwonkwo — Idemili North/Idemili South Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed.*

- (iii) In Prayer (i) as further amended, immediately after the words “Machineries”, *insert* the words “and other necessary farm inputs” (*Hon. Ahmed Idris — Wase Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed.*

*Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed.*

The House:

*Noted* that the uncontrollably high cost of food and related items has left the average Nigerian income struggling to keep up, thereby increasing the cost of living in the country;

*Aware* that the primary responsibility of the government is to ensure food security and control food and related product prices to minimize their impact.

*Observed* that the continuous increase in the prices of food is largely triggered by factors like insecurity, high cost of agricultural inputs, and low production, aligned to the fact that most farmers in Nigeria engage only in subsistence farming systems, which can only produce meagre outputs;

*Cognizant* of the need for the Executive Arm of Government, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, to aggressively encourage small farmers to engage in modern mechanized farming to increase agricultural production and ensure food security by providing modern farming machines, introducing modern farming skills with the aid of technology to boost food production in Nigeria;

*Also aware* of the need for the Executive Arm of Government, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and Sustainable Development Goals Office, with the Development Partners in collaboration with the Thirty-Six States, FCT, and the 774 Local Government Areas to set up farm settlements in each of the local government areas, equip them with modern farming machinery and other agricultural inputs for leasing to farmers, some of which will be sold to farmers at subsidized rate, to boost production and ensure food security;

*Also noted* that these measures, when implemented, will revolutionize the agricultural value chain and food production sector, make it more attractive, encourage more people to go into farming, and attract investment to the sector;

*Further aware* that timely and effective implementation of this program will be a very smart and easy way of getting our teeming youths to embrace agriculture, which will in turn bring in fresh energy, vibes, and innovation into the sector for the prosperity of our dear nation.

*Resolved to:*

- (i) mandate the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services, and Appropriations to invite the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Sustainable Development Goals office to work out a modality to Procure and Lease Mechanized Agricultural Machineries, and other necessary farm inputs to Farmers at subsidized rate in all the Local Government Areas across the Federation, as well as include mandatory specialised training program that would help user of the machine to learn and deliver scalable results;
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR. 129/05/2025**).

**23. Order of the Day**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do set down items 16 - 20 on the Order Paper till another legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 6 (3)” (*Hon. Ibrahim Isiaka Ayokunle — Deputy Chief Whip*).

**24. Adjournment**

*That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 14 May, 2025 at 11.00 a.m.* (*Hon. Ibrahim Isiaka*



*Ayokunle — Deputy Chief Whip).*

*The House adjourned accordingly at 1.24 p.m.*

**Benjamin Okezie Kalu**  
*Deputy Speaker*

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### CORRIGENDUM

In the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 8 May, 2025, **page 3704**, *leave out* Item 14 and *insert* as follows:

- “14. A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Assembly Service Pension Board Act, No. 62, 2023, to among other things, Reconstitute the Membership of the Board, Provide the Template for Payment of Gratuity and Establish a Fund for the Scheme and for Related Matters (HB.2240) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Assembly Service Pension Board Act, No. 62, 2023, to among other things, Reconstitute the Membership of the Board, Provide the Template for Payment of Gratuity and Establish a Fund for the Scheme and for Related Matters (HB.2240) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Bello Isah Ambarura — Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency*), and *One other*.

*Debate.*

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

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Pensions.*

**Benjamin Okezie Kalu**  
*Deputy Speaker*