



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 20 May, 2025

1. The House met at 11.10 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House sang the National Anthem and recited the National Pledge.
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 15 May, 2025.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Admittance into the Chamber**
Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do admit into the Chamber, the delegation from Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD), a Division of the Federal Ministry of Health, led by Prof. Dike Ojji, Prof. Akin Osibogun, Prof. Oluremi Olutimo, Dr Chika Dibia, Dr Malau Mangai Toma and 8 others. pursuant to Order Six, Rule 4 (2) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

5. **Presentation by the Federal Ministry of Health on: “Strengthening Health Through Legislation with emphasis on Addressing Hypertension and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD)”**
Mr Speaker invited Prof. Dike Ojji to make his presentation.

The Speaker, the House of Representatives of Nigeria, Honourable Tajudeen Abbas, Other Distinguished Honourable Members of the House, Staff of the NCD Division, FMOH of Nigeria present, Members of the NCD Alliance, ladies and gentlemen.

I am Dike Ojji, Professor of Medicine and Preventive Cardiology at University of Abuja and the Lead Investigator, Cardiovascular Research Centre at the same institution. I am here on behalf of the NCD Division of Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, and Alliance of Nigeria to make a presentation titled: Strengthening Health Through Legislation, with emphasis on Addressing Hypertension & Non-Communicable Diseases.

- (2) *It is well known that the burden of NCD's is soaring in Nigeria like other parts of the world CVDs which are disease affecting the heart and blood vessels lead the pack with HTN occurring in over 31 % of the adult population and stroke occurring in 29 of every 100,000 individuals. Others NCDs include cancers, DM, SCA, COPD, etc.*
- (3) *The risk factors fueling these NCDs especially CVD include: HTN, DM, Smoking and others as we can see from the slide. By the way HTN is the commonest cause of CVD in Nigeria and the number 1 risk factor for morbidity and mortality globally.*
- (4) *NCDs are the leading cause of mortality and sudden death syndrome among Nigeria's most productive age group which is quite worrisome. It has been estimated that 29% of all health-related deaths is due to NCDs and 22% of Nigeria adults die prematurely every year from NCDs.*

It has also been shown from research that 24% of household food expenditure in Nigeria is eventually spent on NCDs' treatment.

- (5) *NCDs especially CVDs do not differentiate law makers from regular citizens. Infarct, law makers usually have more CVD risks compared to regular citizens.*
- (6) *The ever-increasing burden of NCDs especially CVDs means that something must be done urgently. Coordinated by the NCD Division of FMOH in collaboration with different stakeholders like NCD Alliance of Nigeria, the Vision, Mission & Goal of NCD Control in Nigeria are well spelt.*

With vision being to have a healthy Nigerian population with reduced burden of NCDs and enhanced quality of life for socio-economic development, while the mission is to promote healthy lifestyle in Nigeria and provide a framework for strengthening the health care system using a multi sectoral approach for the prevention & control of NCDs. The overarching goal of NCD control is to significantly reduce the burden of NCDs in Nigeria in line with the targets of the third sustainable development goal.

- (7) *Although slowly, Nigeria's NCDs Response Landscape is Advancing from the Health Sector plan launched in 1992, the National Strategic Plan of Action on Prevention and Control of NCDs in 2013 to the National Multi-Sectoral Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases there has been some progress on the policy side with much to be done on implementation.*

The NMSAP aims to reduce the burden of hypertension by 25 % , 80% provision of population screening for early NCD management and affordability basic technologies and essential medicines for major NCD management and 30% reduction in salt consumption.

- (8) *To guide the reduction of NCDs in the country, the NCD Division of the FMOH has developed a few policy documents including that for salt reduction; reduction of NCDs treatment of hypertension and TSTS. In addition, there is also a simplified protocol for hypertension control at the primary care level.*
- (9) *To address the burden of CVDs which is the commonest form of NCDs, there are now a few programmes on controlling hypertension in the community level. One of the foremost is the NHCI which uses the simplified treatment protocol shown earlier to screen, diagnose and treat simple, uncomplicated hypertension in Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs)*
- (10) *We also have the hearty Health Africa in 19 States across all the geopolitical regions funded by AstraZeneca.*

- (11) *And we also have the hypertension Treatment in Nigeria Programme in 60 Primary Healthcare facilities in the FCT, After about 3 years, hypertension control improved from 23% to 57%.*
- (12) *One important thing we have noticed in our programme as exemplified in the NHCI programme which showed that patients on health insurance coverage had both better clinic attendance and BP control.*
- (13) *To conclude the presentation, we have some prayers.*

6. Announcement

(i) *Visitors in the Gallery:*

Mr Speaker announced the presence of the following visitors:

- (i) Staff and Students of The Regent School, Maitama, Abuja;
- (ii) Students of El-Amin University Minna, Niger State.

(ii) *Bereavement:*

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Victor Abang (*Ikom/Boki Federal Constituency*), announcing the death of a former Member, Hon. Chris Ngoro Agibe (*Ikom/Boki Federal Constituency 2015 - 2023*), who passed away on Saturday, 18 May, 2025 at the age of 64.

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

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

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

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|------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| (1) | Hon. James Abiodun Faleke | — | <i>Chairman</i> |
| (2) | Hon. Ahmed Idris | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (3) | Hon. Sada Soli | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (4) | Hon. Fred Agbedi | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (5) | Hon. Oke Busayo Oluwole | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (6) | Hon. Iduma Igariwey | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (7) | Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (8) | Hon. Babajimi Benson Adegoke | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (9) | Hon. Jallo Hussaini Mohammed | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (10) | Hon. Abdullahi El-Rasheed | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (11) | Hon. Esosa Iyaw | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (12) | Hon. Tijjani Kayode Ismail | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (13) | Hon. Matthew Donatus Kuzalio | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (14) | Hon. Gboyega Nasir Isiaka | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (15) | Hon. Hassan Abubakar Nalaraba | — | <i>Member</i> |

(iv) *Appointment of Deputy Committee Chairmen:*

Mr Speaker announced the following Deputy Committee Chairmen:

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|-----|-------------------------|---|--|
| (1) | Hon. Sadiq Abbas Tafida | — | <i>Deputy Chairman, Committee on Constituency Outreach.</i> |
| (2) | Hon. Alexander Mascot | — | <i>Deputy Chairman, Committee on Poverty Alleviation.</i> |
| (3) | Hon. Kabiru Yusuf | — | <i>Deputy Chairman, Committee on South South Development Commission.</i> |

(4) Hon. Esosa Iyawe — *Deputy Chairman, Committee on Livestock Development.*

7. Petitions

- (i) A petition from Mary Lawrence Ejiogu on alleged refusal by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs to refund the sum of Two hundred and Twenty-Six Thousand and Sixteen Dollars (\$226,016.00) and Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Naira (₦750,000.00) incurred to repatriate her husband from Singapore,, was presented and laid by Hon. Ibe Okwara Osonwa (*Arochukwu/Ohafia Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) A petition from Petroquip Nigeria Limited on alleged breach of contract agreement and refusal to pay outstanding debt of over Three Thousand, Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$3,500, 000. 00) by SAIPEM Contracting Nigeria Limited, was presented and laid by Hon. Jesse Okey-Joe Onuakalusi (*Oshodi/Isolo II Federal Constituency*);
- (iii) A petition from E. C. Ofime & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Concerned Members of Afor Clan, Ndokwa East Local Government Area, Delta State, on plan to lay potentially dangerous and hazardous underground pipelines across their towns by Sterling Oil Exploration and Energy Production Company Limited, was presented and laid by Hon. Jallo Hussaini Mohammed (*Igabi Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

8. Personal Explanation (Order Eight, Rule 6)

Hon. Inuwa Garba (*Yalmaltu/Deba Federal Constituency*), drew the attention of the House to the One Day visit of the Rt. Hon. Speaker to Gombe State where he led Hon. Members to attend Hon. Ali Isa J.C. Empowerment Program in his Constituency, Balanga/Biliri Federal Constituency. On behalf of the Governor and the entire people of Gombe State, he expressed his appreciation to the Rt Hon. Speaker for his show of credible leadership. He also conveyed his appreciation to the former Speaker, Rt Hon. Yakubu Dogara and the entire Members of the House in attendance during the visit.

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

- (i) ***Devastating Wind/Rainstorm that Ravaged Jeddo, Ugbokodo and Ughoton Communities in Okpe Local Government Area, Delta State:***
Hon. Benedict Etanabene (*Okpe/Sapele/Uvwie 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.

Devastating Wind/Rainstorm that Ravaged Jeddo, Ugbokodo and Ughoton Communities in Okpe Local Government Area, Delta State:

The House:

Notes that on Tuesday, 15 April, 2025, the devastating wind/rainstorm ravaged the ever tranquil and economic viable communities of Jeddo, Ugbokodo and Ughoton of Okpe Local Government Area, Delta State;

Also notes that the havoc wrecked by the hurricane rainstorm on Jeddo, Ugbokodo and Ughoton communities were unprecedented, leaving wide spread destruction of properties and other means of livelihood of the people of the affected areas which runs into Hundreds of Millions of Naira;

Aware that roofs of over two thousand houses were completely or partially damaged, hundreds of buildings were destroyed, critical infrastructure like electricity and telecommunication installations were not spared and thousands of residents of these communities were rendered homeless;

Curious that, the residents of these affected communities are in dire need of aids to cushion the effect of the disaster that befalls them;

Believes that if urgent steps are not taken to come to the aid of the people of the affected communities as their means of livelihood were gone, coupled with this critical time of the impact of the nation's economy, it would spell doom on the people. Urgent shelter, building materials, house-hold materials, financial assistance and medical attention are imminent;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to as a matter of urgency, conduct a Post Disaster Assessment on the affected communities;
- (ii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency to provide the affected communities with the needed relief materials and other necessary assistance; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (*Hon. Benedict Etanabene — Okpe/Sapele/Uvwie Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed.

The House:

Noted that on Tuesday, 15 April, 2025, the devastating wind/rainstorm ravaged the ever tranquil and economic viable communities of Jeddo, Ugbokodo and Ughoton of Okpe Local Government Area, Delta State;

Also noted that the havoc wrecked by the hurricane rainstorm on Jeddo, Ugbokodo and Ughoton communities were unprecedented, leaving wide spread destruction of properties and other means of livelihood of the people of the affected areas which runs into Hundreds of Millions of Naira;

Aware that roofs of over two thousand houses were completely or partially damaged, hundreds of buildings were destroyed, critical infrastructure like electricity and telecommunication installations were not spared and thousands of residents of these communities were rendered homeless;

Curious that, the residents of these affected communities are in dire need of aids to cushion the effect of the disaster that befalls them;

Believed that if urgent steps are not taken to come to the aid of the people of the affected communities as their means of livelihood were gone, coupled with this critical time of the impact of the nation's economy, it would spell doom on the people. Urgent shelter, building

materials, house-hold materials, financial assistance and medical attention are imminent;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to as a matter of urgency, conduct a Post Disaster Assessment on the affected communities;
 - (ii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency to provide the affected communities with the needed relief materials and other necessary assistance; and
 - (iii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (**HR. 141/05/2025**).
- (ii) ***Need to Curb Reoccurring Boat Mishap in Gbajibo Community in Kaiama Local Government Area, Kwara State:***
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.

Need to Curb Reoccurring Boat Mishap in Gbajibo Community in Kaiama Local Government Area, Kwara State:

The House:

Notes that Gbajibo Community is a riverine area in Kaiama Local Government Area of Barutenl Kaiama Federal Constituency, Kwara State;

Also notes that majority of people in Gbajibo Community are farmers, Businessmen and women trading in goods and services with the neighbouring communities in Niger State;

Cognizant that the only fastest and easiest means of transporting people and goods between Gbajibo Community and neighboring communities in Niger State is water transport;

Observes that in their usual business activities, passengers while returning from market boarded a boat from neighbouring communities in Niger State to Gbajibo on Wednesday, 14 May, 2025, and unfortunately, the boat capsized;

Saddened that 28 of the passengers on board lost their lives while many survivors were wounded and hospitalised;

Aware that this latest boat disaster come just months after more than 100 lives were lost in similar mishap in the same Gbajibo Community;

Worried that if Government does not urgently intervene to ensure water travel safety in the riverine area of Kaiama Local Government Area of K wara State and other Local Government Areas in Nigeria, more boat disaster will happen and more lives may be lost;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge Executive Arm of Government to intervene by ensuring enlightenment campaigns, provision of infrastructures in water transport and enforcement of policies that will ensure water transport safety in Kaiama Local Government Area and Nigeria at large;
- (ii) also urge National Inland Waterways Authority to enforce loading limit, mandatory use of life jacket, ban on night boat travel and other safety policies in water transport;
- (iii) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials for the Victims of the disaster;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Inland Waterways, Hydrological Services/HYPADEC, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (*Hon. Mohammed Omar Bio — Baruten/Kaiama Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed.

The House:

Noted that Gbajibo Community is a riverine area in Kaiama Local Government Area of Baruten/ Kaiama Federal Constituency, Kwara State;

Also noted that majority of people in Gbajibo Community are farmers, Businessmen and women trading in goods and services with the neighbouring communities in Niger State;

Cognizant that the only fastest and easiest means of transporting people and goods between Gbajibo Community and neighboring communities in Niger State is water transport;

Observed that in their usual business activities, passengers while returning from market boarded a boat from neighbouring communities in Niger State to Gbajibo on Wednesday, 14 May, 2025, and unfortunately, the boat capsized;

Saddened that 28 of the passengers on board lost their lives while many survivors were wounded and hospitalised;

Aware that this latest boat disaster come just months after more than 100 lives were lost in similar mishap in the same Gbajibo Community;

Worried that if Government does not urgently intervene to ensure water travel safety in the riverine area of Kaiama Local Government Area of Kwara State and other Local Government Areas in Nigeria, more boat disaster will happen and more lives may be lost;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge Executive Arm of Government to intervene by ensuring enlightenment campaigns, provision of infrastructures in water transport and enforcement of policies that will ensure water transport safety in Kaiama Local Government Area and Nigeria at large;
- (ii) also urge National Inland Waterways Authority to enforce loading limit, mandatory use of life jacket, ban on night boat travel and other safety policies in water transport;

- (iii) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials for the Victims of the disaster;
 - (iv) mandate the Committees on Inland Waterways, Hydrological Services/HYPADEC, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (**HR. 142/05/2025**).
- (iii) ***Incessant Attacks and Kidnap Pings in Erah and Ivbiaro Communities, Owan East Local Government Area, Edo State:***
Hon. Julius Ihonvbere (*Owan East/Owan West 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.

Incessant Attacks and Kidnap Pings in Erah and Ivbiaro Communities, Owan East Local Government Area, Edo State:

The House:

Notes with grave concern the recurring and incessant attacks and kidnappings by armed herdsmen in Erah and Ivbiaro communities, Owan East Local Government Area of Edo State;

Also notes that on Thursday, 15 May, 2025, for the umpteenth time, tragedy struck once again along Ugbovbighan-Erah road with the perpetrators deliberately using their cattle to block the narrow road leading into Erah and Ivbiaro communities, thereby ambushing innocent commuters and travellers;

Concerned that during the latest incident, six (6) persons were kidnapped and taken to an unknown destination, with the attackers making demands for ransom of Fifteen Million Naira (₦15,000,000.00) from family members before their release;

Also concerned that Sunday, 18 May, 2025, another group of bandits struck Ivbiaro Community and kidnapped a Community leader and killing his spouse;

Disturbed that these criminal activities have continued with impunity, thereby creating an atmosphere of fear, insecurity, and lawlessness in the community and its environs, disrupting socio-economic activities and threatening the safety of lives and property;

Aware that the forest and bushes abutting the community are inhabited by these criminal elements as a safe haven for them to unleash mayhem on innocent citizens;

Worried that the failure to arrest and prosecute the perpetrators has emboldened these criminal elements who continue their nefarious activities unchecked;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of all those that have lost their lives due to the brutal actions of bandits and kidnappers in Owan in Federal Constituency of Edo

State;

- (ii) urge the Inspector General of Police, the Director-General of the Department of State Services, and other relevant security agencies to immediately deploy personnel to Erah and Ivbiaro Communities and surrounding areas to restore peace, apprehend the culprits and forestall further occurrences;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to investigate the attacks and interface with the relevant security agencies to ensure urgent action is taken to secure the release of the kidnapped victims (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed.

The House:

Noted with grave concern the recurring and incessant attacks and kidnappings by armed herdsmen in Erah and Ivbiaro communities, Owan East Local Government Area of Edo State;

Also noted that on Thursday, 15 May, 2025, for the umpteenth time, tragedy struck once again along Ugbovbighan-Erah road with the perpetrators deliberately using their cattle to block the narrow road leading into Erah and Ivbiaro communities, thereby ambushing innocent commuters and travellers;

Concerned that during the latest incident, six (6) persons were kidnapped and taken to an unknown destination, with the attackers making demands for ransom of Fifteen Million Naira (₦15,000,000.00) from family members before their release;

Also concerned that Sunday, 18 May, 2025, another group of bandits struck Ivbiaro Community and kidnapped a Community leader and killing his spouse;

Disturbed that these criminal activities have continued with impunity, thereby creating an atmosphere of fear, insecurity, and lawlessness in the community and its environs, disrupting socio-economic activities and threatening the safety of lives and property;

Aware that the forest and bushes abutting the community are inhabited by these criminal elements as a safe haven for them to unleash mayhem on innocent citizens;

Worried that the failure to arrest and prosecute the perpetrators has emboldened these criminal elements who continue their nefarious activities unchecked;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of all those that have lost their lives due to the brutal actions of bandits and kidnappers in Owan in Federal Constituency of Edo State;
- (ii) urge the Inspector General of Police, the Director-General of the Department of State Services, and other relevant security agencies to immediately deploy personnel to Erah and Ivbiaro Communities and surrounding areas to restore peace, apprehend the culprits and forestall further occurrences;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence

to investigate the attacks and interface with the relevant security agencies to ensure urgent action is taken to secure the release of the kidnapped victims (**HR. 143/05/2025**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

10. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Ifako-Ijaiye, Lagos State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2323).
- (2) Federal College of Entrepreneurship and Skill Acquisition, Ifako-Ijaiye, Lagos State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2324).
- (3) Tertiary Education Trust Fund Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2325).
- (4) National Agricultural Machinery Supply and Management Agency (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2326).
- (5) Labour Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2327).
- (6) Rural Areas Development Agency (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2328).
- (7) Nigerian Minerals and Mining Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2329).
- (8) National Environmental Standards and Regulation Enforcement Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2330).
- (9) Code of Conduct Bureau and Tribunal Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2331).
- (10) Industrial Property Commission of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2332).
- (11) National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2333).
- (12) Federal University of Medicine and Medical Sciences, Egbe, Kogi State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (SB.299).

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the North-East Development Commission Act, 2025 and for Related Matters (HB.2320) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the North-East Development Commission Act, 2025 and for Related Matters (HB.2320) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

12. A Bill for an Act to Amend the North-Central Development Commission Act, 2025 and for Related Matters (HB.2307) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the North-Central Development Commission Act, 2025 and for Related Matters (HB.2307) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

13. A Bill for an Act to Amend the South-South Development Commission Act, 2025 and for Related Matters (HB.2308) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the South-South Development Commission Act, 2025 and for Related Matters (HB.2308) be now read the Third Time” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

14. A Bill for an Act to Amend the South-West Development Commission Act, 2025 and for Related Matters (HB.2306) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the South-West Development Commission Act, 2025 and for Related Matters (HB.2306) be now read the Third Time” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

15. A Bill for an Act to Amend the South East Development Commission Act and for Related Matters (SB.568) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the South East Development Commission Act and for Related Matters (SB.568) be now read the Third Time” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

16. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (as amended) to make Provision for the Establishment of Federal College of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, Umaisha, Toto Local Government Area, Nasarawa State and for Related Matters (SB.56) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (as amended) to make Provision for the Establishment of Federal College of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, Umaisha, Toto Local Government Area, Nasarawa State and for Related Matters (SB.56) be now read the Third Time” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

17. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Vocational and Entrepreneurship Institute, Okota/Oshodi, Lagos State, to Provide Qualitative Education in Vocational and Entrepreneurship and for Related Matters (HB. 226) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Vocational and Entrepreneurship Institute, Okota/Oshodi, Lagos State, to Provide Qualitative Education in Vocational and Entrepreneurship and for Related Matters (HB. 226) be now read the Third Time” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

18. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Polytechnics Act, Cap. F17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Establish Federal Institute of Technical and Vocational Education, Imeko, Ogun State for the purpose of Providing Qualitative Education in Technical Education and Vocational Education and for Related Matters (HB. 506) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Polytechnics Act, Cap. F17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Establish Federal Institute of Technical and Vocational Education, Imeko, Ogun State for the purpose of Providing Qualitative Education in Technical Education and Vocational Education and for Related Matters (HB. 506) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

19. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Vocational and Skills Acquisition College Yankaba, Kano State to Provide for Research, Teaching Instruction and Training on Vocational and Skills Acquisition and for Related Matters (HB.592) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Vocational and Skills Acquisition College Yankaba, Kano State to Provide for Research, Teaching Instruction and Training on Vocational and Skills Acquisition and for Related Matters (HB.592) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

20. **A Bill for an Act to Authorise the issue from the Federal Capital Territory Administration's Statutory Revenue Fund of the Federal Capital Territory Administration Account, the total sum of ₦1,783,823,708,392.00 (one trillion, seven hundred and eighty three billion, eight hundred and twenty three million, seven hundred and eight thousand, three hundred and ninety two Naira) only, of which the Sum of ₦150,353,906,168.00 (one hundred and fifty billion, three hundred and fifty three million, nine hundred and six thousand, one hundred and sixty eight Naira) only, is for Personnel Costs, and the Sum of ₦343,779,677,448.00 (three hundred and forty three billion, seven hundred and seventy nine million, six hundred and seventy seven thousand, four hundred and forty eight Naira) only, is for Overhead Costs; while the Balance of ₦1,289,690,124,776,00 (one trillion, two hundred and eighty nine billion, six hundred and ninety million, one hundred and twenty four thousand, seven hundred and seventy six Naira) only, is for Capital Projects, for the Service of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, for the financial Year commencing 1 January and ending 31 December, 2025 (HB. 2305) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Authorise the issue from the Federal Capital Territory Administration's Statutory Revenue Fund of the Federal Capital Territory Administration Account, the total sum of ₦1,783,823,708,392.00 (one trillion, seven hundred and eighty three billion, eight hundred and twenty three million, seven hundred and eight thousand, three hundred and ninety two Naira) only, of which the Sum of ₦150,353,906,168.00 (one hundred and fifty billion, three hundred and fifty three million, nine hundred and six thousand, one hundred and sixty eight Naira) only, is for Personnel Costs, and the Sum of ₦343,779,677,448.00 (three hundred and forty three billion, seven hundred and seventy nine million, six hundred and seventy seven thousand, four hundred and forty eight Naira) only, is for Overhead Costs; while the Balance of ₦1,289,690,124,776,00 (one trillion, two hundred and eighty nine billion, six hundred and ninety million, one hundred and twenty four thousand, seven hundred and seventy six Naira) only, is for Capital Projects, for the Service of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, for the financial Year commencing 1 January and ending 31 December, 2025 (HB. 2305) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committees on Federal Capital Territory, and Federal Capital Territory Area Councils and Ancillary Matter.

21. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Ear Center, Bende for the Prevention, Management and Cure of Ear Defects and Diseases to Establish a Board to Govern the Centre and an Academic Committee to Take Charge of the Centre's Academic Affairs and for Related Matters (HB.1061) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Ear Center, Bende for the Prevention, Management and Cure of Ear Defects and Diseases to Establish a Board to Govern the Centre and an Academic Committee to Take Charge of the Centre's Academic Affairs and for Related Matters (HB.1061) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Osi Kama Nkemkanma — Ivo/Ohaozara/Onicha Federal Constituency*), and Six 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 Specialty Healthcare

22. **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 Francis — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu 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 Constitution Review.

23. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal University of Animal Health and Production Technology, Vom, Plateau State to make Comprehensive Provisions for Management and Administration of the University and for Related Matters (HB. 2319) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal University of Animal Health and Production Technology, Vom, Plateau State to make Comprehensive Provisions for Management and Administration of the University and for Related Matters (HB. 2319) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Ahmed Idris— Wase 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 University Education.

- 24. A Bill for an Act to Provide Certain Rights for Older Persons to ensure Health and Economic relief and Protection for their Social and Civil Rights and for Related Matters (HB.2098) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Provide Certain Rights for Older Persons to ensure Health and Economic relief and Protection for their Social and Civil Rights and for Related Matters (HB.2098) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Tochukwu Okere Chinedu — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West 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 Women Affairs.

- 25. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Universities of Technology Act, Cap. F23 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for the Establishment of Federal University of Technology, Osogbo, Osun State for the Promotion and Development of University Education in Nigeria and make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and for Related Matters (HB.1058) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Universities of Technology Act, Cap. F23 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for the Establishment of Federal University of Technology, Osogbo, Osun State for the Promotion and Development of University Education in Nigeria and make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and for Related Matters (HB.1058) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Adewale Morufu Adebayo — Irepodun/Orolu/Olorunda/Osogbo 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 University Education.

- 26. A Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Entrepreneurship Consultants charged with the Responsibility of Advancing the Study, Training and Practice of Entrepreneurship activities and Determine the Standards of Knowledge and Skills to be Attained by Persons seeking to become registered members of the Institute and for Related Matters (HB.1626) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Entrepreneurship Consultants charged with the Responsibility of Advancing the Study, Training and Practice of Entrepreneurship activities and Determine the Standards of Knowledge and Skills to be Attained by Persons seeking to become registered members of the Institute and for Related Matters (HB.1626) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Alli Adeyemi Taofik — Mushin I 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.

27. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Private Intelligence and Investigation Council to Establish a Regulatory Framework that ensures Professionalism, Ethnical Conduct, and Accountability of Private Intelligence and Investigation Firms, Standardise Industry Practices, Provide Accreditation and Certification, Promote Continuous Training and Development, foster collaboration between Private and Public Security Sectors, enhance the Integrity and Effectiveness of Private Intelligence and Investigation Council Services in Contributing to National Security and Public Safety and for Related Matters (HB.1721) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Private Intelligence and Investigation Council to Establish a Regulatory Framework that ensures Professionalism, Ethnical Conduct, and Accountability of Private Intelligence and Investigation Firms, Standardise Industry Practices, Provide Accreditation and Certification, Promote Continuous Training and Development, foster collaboration between Private and Public Security Sectors, enhance the Integrity and Effectiveness of Private Intelligence and Investigation Council Services in Contributing to National Security and Public Safety and for Related Matters (HB.1721) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Ahmed Satomi — Jere 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 National Security and Intelligence.

28. **Need to Dredge the Watari Dam in Bagwai Local Government Area of Shanono/Bagwai Federal Constituency, Kano State**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Watari Dam is a Multipurpose Water Dam located in Bagwai Local Government Area and the entire Kano North Senatorial Zone;

Also notes that the Watari Dam Project was constructed between 1977 and 1980 with the official opening in 1981;

Aware that the dam was constructed to improve flood control, irrigation farming, and potable water to the six (6) Local Government Areas, namely Bagwai, Bichi, Tsanyawa, Dawakin Tofa, Fagge and Dala Local Government Areas in the Kano Central Senatorial Zone;

Also aware that the Watari Dam project stands as the third largest dam with storage capacity of 105.55 million liters of water and irrigates 2600 hectares of land with 60% of the land presently cultivated;

Concerned that since the project was completed in 1980, the dam has not been dredged, thereby causing visible signs of overwhelming sand and soil fill-ups, posing a threat to the dam and surrounding areas;

Also concerned that without government intervention to dredge the dam, the Dam will collapse causing danger to the existence and economic value of the dam;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to include the dredging of the Watari Dam project in the 2026 budget estimates to complete the dredging;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Water Resources to ascertain the current state of Watari Dam and come up with modalities to ensure the dredging of the dam within the shortest possible time and report within four (4) weeks for further legislative action;
- (iii) also mandate the Committees on Water Resources, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Yusuf Ahmad Badau — Shanono/Bagwai Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 144/05/2025).

Motion referred to the Committees on Water Resources and Legislative Compliance, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

29. Need to Revamp the Nation's Comatose Textile Industry

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Nigerian textile industry, with over 180 mills in operation in the 1960s and 1980s, significantly impacted the manufacturing sector, employing nearly 450,000 people and generating 67% annual growth, making it the highest employer of labour;

Also notes that Nigeria possesses ample raw materials such as cotton and wool for textile production, which can boost local productivity and the economy;

Aware that revitalizing the textile industry will create employments reduce social issues, boost revenue, diversify the economy, and enhance socio-economic development in the country;

Concerned over the significant decline in the textile industry over the last two decades, resulting in the layoff of thousands of workers from companies like Kaduna Textile, Kano Textile, Aba Textile, United Nigeria Textile, and First Spinners, among others;

Also concerned that the discovery of oil in Nigeria resulted in decreased cotton production, a crucial raw material for the textile industry, thereby significantly impacting the textile sector;

Worried that government policies such as higher taxation, expensive production costs, and trade liberalization leading to extensive importation of textile materials, which have had a negative impact on the production of local textiles;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to ban the importation of foreign textiles into the country to rejuvenate the production of local textile materials;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Power to collaborate with the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment to provide necessary facilities, especially power supply, to local textile manufacturing companies to enhance quality outputs;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministries of Finance, Industry, Trade and Investment and other related agencies to encourage local textiles by providing soft loans and easy access to credit facilities through the Bank of Industry;

- (iv) mandate the Committees on Industry and Commerce to conduct Public Hearing with relevant stakeholders in textile industries to review challenges of moribund textile sector and report within four (4) weeks;
- (v) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Garba Ibrahim Muhammad — Gwale Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (i), immediately after the words “Government to”, *leave out* the word “ban” and *insert* “regulate” (*Hon. Osawaru Billy Famous Adesuwa — Orhionmwon/Uhunmwode Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed.

The House:

Noted that the Nigerian textile industry, with over 180 mills in operation in the 1960s and 1980s, significantly impacted the manufacturing sector, employing nearly 450,000 people and generating 67% annual growth, making it the highest employer of labour;

Also noted that Nigeria possesses ample raw materials such as cotton and wool for textile production, which can boost local productivity and the economy;

Aware that revitalizing the textile industry will create employments reduce social issues, boost revenue, diversify the economy, and enhance socio-economic development in the country;

Concerned over the significant decline in the textile industry over the last two decades, resulting in the layoff of thousands of workers from companies like Kaduna Textile, Kano Textile, Aba Textile, United Nigeria Textile, and First Spinners, among others;

Also concerned that the discovery of oil in Nigeria resulted in decreased cotton production, a crucial raw material for the textile industry, thereby significantly impacting the textile sector;

Worried that government policies such as higher taxation, expensive production costs, and trade liberalization leading to extensive importation of textile materials, which have had a negative impact on the production of local textiles;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to regulate the importation of foreign textiles into the country to rejuvenate the production of local textile materials;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Power to collaborate with the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment to provide necessary facilities, especially power supply, to local textile manufacturing companies to enhance quality outputs;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministries of Finance, Industry, Trade and Investment and other related agencies to encourage local textiles by providing soft loans and easy access to credit facilities through the Bank of Industry;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Industry and Commerce to conduct Public Hearing with relevant stakeholders in textile industries to review challenges of moribund textile sector and report

within four (4) weeks;

- (v) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR. 145/05/2025**).

30. Inappropriate Activities and Operations of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Pension Fund Limited

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the NNPC Pension Fund Limited is a Trust Fund set up in 1983 to manage NNPC Pension Assets for the benefit of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) retirees;

Also notes that the objectives of the Pension Act, are to establish a uniform set of rules, regulations, and standards for the administration and payment of retirement benefits for the Public Service of the Federation;

Aware that in 1986 the Pension Fund was transformed into a Trust Fund known as the Incorporated Trustees of NNPC Pension Fund, following the enactment of the Pension Reform Act (PRA) 2014, the fund was incorporated into a limited liability company known as the NNPC Pension Fund Limited (NPFL);

Also aware that the Retirement Savings Accounts (RSA) are the lifelines that pensioners rely upon to cater for their needs upon retirement;

Worried that most Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) pensioners are unable to access their retirement funds despite complying with the requirements of the Contributory Pension Scheme, thereby, causing hardship and inequality as there has not been significant progress in spite of Court Orders directing NNPC and NNPC Pension Limited to pay harmonized pensions to retirees;

Disturbed that the aged retirees of the corporation staged protests, while those in active service but on the verge of retirement also embarked on industrial strike action;

Also disturbed that the NNPC Pension Fund Limited violated the provisions of Section 50(1) (a) of the PRA and clause (b) of the approval conditions, which provides that the scheme shall be fully funded at all times and that any shortfall shall be made up within ninety (90) days;

Concerned about the allegation that the NNPC had failed to transfer all pension fund assets to the custodian or provide an undertaking to the commission since the approval of the scheme in July 2006, as well as the evidence that employer and employee pension contributions were being remitted to the licensed operators as required by the Act but the reports showed some funding gaps or deficits in the scheme of the NNPC Pension Fund Limited (NPFL);

Cognizant that embracing the International Standard Pension Fund Structure and Framework is crucial for sustainable investment and management after the pension fund gap is closed;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to review the operational activities of NNPC Pension Fund Limited with a view to addressing issues surrounding pension payment in NNPC Corporation;
- (ii) also urge the NNPC Pension Fund Limited to, within 6 months, commence the payment of accumulated pensions to retirees of the corporation;

- (iii) mandate the Committee on Pensions to conduct an investigative hearing, inviting the Director General National Pension Commission and other relevant stakeholders of the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Pension Fund Limited and the National Pension Commission (NPC) to develop a framework to improve pension administration, recommend a dedicated pension reserve fund specifically for accrued rights payments and report within four (4) weeks;
- (iv) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Inuwa Garba — Yamaltu/Deba Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Debate adjourned to enable the sponsor make further clarification vis-a-vis the PIA , 2021.

31. Consideration of Reports

- (i) ***A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Eye Centre, Doma for the Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Eye, Coordination of Research, Training of Specialist in Eye Diseases and other Supporting fields; and for Related Matters (SB.193) (Committee of the Whole): Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Eye Centre, Doma for the Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Eye, Coordination of Research, Training of Specialist in Eye Diseases and other Supporting fields; and for Related Matters (SB.193)” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).***

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL EYE CENTRE, DOMA FOR THE PREVENTION, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF EYE, COORDINATION OF RESEARCH, TRAINING OF SPECIALIST IN EYE DISEASES AND OTHER SUPPORTING FIELDS; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (SB.193)

PART I —ESTABLISHMENT, FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF NATIONAL EYE CENTRE, DOMA

Clause 1: Establishment of the National Eye Centre.

- (1) There is hereby established National Eye Centre, Doma (in this Bill referred to as "the Centre").
- (2) The Centre —
 - (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal;
 - (b) may sue and be sued in its corporate name; and
 - (c) may acquire, hold and dispose of property movable or immovable.
- (3) The Centre shall be in Doma LGA of Nasarawa State, Nigeria.

- (4) The Centre shall be a hospital, specializing in ophthalmology at all levels (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Functions and powers of the Centre.

- (1) The Centre shall provide hospital and specialist services with the diagnosis and treatment of diseases or impairment of the Eye, supply of appliances/equipments and other supplementary ophthalmology services.
- (2) The Centre shall have power to —
- (a) provide diagnostic, curative, preventive and rehabilitative ophthalmology service;
 - (b) provide ambulatory outreach and domiciliary eye treatment, employing the services of ophthalmologist and other medical practitioners;
 - (c) provide and facilitate the training of ophthalmologist;
 - (d) provide and facilitate the training of eye personnel and dispensing nurses, and technicians;
 - (e) provide and facilitate the training of eye related courses at certificate and diploma levels;
 - (f) provide and facilitate other trainings including residency, post basic training;
 - (g) provide and facilitate research in all aspect of ophthalmology, including clinical and experimental;
 - (h) facilitate the training of specialist in eye and other supporting fields; and
 - (i) develop new diagnostic, therapeutic eye instruments and appliances suitable for the practice of ophthalmology in Nigeria.
- (3) For the purposes of performing its functions under this Bill, the Centre may —
- (a) arrange periodic conferences, seminars, study groups and like activities in ophthalmology.
 - (b) advise the Government of the Federation or of a state on all matters relating to defects and diseases of the eye and the prevention of blindness;
 - (c) offer such assistance to eye hospitals or units in various parts of the Federation, as the Board may deem necessary; and
 - (d) do anything in connection with or incidental to the functions conferred on it under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Constitution of the Centre.

The Centre shall consist of —

- (a) a Management Board;
- (b) an Education Committee;
- (c) clinical and other departments;
- (d) all members of the administrative, clinical and technical staff; and
- (e) all students of the Centre (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Establishment of the National Eye Centre Management Board.

- (1) There is established for the Centre the Management Board (in this Bill refers to as "the Board"), which shall have general responsibility for the management of the Centre.
- (2) The Board shall consist of —
 - (a) a Chairman;
 - (b) the Medical Director;
 - (c) a representative of the Federal Ministry responsible for Health;
 - (d) a representative of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA);
 - (e) the Head of Clinical Services;
 - (f) a representative of the Nasarawa State Ministry responsible for Health; and
 - (g) the Director of Administration to serve as Secretary of the Board.
- (3) The President shall on the recommendation of the Minister responsible for Health appoint, apart from the ex-officio members, the Chairman and other members of the Board.
- (4) The Chairman shall be a person of proven integrity, possess cognate experience and outstanding ability in administration and professional or technical education.
- (5) The members specified in subsection (2) (c), (d) and (f), are the "*ex-officio* members".
- (6) The supplementary provision as set out in the Schedule to this Bill shall have effect Schedule with respect to the proceedings of the Board, the Education Committee and the other matters mentioned therein (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 5: Tenure of members of the Board.

- (1) The Chairman and any other member of the Board (not being an *ex-officio* member), shall hold office for a term of four years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for a further term of four years and no more:

Provided that the member of the Board under section 4(2)(d) of this Bill, shall hold office for two years and shall not be eligible for re-appointment.

- (2) A member of the Board, other than an *ex-officio* member, shall be paid such remunerations and allowances in accordance with the terms and conditions stipulated in his letter of appointment.
- (3) In the event of the death or incapacity of the Chairman, or if for any reason other than lapse of time, the office of the Chairman becomes vacant, the President shall, on the recommendation of the Minister, appoint another person as Chairman for the residue of the term of the Chairman.
- (4) The office of a member of the Board shall become vacant if —
- (a) he resigns his appointment by notice in writing under his hand, addressed to the Minister;
 - (b) the term of his appointment has expired; or
 - (c) the Board resolves that he has —
 - (i) become unfit to continue as a member of the Board by reason that the member has become incapable of discharging his duties by reason of mental or bodily infirmity,
 - (ii) been absent from three consecutive meetings of the Board without leave of the Board, or
 - (iii) been convicted of an offence involving dishonesty, fraud or moral turpitude.
 - (d) is a person who has a professional qualification and is disqualified or suspended (other than at his own request) from practicing his profession in any part of Nigeria by the order of any competent authority made in respect of him personally.
- (5) Where the office of a member becomes vacant, another person representing the same interest, shall be appointed for the remainder of the term for which the vacating member was appointed.
- (6) Any member of the Board other than an *ex-officio* member may, by notice to the Board, resign his appointment (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 6: Duties of the Board.

- (1) The Board shall be the governing body of the Centre and shall be charged with the Duties of the Board general control and superintendence of the policy, finances and property of the Centre, including its public relations.

- (2) Without prejudice to the provisions of subsection (1), the Board shall acquire equipment and operate —
- (a) the hospital, which is to provide comprehensive services, teaching and clinical research in ophthalmology;
 - (b) such training schools and similar institutions as the Board considers necessary for providing the Centre at all times with adequate and sufficient qualified staff, including ophthalmology, eye technicians, nurses and members of other allied professions and callings, relevant to the practice of ophthalmology ; and
 - (c) such clinics, units, out-patient departments, laboratories, research or experimental stations and other like institutions, as the Board may consider necessary for the efficient functioning of the Centre.
- (3) The duty of running the Centre conferred by this section shall include, the duty of providing proper courses of instruction for students but the Board shall not —
- (a) have power to award degrees; and
 - (b) be prevented from arranging for students to attend courses at or take higher qualifications awarded by other institutions not controlled by the Board.
- (4) The Board shall ensure that the standard of treatment and care for patients provided at all the establishments controlled by the Board are maintained and the standard of training at those establishments, do not fall below those usually provided by similar establishment of internationally high repute.
- (5) Subject to this Bill, the Board shall have power to do anything, which in its opinion is calculated to facilitate the performance of its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 7: Powers of the Board in relation to management of the Centre.

The Board shall be responsible for determining general policies and guidelines relating to the management of the affairs of the Centre, including the management of the hospital and the provision of facilities relating to the training of all categories of eye personnel and it shall be the duty of the Medical Director to execute such policies and to keep within such guidelines (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 8: The Medical Director.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Medical Director shall be appointed or removed from his office by the President.
- (2) The Medical Director shall hold office for a term of four years in the first instance and shall be eligible for reappointment for a further term of four years and no more.
- (3) Subject to this section, the Medical Director shall hold office on such terms

as to emoluments or otherwise as may be specified in his letter of appointment.

- (4) The Medical Director shall, in relation to the Board, take precedence over all other members of the Centre, except the Chairman of the Board or any person for the time being acting as Chairman of the Board.
- (5) The Medical Director shall be the chief executive officer of the Centre and in addition to any other function conferred on him by this Bill, have the general function of directing the day-to-day activities of the Centre. (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 9: Appointment of other staff (Schedule).

- (1) The senior members of the clinical, administrative and technical staff of the Centre shall be appointed by the Board on the recommendation of a Committee, to be known as the Appointments and Promotions Committee, set up under paragraph 4 (3) of the Schedule to this Bill.
- (2) The Board shall from among the officers appointed under subsection (1) select, on the recommendation of the Medical Director, a person to act both as the Secretary to the Board and the Education Committee.
- (3) The power to appoint all other categories of staff to hold or act in offices in the Centre (including power to make appointments on promotion and transfer and to confirm, dismiss or exercise other disciplinary control over persons holding or acting in such offices), shall be exercised by the Medical Director acting on the recommendation of the Junior Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee, constituted under paragraph 4 (3) (b) of the Schedule to this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 10: Composition of the Education Committee.

The Education Committee shall consist of the —

- (a) medical Director, who shall be the Chairman;
- (b) heads of the department of the Centre, responsible for training; and
- (c) persons for the time being holding such offices in the Centre, as the Medical Director may specify (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 11: Functions of the Education Committee.

The Education Committee shall have responsibility for the running of the academic affairs of the Centre including —

- (a) the organisation and control of courses of study at the Centre and of the examinations held in connection with those courses;
- (b) determining the requisite qualifications for admission into any of the courses

offered by the Centre;

- (c) determining the duration of the training period; and
- (d) effecting the affiliation of the Centre with universities and institutions, for the award of degrees, diplomas or fellowship to students, on the successful completion of the relevant courses (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 12: Candidacy for admission.

Where a candidate offers himself for admission as a postgraduate medical student under this Bill, he shall satisfy the Board that he is a registered medical practitioner or that he is on the temporary or provisional register of medical practitioners of the Nigeria Medical Council (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 13: Power of the Minister to give directions.

The Minister may give to the Board directions of a general character or relating generally to particular matters (but not to any individual person or case), with regard to the exercise by the Board of its functions under this Bill, and it shall be the duty of the Board to comply with the directions, but no direction shall be given which is inconsistent with the duties of the Board under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART II — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Clause 14: Fund of the Centre.

The Board shall establish and maintain a fund into which it shall pay —

- (a) such sums as may be provided by the Government of the Federation or of a State for the Centre; and
- (b) all sums accruing to the Centre by way of fees, gifts, testamentary disposition, contributions from philanthropic persons, organisations or other entities (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 15: Power to borrow.

Except with the approval of the Minister, the Centre shall not have power to borrow money (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 16: Annual estimates and expenditure.

The Board shall prepare and submit to the Minister, not later than 31 September in each financial year, an estimate of the income and expenditure of the Centre during the next succeeding financial year (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 17: Accounts and audit.

The Centre shall keep proper accounts and audit in respect of each financial year and proper records in relation to those accounts and shall cause its accounts to be audited as soon as may be, after the end of the financial year to which the accounts relate by a firm of auditors appointed, as respects that year, by the Board from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General for the Federation (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 18: Fees for services.

The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, prescribe the scale of fees chargeable for hospital services provided by the Centre (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 19: Power to accept gifts.

- (1) The Centre may accept gifts of land, money or other property upon such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or organisation making the gift.
- (2) The Board shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached by the person making the gift are inconsistent with the functions of the Board under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 20: Discipline of students.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, where it appears to the Medical Director that any student of the Centre has been guilty of misconduct, the Medical Director may, without prejudice to any other disciplinary powers conferred on him by regulations, direct that the —
 - (a) student shall not, during such period as may be specified in the direction, participate in such activities of the Centre or make use of such facilities of the Centre as may be so specified;
 - (b) activities of the student shall, during such period as may be specified in the direction, be restricted in such manner as may be so specified;
 - (c) student be rusticated for such period as may be specified in the direction; or
 - (d) student be expelled from the Centre.
- (2) Where a direction is given under subsection (1) (c) or (d) of this section in respect of any student, the student may, within the prescribed period and in the prescribed manner, appeal from the direction to the Board, and where such an appeal is brought, the Board shall, after causing inquiry to be made in the matter as the Board considers appropriate, either confirm or set aside the direction or modify it in such manner as the Board deems fit.
- (3) The fact that an appeal from a direction is under subsection (2), shall not affect the operation of the direction while the appeal is pending.

- (4) The Medical Director may delegate his powers under this section to a disciplinary committee consisting of such members of the Centre as he may nominate.
- (5) Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the restriction or termination of a student's activities at the Centre otherwise than on the ground of misconduct.
- (6) The power of the Medical Director to give direction under subsection (1) (a) may be combined with a direction under subsection (1) (b).
- (7) Nothing in this section shall affect the provisions of any enactment relating to the discipline of medical practitioners, pharmacists, nurses or members of any other profession or calling (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 21: Removal and discipline of clinical, administrative and technical staff.

- (1) If it appears to the Board that there are reasons for believing that any person employed as a member of the clinical, administrative or technical staff of the Centre, other than the Medical Director, should be removed from his office or employment, the Board shall require the Medical Director to —
 - (a) give notice of those reasons to the person in question;
 - (b) afford him an opportunity of making representations in person on the matter to the Board; and
 - (c) if the person in question so requests within the period of one month beginning from the date of the notice, make arrangements for —
 - (i) a Committee to investigate the matter and to report on it to the Board, and
 - (ii) the person in question to be afforded an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by the investigating committee with respect to the matter,and if the Board, after considering the report of the investigating committee, is satisfied that the person in question should be removed, the Board may remove him by a letter signed on the direction of the Board.
- (2) The Medical Director may, in a case of misconduct by a member of staff, which in the opinion of the Medical Director is prejudicial to the interest of the Centre, suspend the member and the suspension shall be reported to the Board immediately.
- (3) For good cause, any member of the staff may be suspended from his duties or his appointment may be terminated by the Board and for the purposes of this section,
"good cause" means —

- (a) a conviction for any offence which the Board considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit for the discharge of the functions of his office;
 - (b) any physical or mental incapacity which the Board, after obtaining medical advice, considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold his office;
 - (c) conduct of a scandalous or other disgraceful nature which the Board considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold his office; or
 - (d) conduct which the Board considers to be such as to constitute failure or inability of the person concerned to discharge the functions of his office or to comply with the terms and conditions of his service.
- (4) Any person suspended shall, subject to subsections (2) and (3), be on half pay and the Board shall before the expiration of a period of three months after the date of such suspension, consider the case against that person and come to a decision as whether to —
 - (a) continue such person's suspension and if so, on what terms (including the proportion of his emoluments to be paid to him);
 - (b) reinstate such person, in which case the Board shall restore his full emoluments to him with effect from the date of suspension;
 - (c) terminate the appointment of the person concerned, in which case such person will not be entitled to the proportion of his emoluments withheld during the period of suspension; or
 - (d) take such lesser disciplinary action against such person (including the restoration of his emoluments that might have been withheld), as the Board may determine, and in any case where the Board, under this section, decides to continue a person's suspension or decides to take further disciplinary action against a person, the Board shall, before the expiration of a period of three months from such decision, come to a final determination in respect of the case concerning the person.
- (5) The person by whom a letter of removal is signed under subsection (1), shall use his best endeavours to cause a copy of the letter to be served immediately on the person to whom it relates.
- (6) Nothing in the provisions of this section shall prevent the Board from making regulations for the discipline of students and all other categories of employees of the Centre, as the Board may prescribe.
- (7) Regulations made under subsection (6), need not be published in the Federal Government Gazette, but the Board shall bring them to the notice of all affected persons in such manner as it may determine (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonybere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 21 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 22: Discipline of junior staff (Schedule).

- (1) If any junior staff is accused of misconduct or inefficiency, the Medical Director may suspend him for not more than three months and shall immediately direct the Junior Staff Appointments and Promotion Committee appointed under paragraph 4 (3) (b) of the Schedule to this Bill to —
 - (a) consider the case; and
 - (b) make recommendations as to the appropriate action to be taken by the Medical Director.
- (2) In all cases under this section, the officer shall be informed of the charge against him and shall be given reasonable opportunity to defend himself.
- (3) The Medical Director may, after considering the recommendation made under subsection (1) (b), dismiss, terminate, retire or down-grade the officer concerned.
- (4) Any person aggrieved by the Medical Director's decision under subsection (3) may, within a period of 21 days from the date of the letter communicating the decision to him, address a petition to the Board to reconsider his case, and the Board's decision shall be final (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 22 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

PART III — MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Clause 23: Exclusion of discrimination.

No person shall be required to satisfy requirements as to any of the following matters, that is to say, race (including ethnic grouping), sex, place of birth or of family origin, or religious or political persuasion, as a condition to becoming or continuing to be a student at the Centre, the holder of any appointment or employment at the Centre or a member of anybody established by virtue of this Bill, and no person shall be subjected to any disadvantage or accorded any advantage in relation to the Centre, by reference to any of those matters:

Provided that nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the Centre from imposing any disability or restriction on any person, where such person wilfully refuses or fails, on grounds of religious belief to undertake any duty generally and uniformly imposed on all such persons or any group of them which duty, having regard to its nature and the special circumstances pertaining to it, is in the opinion of the Centre reasonably justifiable in the national interest (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 23 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 24: Annual report.

The Board shall prepare and submit to the President, through the Minister, not later than 30 June in each year, a report in such form as the Minister may direct on the activities of the Board during the immediately preceding year and shall include in such report a copy of the audited accounts of the Centre for that year and of the auditors' report (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART IV — INTERPRETATION AND CITATION

Clause 25: Interpretation.

In this Bill —

"Board" means the governing Board of the Centre, established under section 4 (1) of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Centre" means the National Eye Centre, established under section 1 of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"functions" includes powers and duties (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Minister" means the Federal Minister responsible for health matters; and (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Student" means a person enrolled at an institution controlled by the Board, for the purpose of pursuing a course of instruction at the institution (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Question that Clause 25 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 26: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the National Eye Centre, Doma (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 26 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

SCHEDULE

Sections 4 (6), 9 (1), (3) and 22 (1)

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE
BOARD AND THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Proceedings of the Board

1. Subject to the provisions of this Bill and Section 27 of the Interpretation Act (which provides for decisions of a statutory body to be taken by a majority of the members of the body and for the person presiding to have a second or casting vote), the Board may make Standing

Orders regulating the proceedings of the Board or any Committee.

2. The quorum of the Board shall be three which shall include the Chairman and two other members, and the quorum of any Committee of the Board shall be determined by the Board.
3.
 - (1) Subject to the provisions of any standing orders of the Board, the Board shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman, and if the Chairman is required so to do by notice given to him by at least four other members, he shall summon a meeting of the Board to be held within 14 days of the date of the receipt of the notice.
 - (2) At any meeting of the Board, the Chairman of the Board shall preside and if the Chairman is absent, the members present shall elect one of their number to preside at the meeting.
 - (3) Where the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person on any particular matter, the Board may co-opt him as a member for such period as it deems fit, but a person who is a member by virtue of this subparagraph, shall not be entitled to vote and shall not count towards a quorum.
 - (4) Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, the first meeting of the Board shall be summoned by the Minister, who may give such directions as he deems fit as to the procedure which shall be followed at that meeting.

Committees of the Board and Education Committee

4.
 - (1) The Board may appoint one or more Committees to carry out on behalf of the Board such of its functions as the Board may determine, but a decision of a Committee shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the Board.
 - (2) The Education Committee may appoint one or more Committees to carry out on behalf of the Education Committee such of its functions as the Education Committee may determine, but a decision of a Committee shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the Education Committee.
 - (3) Without prejudice to the generality of subparagraphs (1) and (2), the Board shall appoint the following Committees —
 - (a) Appointments and Promotions Committee, which shall —
 - (i) consist of at least five members, including the Medical Director, who shall be the Chairman of the Committee,
 - (ii) be charged with the responsibility for making recommendations to the Board on the appointment and promotion of the clinical, administrative and technical staff of the Centre and have a quorum of three members;
 - (b) the Junior Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee, which shall have the powers set out in section 22 of this Bill.

Employees of the Centre

5. Subject to this Bill, the Board shall have power the -

- (a) pay the employees of the Centre such remuneration and allowances as the Board may with the approval of the Minister determine;
- (b) pay any person appointed to a Committee of the Board such remuneration (whether by way of fees or otherwise), in respect of the performance of his functions under this Bill and such travelling and subsistence allowances while on the business of the Board, as the Board may determine;
- (c) establish for the employees of the Centre such superannuation scheme (whether contributory or not), as the Board may determine; and
- (d) give loans to its employees for purposes approved by the Board.

Miscellaneous

- 6.
 - (1) The fixing of the seal of the Board shall be authenticated by the signature of the Chairman or of some other member, authorised generally or specially by the Board for that purpose.
 - (2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person not being a body corporate would not be required to be under seal, may be made or executed on behalf of the Centre by any person generally or specially authorised to act for that purpose by the Board or a Committee of the Board.
 - (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed under the seal of the Centre shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved, be presumed to be so executed.
- 7. The validity of any proceedings of the Board or a Committee shall not be affected by any vacancy in the membership of the Board or Committee, or by any defect in the appointment of a member of the Board or of any other person on the Committee.
- 8. Any member, and any person holding office on a Committee of the Board, who has a personal interest in any contract or arrangement entered into or proposed to be considered by the Board, shall forthwith disclose his interest to the Board and shall not vote on any question relating to the contract or arrangement.

Education Committee

- 9. The provisions of this Schedule shall apply, with necessary changes having been made, to the education Committee, but in relation to the quorum, it shall be as may be determined by the Education Committee (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill, amongst other things, provides for —

- (a) the establishment of the National Eye Centre in Doma Local Government Area, Nasarawa State, Nigeria;
- (b) the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of eye; and
- (c) the co-ordination of research in eye diseases, and training of specialist in eye diseases (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Establish National Eye Centre, Doma for the Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Eye, Coordination of Research, Training of Specialist in Eye Diseases and Other Supporting Fields; and for Related Matters (SB.193) (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Eye Centre, Doma for the Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Eye, Coordination of Research, Training of Specialist in Eye Diseases and other Supporting fields; and for Related Matters (SB.193) and approved Clauses 1 - 26, the Schedule, 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.

- (ii) ***A Bill for an Act to provide for the Protection, Promotion and Maintenance of Health, for proper Sanitation and Hygiene in Matters Relating to Housing, Food, Recreation, Hospitality and Generally, for the Protection of the Environment to Safeguard Human Health and for the Control of Services, Activities, Improvement of Healthful Living; and For Related Matters (HB.1265) (Committee of the Whole):***

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to provide for the Protection, Promotion and Maintenance of Health, for proper Sanitation and Hygiene in Matters Relating to Housing, Food, Recreation, Hospitality and Generally, for the Protection of the Environment to Safeguard Human Health and for the Control of Services, Activities, Improvement of Healthful Living; and For Related Matters (HB.1265)” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE PROTECTION, PROMOTION AND MAINTENANCE OF HEALTH, FOR PROPER SANITATION AND HYGIENE IN MATTERS RELATING TO HOUSING, FOOD, RECREATION, HOSPITALITY AND GENERALLY, FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT TO SAFEGUARD HUMAN HEALTH AND FOR THE CONTROL OF SERVICES, ACTIVITIES, IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTHFUL LIVING; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Consideration deferred.

Chairman to report progress:

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report on a Bill for an Act to provide for the Protection, Promotion and Maintenance of Health, for proper Sanitation and Hygiene in Matters Relating to Housing, Food, Recreation, Hospitality and Generally, for the Protection of the Environment to Safeguard Human Health and for the Control of Services, Activities, Improvement of Healthful Living; and For Related Matters (HB.1265).

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

(iii) Committee on Healthcare Services:

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Healthcare Services on a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Tobacco Control Act, 2015 to cure certain defects in the Act, ensure its effective Implementation in Nigeria and address the Lacuna that may be easily exploited by the Tobacco Industry in Nigeria and impose stiffer Penalties for Smoking of Tobacco in Public Places and for Related Matters (HB. 47 & HB. 1151)” (*Hon. Akiba Bassey Ekpenyong — Calabar Municipal/Odukpani 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 Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

**A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL TOBACCO
CONTROL ACT, 2015 TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION AND
CONTROL OF TOBACCO, TOBACCO PRODUCTS, AND NON-COMBUSTIBLE
PRODUCTS IN NIGERIA; AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS**

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 1: Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended by introducing new subsection (n):

“(n) to ensure Nigeria's legislative and regulatory framework is in consonance with Tobacco Harm Reduction objectives and covers the control and regulation of Non-combustible products” (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 2: (a) Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (1) (d) by introducing the following agencies to be represented as members of the Committee immediately after the Standards Organisation of Nigeria and renumbering accordingly;

(x) Nigeria Police Force;

(xii) Federal Ministry responsible for Youth Development;

(b) Section 2 of the Principal Act is further amended by introducing a new subsection (5) as follows:

“(5) The Chairperson of the Committee shall be a qualified medical

doctor of not less than 10 years cognate experience or a legal practitioner of not less than 10 years post call experience" (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 3: (a) Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (2) by introducing new paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) as follows:

- (e) application and license fees, fines and penalties from violations of the provisions of this Bill.
- (f) sales of properties forfeited to the government as consequences of violation of provisions of this Bill

Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by introducing new subsection (3) of section 8 thus:

- (3) (a) The Fund shall be used for the general administration of the Act
- (b) To defray the expenses of the National Tobacco Control Committee (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 4: (a) Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection 1 by deleting the phrase "except in a room exclusively owned by the smoker" in paragraph (a) of subsection 9; and also by deleting the phrase "except in a vehicle exclusively occupied by the smoker" in paragraph (b) of subsection 9.

- (b) Section 9 of the Principal Act is further amended by deleting subsections (2), (3) and (4) of section 9.

Committee's Recommendation:

Leave out Clause 4 (Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 5: (c) Section 9 of the Principal Act is further amended in subsection 5 by introducing new paragraphs (h), (i) and (j) and renumbered accordingly as follows:

- "(h) any service area:
- (i) anywhere within 30 meters of any childcare facility, health facility, educational institution;
- (j) anywhere within 30 meters of any playground, amusement park, plaza, stadium, arena, any kind of performance space, or any public gathering space"

Introduction of new subsection 9 (6)-(9).

“Control over Vaping and Aerosols.

- (6) (a) Notwithstanding and without prejudice to any regulations so made (or lack thereof), the provisions of this section shall apply to all forms of vaping.
- (b) No person may vape in:
- (i) an enclosed public place or enclosed workplace, or in or on a Public Transport System;
 - (ii) any motor vehicle when a child under the age of 18 years is present and there is more than one person present in that vehicle;
 - (iii) health facilities, excluding rehabilitation centers.
- (7) Notwithstanding the other provisions of Section 9 (6), nothing in this Bill prohibits a person from vaping products in an enclosed public place provided that such vaping is for the exclusive purpose of sampling an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System or any component thereof at a point of sale; provided further that the point of sale must possess adequate ventilation.

Control over Tobacco Heated Products

- (8) Section 9 (6) and (7) above shall apply in similar manner to Tobacco Heated Products.
- (9) Further Control Requirements of Non-combustible products are as provided in the Third Schedule to this Bill (Act) (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 6: Section 11 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting subsection 3 of section 11.

Committee’s Recommendation:

Leave out Clause 6 (Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 7: (a) Section 12 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by introducing a new paragraph (d) as follows:

“(d) in-country, local and cross border advertisement, promotion or sponsorship of tobacco or tobacco products is prohibited in Nigeria across its borders”.

- (b) Section 12 of the Principal Act is further amended by deleting subsection (2) (b) of section 12.

Leave out Clause 7 (Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 8: Section 12 of the Principal Act is further amended in subsection (4) by inserting the words 'as may be prescribed by the Ministry' in paragraph (a) immediately after the word 'information' in the last line of paragraph (a):

- (a) a plain black-and-white only price list made available where tobacco products are legally sold, provided the list contains nothing more than the tobacco product brand name, package quantity, price, and any government-required or authorized information or as may be prescribed by the Ministry.

Introduction of new subsection (6)

“Restrictions on Advertising and Promotion of Non-Combustible Products.

- (6) (i) No manufacturer, importer, distributor, or retailer may advertise or promote, or cause any other person to advertise or promote, Non-combustible Products except through the the trade and consenting adult consumers, following means:
 - (a) adult publications;
 - (b) point-of-sale promotional materials;
 - (c) Online adult Advertising; and
 - (d) sponsorship of cultural, social or recreational events by manufacturers, importers, distributors or retailers, of Non-combustible Products provided that such events are directed at an audience of 18 years of age and above.
- (ii) All Advertising and promotion of Non-combustible Products that contain nicotine shall clearly indicate that the product contains nicotine.
- (iii) No Manufacturer, importer, distributor, or retailer may take any action, targeting persons under 18 years of age when it advertises or promotes Non-combustible Products.
- (iv) No manufacturer, importer, distributor, or retailer, may place or cause to be placed any advertising or promotion of any educational establishment or health facility, except in the pursuit of a normal retail channel such as that of a gas station forecourt, retail supermarkets amongst others; and
- (v) No person depicted in any advertising and promotional materials shall be or shall appear to be under age 25.

Product presentation requirements

- (vi) The Non-combustible Product shall not include any element or feature that —
 - (a) promotes the Non-combustible Product in a misleading way; or;
 - (b) is reasonably associated with youth culture or depicts real or fictitious characters or objects that are likely to appeal particularly to people younger than the age of 18, including comic or cartoon characters, toys or confectionery.

- (vii) The elements and features referred to in this Section include (but are not limited to) text, symbols, names, trademarks, figurative or other types of sign.
- (viii) The flavour names and descriptors of the Non-combustible Product shall:
 - (a) be factually descriptive;
 - (b) not be reasonably associated with youth culture or appeal particularly to people under the age of 18 years, including names which are reminiscent of confectionary disproportionately appealing to youth; and
 - (c) not be misleading, linked to illegal or dangerous substances, sexually inappropriate or have unsubstantiated health claims (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 9: Penalties for non-compliance.

- (a) Section 14 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting the word “section” with the word “Part” in line 1 of paragraph 1:

PART VI — TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND NON-COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCT SALES
(*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

- Clause 10:** (a) Section 15 (5) of the Principal Act is amended by introducing the words “or a minimum of 5 cigar pieces” as follows:

“(5) No person shall sell smoked tobacco products except in a package which shall be intact and contain a minimum of 20 cigarette sticks or a minimum of 5 cigar pieces”.

- (b) Section 15 of the Principal Act is amended by introducing new subsections (8)-(13):

“(8) Restrictions on the Sale and Distribution of Non-combustible Products:

A person shall not sell Non-combustible Products —

- (a) to a person younger than 18 years of age; or
 - (b) to a person with the intention that it be supplied (directly or indirectly) to a person younger than 18 years.
- (9) A person selling Non-combustible Products shall demand for evidence showing that the person to whom the Non-combustible Products is to be sold or supplied is 18 years of age or older.

- (10) No person shall employ or use a person younger than 18 years of age to sell Non-combustible Products
- (11) A person who offers to sell Non-combustible Products to Consumers, must display clearly at each point of sale a notice for the public that the sale of the product to people who are younger than 18 years of age is prohibited.
- (12) A person shall not sell Non-combustible Products to a Consumer in Nigeria via an online or digital sale unless —
 - (a) the online platform operates an age verification system; and
 - (b) prior to, at the time of sale or at the time of delivery, the Consumer provides evidence which confirms, that the Consumer is 18 years or older.

Permissible retail sale channels.

- (13) The following methods of sale of Non-combustible Products are permitted:
 - (a) via a direct, face-to-face exchange at a retail establishment, provided that:
 - (i) non-combustible Products sold or offered for sale at a retail establishment may be displayed at such establishment, even if such establishment is not an Adult Only Facility, but any display of such products shall be maintained in an area of the retail establishment that is not accessible to customers (including but not limited to an area behind the sales counter where customers are not permitted to enter).
 - (ii) no self-service displays of Non-combustible Products are permitted in any retail establishment.
 - (iii) no person may place, cause to be placed, or permit any other person to place an automated vending machine containing any Non-combustible Products in or on any place or premises.
 - (b) via a remote sale to a Consumer, provided that any person who mails or ships Non-Combustible Products sold pursuant to a remote sale and not via a direct face-to-face exchange shall:
 - (i) not sell, deliver, or cause to be delivered any product to a person under the age of 18.
 - (ii) use a method of mailing or shipping that requires the purchaser placing the delivery sale order, or a person who is at least 18 years of age, to sign for an accept delivery of the shipping container at the delivery address; and the person who signs to accept delivery of the shipping container to provide

proof, in the form of a valid, government-issued identification bearing a photograph of the individual, that the person is at least 18 years of age.

- (iii) not accept a remote sale order from a person without obtaining the full name, birth date, and residential address of that person.
- (iv) keep records of such sales, including invoicing for each shipment product, along with the name and address of each purchaser, recipient and delivery agent. Such records shall be maintained in their original form for a period of not less than 3 years and shall be produced upon request to the Minister, subject to the provisions of Data Protection Act, 2023 or any other applicable data protection laws in force in Nigeria.
- (v) comply with the provisions of this 'Bill and any regulations or other requirements relating to Non-combustible Products then in effect" (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 11: Penalties for non-compliance.

- (a) Section 16 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting subsection (1) of section 16.
- (b) Section 16 of the Principal is further amended in subsection (2) by deleting the words "the applicable penalties for the violation of the provisions of this Part are" - in paragraph (a) as a preamble to section 16.
- (c) Section 16 of the Principal is further amended in subsection (2) by deleting paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 16.

Part VII is amended to insert the words "and non-combustible products" in the shoulder note (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

PART VII — REGULATION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS
AND NON-COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCTS CONTENT
AND EMISSIONS DISCLOSURES

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 11: (a) Regulation of Standard of tobacco Products and non-combustible products.

Section 17 (1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the words "non-combustible products" as follows:

A person shall not manufacture, distribute or sell tobacco product or non-combustible products that does not conform to approved standard or

quantity prescribed.

- (b) Section 17 (2) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the words “non-combustible products”.

Any tobacco products or non-combustible product that does not conform to approved standard or prescribed quantity shall be confiscated and destroyed by the relevant law enforcement agencies (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 12: Product content and emissions reporting.

Section 18 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting the words “Standards Organisation of Nigeria” in the last line of subsection (1) and substituting it with the words “Joint Committee of the Federal Ministry of Health and the Standards Organisation of Nigeria”.

Leave out Clause 12 (Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

**PART VIII — TOBACCO PRODUCT AND NON-COMBUSTIBLE
PRODUCT PACKAGING AND LABELING**

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 13: Health warnings and other information required on tobacco product and non-combustible packaging and labeling.

- (a) Every tobacco or tobacco products package shall contain in writing or any other prescribed form every health warning sign prescribed in this Bill or any other law which shall cover not less than 60% of the total surface area of the package.

- (b) Section 20 of the Principal Act is amended by introducing subsection (3) to cover requirements for Non-combustible products as follows:

(3) Packaging and labelling requirements for Non-Combustible Products.

- (i) The packaging for an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System must —

- (a) be child resistant and conform to products standards set by the Standards Organisation of Nigeria;

- (b) include a visible tamper-evident seal;

- (c) not contain any cartoons action heroes or popular characters designed to appeal to persons under 18 years of age; and

- (d) display the following information:

- (i) a statement of the manufacturing date and batch number of the product; and

- (ii) contact details of the manufacturer to enable

Consumers to provide feedback on the product.

- (ii) Section 20 (1) apply equally to the packaging of components of an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System, including liquid solution refills, that are sold separately.

Health warning messages and required information for vaping e-liquid.

- (iii) The packaging for E-liquid Solution must display the following information:

- (a) a text only health warning relating to the addictive effects of nicotine if the E-liquid Solution contains nicotine or state that the product is nicotine-free. E-liquid Solution that contains nicotine must visibly show a nicotine concentration statement (in mg/mL); Products that are nicotine-free must state that the absence of nicotine does not mean this product is risk-free.
- (b) a statement describing, or information on each ingredient in the product;
- (c) a statement describing the nicotine concentration present in the E-liquid Solution component of the product if the e-liquid solution contains nicotine;
- (d) where the product, including any of its Components, contains or may contain any common allergen, a statement indicating the presence or possible presence of such allergen;
- (e) both of the following warnings in the form of a written statement or symbol
 - (i) "This product contains nicotine and is addictive" (for nicotine containing products only);
 - (ii) "sale to persons under 18 is prohibited"; and
 - (iii) "keep out of reach of children and pets";

- (iv) The health warning referred to in Section 20 (7) (3) (a) must —

- (a) appear in conspicuous and legible type that contrasts by typography, layout, or colour with all other printed material on the packaging of the Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System E-liquid Solution;
- (b) be positioned on the front at the bottom across the full width of the packaging covering a surface area

- of no more than 30% text health warning of the front cover of the packaging;
- (c) be clearly visible and legible;
- (d) printed on the package itself and not on any removable cellophane or overwrap
- (v) The packaging of an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System shall contain a leaflet, which must contain the following information:
 - (a) instructions on the proper use of the product;
 - (b) information relating to the charging, storage, handling, cleaning and maintenance of the product; and
 - (c) contra-indications for sensitivity to nicotine or any other ingredient of the product.
- (vi) The Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Device shall not carry a health warning.

Product information, packaging and labelling of Tobacco-Free Oral Nicotine Pouch Product.

- (vii) No person may supply a tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch product unless it complies with Sections 20 (7)-(8) to 20 (7)-(9).
- (viii) Each pack and unit packet of a tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch product must include a leaflet with information on —
 - (a) instructions for use and storage of the product, including a statement that the product is not intended for use by people under the age of 18 and non-smokers;
 - (b) contra-indications, stating any medical conditions or circumstances when the product should not be used;
 - (c) warnings for specific risk groups;
 - (d) possible adverse effects;
 - (e) addictiveness;
- (ix) The packaging (including each unit packaging) for tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch products must —
 - (a) be child resistant and conform to Products standards as prescribed by the Standards Organisation of Nigeria;
 - (b) include a visible tamper-evident seal;

- (c) not contain any cartoons action heroes or popular characters designed to appeal to persons under 18 years of age; and
- (d) display the following information:
 - (i) a statement of the manufacturing date and batch number of the product; and
 - (ii) contact details of the manufacturer and/ importer to enable Consumers to provide feedback on the product and if the Manufacturer or importer is not based in Nigeria, a contact person within Nigeria.

Health warning messages and required information for Tobacco-Free Oral Nicotine Pouch Product.

- (x) The packaging for tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch products must display the following information:
 - (a) a text only health warning relating to the addictive effects of nicotine and information on the nicotine concentration (in mg/ml);
 - (b) a list of all ingredients contained in the product set out in descending order by weight. For the purposes of this Section 14, all ingredients with the main purpose of flavouring may be described collectively in the list by the term 'flavourings';
 - (c) a statement of the nicotine content per consumable, expressed in mg/consumable;
 - (d) where the product, including any of its Components, contains or may contain any common allergen, a statement indicating the presence or possible presence of such allergen;
 - (e) both of the following warnings in the form of a written statement or symbol —
 - (i) "This product contains nicotine and is addictive" (for nicotine containing products only);
 - (ii) "sale to persons under 18 is prohibited"; and
 - (iii) "keep out of reach of children and pets";
- (xi) The health warning referred to in Section 20 (7)-(10) (1) (a) must —
 - (a) appear in conspicuous and legible type that contrasts by typography, layout, or colour with all other printed material on the packaging of the

- tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch products;
- (b) be positioned on the front at the bottom across the full width of the packaging covering a surface area of no more than 10% text health warning of the front cover of the packaging;
 - (c) be clearly visible and legible;
 - (d) printed on the package itself and not on any removable cellophane or overwrap Product information, packaging and labelling of Tobacco Heating Products.
- (xii) No person may supply Tobacco Heating Products unless it complies with Sections 20 (7)-(13) to (15).
- (xiii) Each pack and unit packet of Tobacco Heating Products must include a leaflet with information on —
- (a) instructions for use and storage of the product, including a statement that the product is not intended for use by people under the age of 18 and non-smokers;
 - (b) contra-indications, stating any medical conditions or circumstances when the product should not be used;
 - (c) warnings for specific risk groups;
 - (d) possible adverse effects;
 - (e) addictiveness;
- (xiv) The packaging (including each unit packaging) for Tobacco Heating Products and Tobacco Stick products must —
- (a) be child resistant and conform to product standard prescribed by the Standards Organisation of Nigeria;
 - (b) include a visible tamper-evident seal;
 - (c) not contain any cartoons action heroes or popular characters designed to appeal to persons under 18 years of age; and
 - (d) display the following information:
 - (i) a statement of the manufacturing date and batch number of the product; and
 - (ii) contact details of the manufacturer and/ importer to enable Consumers to provide feedback on the product and if the Manufacturer or importer is not based in

Nigeria, a contact person within Nigeria.

- (xv) Health warning messages and required information for Heated Tobacco Products —
 - (i) the packaging for Tobacco Stick products (including packaging for Tobacco Heating Products which incorporate Tobacco Stick products) must display the following information:
 - (a) a health warning relating to the addictive effects of tobacco;
 - (b) a list of all ingredients contained in the product set out in descending order by weight. For the purposes of this Section 20, all ingredients with the main purpose of flavouring may be described collectively in the list by the term 'flavourings';
 - (c) a statement of the tobacco and nicotine content per consumable, expressed in mg/consumable;
 - (d) where the product, including any of its Components, contains or may contain any common allergen, a statement indicating the presence or possible presence of such allergen;
 - (e) both of the following warnings in the form of a written statement or symbol —
 - (i) "this tobacco product may damage your health and is addictive."
 - (ii) "sale to persons under 18 is prohibited"; and
 - (iii) "keep out of reach of children and pets";
 - (ii) The health warning referred to in Section 20 (15) (1) (a) must —
 - (a) appear in conspicuous and legible type that contrasts by typography, layout, or colour with all other printed material on the packaging of the products;
 - (b) be positioned on the front at the bottom across the full width of the packaging covering a surface area of at least 30% text health warning of the front cover of the packaging;

- (c) be clearly visible and legible;
- (d) printed on the package itself and not on any removable cellophane or overwrap.

The Tobacco Heating Device (which is not included in the Tobacco Stick products packaging) shall not contain any health warnings (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 14: Amendment of Section 22.

- (1) Except otherwise stated in this Bill or any other law, a change in any regulation made under this Bill relating to the standard, packaging and labelling of tobacco or tobacco related products shall take effect after 15 months from the date of publication of regulations in the Official Gazette (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 15: Amendment of section 28.

Prevention and Management of Conflict of Interests.

A person required to make disclosures under the section shall truthfully, and fully disclose all information required within the time specified and shall do so under oath (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 16: Amendment of Section 29: Application for License.

Section 29 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting the proviso to subsection (1) of section 29.

Leave out Clause 16 (Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Clause 17: Amendment of Section 39: Power to Make Regulations.

Section 39 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting subsection (2) of section 39.

Leave out Clause 17 (Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 18: Amendment of Section 42: Application of Penalties for Non-compliance.

Section 42 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by inserting the words "or its Regulation" immediately after the word "Act" in line 1 of subsection (1) of section 42 (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 19: Application of Penalties for Non-compliance.

Section 45 of the Principal Act is amended to introduce additional interpretation thereto:

Interpretations.

"Adult-Only Facility" means a facility or restricted area that requires each person present therein or using the facility to be at least 18 years of age and to provide evidence of age as a condition of entry.

"Age Verification System" means a system of process of confirming the age of a person whether electronically or otherwise;

"Adult Publication" means print or digital newspaper, magazine, blogs, paid media, periodical, or other publication (whether in periodic or limited distribution) whose readers who are older than 18 years of age constitute 50 percent or more of the total readership as measured by competent and reliable survey evidence;

"Advertise or Promote" in respect of Non-combustible Products means any form of commercial communication, recommendation or action with the aim, effect of promoting Non-combustible Products or the use of Non-combustible Products, but excludes any commercial communication between a manufacturer or importer of the Non-combustible Products, and the trade partners, business partners, employees and shareholders of the manufacturer or importer: and any communication required by law; and "Advertisement" and "Promotional Material" shall be construed accordingly;

"Aerosol" means the particulate matter and vapour emitted by an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System which is produced as a result of the heating of the liquid solution component of the system;

"Atomizer" means heating element and wick assembly to which power is supplied to heat e-liquid to help form vapour for inhalation;

"Cartridge" means the part of an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System that contains an e-liquid solution;

"CMR properties" means a constituent that has properties which are carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction;

"Consumable" means a single pre-portion of a tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch product;

"Commercial Communication", includes communication through —

Any audio, visual or audio-visual means;

The digital and print media, including newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, leaflets, flyers, letters, billboards, posters or signs;

Television and radio (terrestrial and satellite);

Film and music;

Games, including computer, phone and online games;

Any other digital communication platform, including the internet and mobile phones;

Theatre or other live performances; and

Any other similar medium, method or means;

"Container Pack" means any packaging —

- (a) in which that product is, or is intended to be, presented for retail sale; and
- (b) which contains (whether fully or partially enclosing) —
 - (i) a unit pack of that product, or
 - (ii) an aggregation of such unit packs, not including a transparent wrapper;

"Component", whether or not sold separately from the Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System, includes the cartridge, e-liquid solution, and any source of flavourings;

"Composition" means the content, arrangement or combination of substances included in the processing and manufacture of the e-liquid solution;

"Consumer" means a person, at least 18 years of age, who purchases Non-combustible Products for personal consumption;

"Distributor" means a person who sells or distributes Non-combustible Products, whether domestic or imported, to retailers in Nigeria;

"Emissions" means vapour and aerosol produced when an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System or electronic heating device is activated and used under normal conditions of use;

"Enclosed" in respect of an area, place or space, includes any area, place or space —

That has a ceiling or a roof or any other cover that functions, whether temporary or permanently, as a ceiling or roof; or

That is bounded by one or more adjoining walls or enclosures that function as walls.

"Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System" means an electronically operated non-combustible product designed to deliver an aerosol to users by heating a solution comprised of nicotine and typically, but not necessarily, propylene glycol glycerol or both, and often flavouring and any other solution intended for use with or in the product and includes any Component of the product that is sold separately for use as part of the system; and shall include both open and closed systems;

"E-liquid Solution" means an e-liquid solution, with or without nicotine, and with or without flavourings, for use in an Electronic - Delivery System device;

"E-liquid Ingredient" means a chemical substance, compound or extract used in the formulation of the e-liquid solution;

"Flavouring" means a chemical substance, extract or natural ingredient that imparts a taste flavour or aroma to the vapour emitted from the Non-combustible Product;

"Food Grade" means a flavouring compound achieving the required grade for food safety as may be required by the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control or any successor Federal Government agency for the administration of food in Nigeria;

"Heating Element" means a component to which power is supplied to heat liquid solution to help form vapour for inhalation;

"Importer" means any person who imports Non-combustible Products or component of Non-combustible Products into Nigeria for distribution and eventual sale to Consumers;

"Manufacturer" means any company or person who manufactures Non-combustible Products or any Component of Non-combustible Products;

"NAFDAC" means National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control established pursuant to the relevant provisions of the NAFDAC Act.

"Nicotine" means a psychoactive stimulatory substance/compound chemically known as 3- (1- methyl-2- pyrrolidinyl) pyridine naturally present in tobacco plants and other foods which can be extracted and used as a constituent of the e-liquid solution In Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System products and other products;

"Non-Combustible Products" includes Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery Systems, Tobacco Heated Products, Tobacco-Free Oral Nicotine Pouch Products and any other product containing reconstituted tobacco, nicotine, or tobacco or nicotine substitutes, intended for inhalation without combustion and other nicotine containing products intended for the intake of nicotine into the human body; Non-combustible products may also include nicotine-free vaping products;

"Online Advertising" means any advertisement or promotional material displayed or published on an electronic platform or database, and includes company websites and social media platforms of manufacturers, importers, distributors or retailers of Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery Systems;

"Outdoor Media" means print and digital billboards, signage, posters and other forms of Advertising in outdoor spaces

"Packaging" in respect of Non-combustible Products, means any container which contains any Non-Combustible Products;

"Pharmaceutical Grade" means in conformity with the [or applicable standard in Nigeria];

"Point-of-sale" means a location where Non-combustible Products are sold or supplied to Consumers;

"Point-of-sale Promotional Materials" means any Advertisement or promotional material displayed at a location where Non-Combustible Products are sold or supplied to Consumers, and includes Print Media, digital media and film media;

"Print Media" means newspapers, magazines, leaflets, brochures, direct mail and other print publications as well as the digital versions of such publications.

"Publish" means publish, broadcast, disseminate or bring to the notice of the public in any manner;

"Public Transport System" means any aircraft, ship, boat, train, bus, mini-bus, taxi or other vehicle which is used for transportation, of members of the public;

"Public Place" means any place accessible to the public or place for collective use, regardless of the ownership or right to access thereof, and includes but is not limited to restaurants and hotels;

"Refill Container" means a receptacle that contains a liquid solution, which can be used to fill or refill an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System;

"Remote Sale" means any sale of Non-combustible Products to a Consumer if the:

- (a) consumer submits the order for the sale by means of a telephone or other method of voice transmission, postal mail, or the internet or other online service, or the seller is otherwise not in the physical presence of the buyer when the request for purchase or order is made; or
- (b) the Non-combustible Product is delivered to the Consumer by courier, private delivery service, or other method of remote delivery, or the seller is not in the physical presence of the Consumer when the Consumer obtains possession of the Non-combustible Product;

"Retailer" means a person who sells or offers to sell Non-combustible Products directly to Consumers for personal consumption or who operates a retail establishment where such sales are permitted;

"SON" the Standard Organisation of Nigeria established pursuant to the provisions of the Standard Organisation of Nigeria Act, 2015.

"Smokeless Tobacco Products" means a type of tobacco that is not smoked or burned, it consists of cut, ground, powdered or leaf tobacco and may be used as chewing tobacco or moist stuff, or inhaled through the nose as dry snuff that is intended to be placed in the oral or nasal cavity. Smokeless tobacco contains nicotine.

"Tobacco Product" means a product containing tobacco or tobacco leaves that is intended for human consumption but does not include any food, drug or device that contains nicotine and does not include Non-combustible Products;

"Tobacco Heating Device" means electronic-powered systems that heat tobacco to produce aerosols through tobacco sticks;

"Tobacco Heating Product" means a Tobacco Heating Device and/or a tobacco stick product which is intended to be used with a Tobacco Heating Device;

"Tobacco Stick" means a roll of tobacco (or of tobacco and another substance) which is intended to be consumed by means of heating in a Tobacco Heating Device;

"Tamper-Evident Seal" means a package sealing device which, if breached or missing, provides visible evidence to Consumers that tampering has occurred;

"Tobacco-Free Oral Nicotine Pouch Product" means a pre-portioned product that —

- (a) contains nicotine, flavourings and other ingredients, but which does not contain tobacco, intended for oral use and for uptake of the nicotine via the oral mucosa; and

(b) is not a medicinal product;

"Trade Show" refers to an exhibition or other organised event which is attended by companies and individuals in Non-combustible Products industry (including but not limited to manufacturers, importers, distributors, retailers, suppliers, marketers and related vendors);

"Trade Communication" refers to a communication which is targeted at companies and individuals in the Non-combustible Products industry, including but not limited to Manufacturers, importers, distributors, retailers, suppliers, marketers and related vendors;

"Vape" means inhale, exhale, hold or otherwise have control over an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System that produces an emission of any sort, and "vaping" shall be construed accordingly (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 20: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the National Tobacco Control Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 21: Insertion of a Third Schedule.

A new Third Schedule is introduced to provide further control requirements for Non-Combustible Products:

THIRD SCHEDULE

FURTHER CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCTS

Control of Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery Systems

1. Product notification for Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery Systems

- (1) A Manufacturer or importer who supplies or intends to supply Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery Systems must seek and obtain all necessary clearance from the SON and notify the Minister in accordance with this Section 1.
- (2) Where an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System is substantially modified ("a modified product") a Manufacturer or importer must comply with the following in respect of the modified product.
- (3) A notification under this Section must contain the following information —
 - (i) the name and contact details of the Manufacturer, the importer (if applicable) and, if neither is based in Nigeria, a responsible person within Nigeria;
 - (ii) a list of all ingredients contained in the product by brand and variant name, including quantities. For the purposes of this Section, ingredients present at a level below 0.1% of the final formulation can be described collectively in the notification by an umbrella term such as 'flavouring';

- (iii) a toxicological risk assessment for the product, a description of the production process and a declaration that it conforms with the requirements of this Section; and
 - (iv) a declaration that the Manufacturer or importer bears full responsibility for the quality of the product when supplied and used under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions.
 - (4) Notification under this Section must be submitted in respect of a product —
 - (i) on or before 3 (three) months after the commencement date of the Bill, where a Manufacturer first supplied a product before the commencement date of the Bill ("an existing product") and intends to continue to supply that product on or after the commencement date of the Bill]; and
 - (ii) in any other case, at least 3 (three) months before the date on which the Manufacturer intends to first supply a product or a modified product.
 - (5) A Manufacturer or importer must notify the Minister before, or as soon as reasonably practicable after, the Manufacturer or importer withdraws a product that has been notified under Section 1(1) from the market.
 - (6) A person submitting information in accordance with this Section 1 must specify any information which that person considers to constitute a trade secret.
 - (7) The Minister shall take the need to protect trade secrets into account when making any information submitted in accordance with this Section 5 publicly available.
 - (8) Where the information submitted under this Section is incomplete, the Minister may request the Manufacturer or importer concerned to provide the complete information.
 - (9) A manufacturer or importer must comply with a request under Section 1(8) by the date reasonably required by the Minister.
- 2. Standards for manufacture and import of Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery Systems
 - (1) No person shall manufacture for sale, import, supply or sell an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System unless it complies with Section 2 (2) to 2 (4).
 - (2) Liquid solution which is presented for retail sale must be in —
 - (a) dedicated refill container in a volume not exceeding 10 millilitres; or
 - (b) a disposable Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System, a single use cartridge, or a tank, in a volume not exceeding 2 millilitres.
 - (3) The capacity of the tank of a refillable Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System must not exceed 2 millilitres.
 - (4) The liquid solution must be manufactured using only:
 - (a) ingredients of high purity;
 - (b) Pharmaceutical Grade nicotine; and
 - (c) flavouring and other ingredients which are:

- (i) Pharmaceutical Grade where available in that grade; or
 - (ii) food grade where it is not available in Pharmaceutical Grade and it is available in food grade.
- 3. Product Batch Traceability of Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery Systems
 - (1) A Manufacturer or importer who supplies or intends to supply Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System shall keep a written record of the batch number(s) and the supplier's details for all ingredients used in the manufacture of each specific batch of products, and the batch number assigned to the final Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System following manufacture.
 - (2) The batch records required under Section 10(1) shall be kept by the Manufacturer or importer for a minimum period of 3 (three) years from the date of manufacture or import of the product, and shall be made available to the Minister upon request.
 - (3) A Manufacturer or importer must comply with a request under Section 10(2) by the date reasonably required by the Minister.
 - (4) A person submitting information in accordance with this Section 10 must specify any information which that person considers to constitute a trade secret.
 - (5) The Minister shall take the need to protect trade secrets duly into account when making any information submitted in accordance with this Section publicly available.
- 4. Toxicological risk assessment of Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System
 - (1) A Manufacturer or Importer who intends to supply Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System shall obtain a toxicological risk assessment of the product by a competent qualified and registered toxicology specialist taking into account every ingredient present in the product and on the basis of on-going risk-based compliance checks.
 - (2) The toxicological risk assessment shall estimate Consumer exposure based on knowledge of how the product is intended to be normally used.
 - (3) Exposure and risk shall also be estimated for cases of accidental or deliberate misuse or malfunction.
 - (4) Risk assessment and Consumer risk profile shall be based on comparability to other exposure benchmarks e.g. occupational exposure limits with appropriate safety factors.
 - (5) Where an analyte of interest is identified in the emissions from an Electronic Nicotine or non-Nicotine Delivery System at a level of toxicological concern, the source of these levels shall be identified. Attempts shall be made to alter the structure, components or design to reduce the levels present to a level that is toxicologically supportable. This shall be verified by further toxicological risk assessment of emissions from the modified product. In identifying a supportable level, comparators may be assessed, such as workplace exposure levels.
 - (6) The toxicological risk assessment shall be documented and maintained for review by the Minister.

Control of Tobacco-Free Oral Nicotine Pouch Products

- 5. Product notification for Tobacco-Free Oral Nicotine Pouch Products

- (1) A Manufacturer or importer who supplies or intends to supply a tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch product must seek and obtain all necessary clearance from the SON and notify the Minister in accordance with this Section.
 - (2) Where a tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch product is substantially modified ("a modified product") a Manufacturer or importer must comply with Sections 5(1) and 5(3) in respect of the modified product.
 - (3) A notification under Section 5(1) must contain the following information —
 - (a) the name and contact details of the Manufacturer, the importer (if applicable) and, if neither is based in Nigeria, a responsible person within Nigeria;
 - (b) a list of all ingredients contained in the product by brand and variant name, including quantities. For the purposes of this Section 5, ingredients present at a level below 0.1 % of the final formulation can be described collectively in the notification by an umbrella term such as 'flavouring';
 - (c) a toxicological risk assessment for the product a description of the production process and a declaration that it conforms with the requirements of this Section 5; and
 - (d) a declaration that the Manufacturer or importer bears full responsibility for the quality of the product when supplied and used under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions.
 - (4) Notification under Section 5(1) must be submitted in respect of a product —
 - (a) on or before 3 (three) months after the commencement date of the Bill, where a Manufacturer first supplied a product before the commencement date of the Bill ("an existing product") and intends to continue to supply that product on or after the commencement date of the Bill]; and
 - (b) in any other case, at least 3 (three) months before the date on which the Manufacturer intends to first supply a product or a modified product.
 - (5) A Manufacturer or importer must notify the Minister before, or as soon as reasonably practicable after, the Manufacturer or importer withdraws a product that has been notified under Section 5(1) from the market.
 - (6) A person submitting information in accordance with this Section 12 must specify any information which that person considers to constitute a trade secret.
 - (7) The Minister shall take the need to protect trade secrets into account when making any information submitted in accordance with this Section 12 publicly available.
 - (8) Where the information submitted under this Section 5 is incomplete, the Minister may request the Manufacturer or importer concerned to provide the complete information.
 - (9) A manufacturer or importer must comply with a request under Section 5(8) by the date reasonably required by the Minister.
6. Standards for Manufacture and Import of Tobacco-free Oral Nicotine Pouch
 - (1) No person may supply a tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch product unless it complies with Section 6(2) to 6 (4) below.

- (2) A tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch product consumable which is presented for supply:
 - (a) must not contain nicotine in excess of 20 milligrams;
 - (b) must not exceed a pH value of 9.1;
 - (c) must not contain ingredients other than those notified under Section 10, unless present in trace levels, where such trace levels are technically unavoidable during manufacture;
 - (d) must not contain ingredients that have CMR properties;
 - (e) must not contain ingredients in quantities that increase, to a significant or measurable degree, the toxicity, addictive effect or CMR properties of the product when it is consumed; and
 - (3) A tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch product must be manufactured using only:
 - (a) ingredients of high purity;
 - (b) Pharmaceutical Grade nicotine; and
 - (c) flavouring and other ingredients which are:
 - (i) pharmaceutical grade where available in that grade; or
 - (ii) food grade where it is not available in pharmaceutical grade and it is available in food grade.
 - (4) A tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch product unit pack must be child-resistant and have a tamper-evident seal.
7. Product Batch Traceability for Tobacco-Free Oral Nicotine Pouch Products
- (1) A Manufacturer or importer who supplies or intends to supply a tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch product shall keep a written record of the batch number(s) and the supplier's details for all ingredients used in the manufacture of each specific batch of products, and the batch number assigned to the final tobacco-free oral nicotine pouch product following manufacture.
 - (2) The batch records required under Section 7(1) shall be kept by the Manufacturer or importer for a minimum period of 3 (three) years from the date of manufacture or import of the product, and shall be made available to the Minister upon request.
 - (3) A Manufacturer or importer must comply with a request under Section 7(2) by the date reasonably required by the Minister.
 - (4) A person submitting information in accordance with this Section 7 must specify any information which that person considers to constitute a trade secret.
 - (5) The Minister shall take the need to protect trade secrets duly into account when making any information submitted in accordance with this Section 16 publicly available.
8. Product Toxicological Risk Assessment for Tobacco-Free Oral Nicotine Pouch Products
- (1) A manufacturer or importer who supplies or intends to supply a tobacco-free oral

nicotine pouch product shall obtain a toxicological risk assessment of the product by a qualified toxicologist registered with the [relevant regulator in Nigeria].

- (2) The toxicological risk assessment shall estimate user exposure based on knowledge of how the product is intended to be normally used.
- (3) Exposure and risk shall also be estimated for cases of accidental or deliberate misuse or malfunction
- (4) The risk assessment and user risk profile shall be based on comparability to other exposure benchmarks, such as occupational exposure limits with appropriate safety factors.
- (5) A product toxicological risk assessment shall be documented shall be documented and maintained for review by the Minister.

Control of Tobacco Heating Products

9. Product Notification for Tobacco Heating Products

- (1) A Manufacturer or importer who supplies or intends to supply Tobacco Heating Product must seek and obtain all necessary clearance from the SON and notify the Minister in accordance with this Section 9.
- (2) Where Tobacco Heating Product is substantially modified ("a modified product") a Manufacturer or importer must comply with Sections 9(1) and 9(3) in respect of the modified product.
- (3) A notification under Section 9(1) must contain the following information —
 - (a) the name and contact details of the Manufacturer, the importer (if applicable) and, if neither is based in Nigeria, a responsible person within Nigeria;
 - (b) a list of all ingredients contained in the product by brand and variant name, including quantities. For the purposes of this Section 9, ingredients present at a level below 0.1% of the final formulation can be described collectively in the notification by an umbrella term such as 'flavouring';
 - (c) a toxicological risk assessment for the product a description of the production process and a declaration that it conforms with the requirements of this Section 9; and
 - (d) a declaration that the Manufacturer or importer bears full responsibility for the quality of the product when supplied and used under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions.
- (4) Notification under Section 9 (1) must be submitted in respect of a product —
 - (a) on or before 3 (three) months after the commencement date of the Bill, where a Manufacturer first supplied a product before the commencement date of the Bill ("an existing product") and intends to continue to supply that product on or after the commencement date of the Bill]; and
 - (b) in any other case, at least 3 (three) months before the date on which the Manufacturer intends to first supply a product or a modified product.
- (5) A Manufacturer or importer must notify the Minister before, or as soon as

reasonably practicable after, the Manufacturer or importer withdraws a product that has been notified under Section 9(1) from the market.

- (6) A person submitting information in accordance with this Section 18 must specify any information which that person considers to constitute a trade secret.
- (7) The Minister shall take the need to protect trade secrets into account when making any information submitted in accordance with this Section 9 publicly available.
- (8) Where the information submitted under this Section 18 is incomplete, the Minister may request the Manufacturer or importer concerned to provide the complete information.
- (9) A manufacturer or importer must comply with a request under Section 9(8) by the date reasonably required by the Minister.

10. General Standards for Manufacture and Import of Tobacco Heating Product

- (1) A manufacturer of a Tobacco Heating Product shall maintain a detailed product specification of the product which shall include:
 - (a) release specification that identifies product attributes defined by the Manufacturer against which all batches of manufactured products shall be checked and recorded;
 - (b) a shelf life shall be established for the product, with supporting documentation to demonstrate how shelf life was established. The shelf life specification shall be based on stability data and risk assessment of likely conditions including estimates of degradation over time; and
 - (c) a Tobacco Heating Product shall remain within specification throughout its stated shelf life.
- (2) Risk-based compliance checks shall be performed to ensure that Tobacco Heating Products remain within specification throughout their shelf life, with supporting documentation filed in the technical dossier in accordance with Section 18.
- (3) Defined validated methods for quality control checking of Tobacco Heating Products shall form part of the specification.
- (4) Established and justified tolerance values shall be reported in the supporting documentation for all measurements in the product specification.

11. Tobacco Stick ingredients

- (1) Flavourings
 - (a) any flavouring added to a Tobacco Stick product shall be of Ph. Eur./USP grade where available in that grade, or be of food grade, with supporting documentation including certificate(s) of analysis and/or certificate(s) of conformity.
 - (b) all flavourings, whether natural or artificial, shall be of food grade, with the exception of flavourings extracted from tobacco (tobacco extracts). All flavourings including natural extracts shall be considered in the product's toxicological risk assessment.
 - (c) in the case of tobacco extracts, additional analyses shall be undertaken to

ensure that tobacco-specific nitrosamines (TSNAs) are measured and present only at minimal levels. Final measurements of TSNAs in tobacco extracts added to Tobacco Stick products shall be recorded and filed in the technical dossier.

- (d) adverse reactions reported for any flavourings shall be investigated. The toxicological risk assessment for the causative components shall be updated with the new information. If the substance or extract is no longer toxicologically supportable for use in Tobacco Stick products, it shall be added to the list of substances which may not be added to or present in Tobacco Stick products. Each manufacturer shall maintain such a list and submit to the Minister in accordance with Section 17.

(2) Prohibited Additives

- (a) no person shall produce or supply a Tobacco Stick product containing any of the following Ingredients:

- (i) Vitamins or other additives that create the impression that the product has a health benefit or presents reduced health risks;
- (ii) Caffeine or taurine or other additives and stimulant compounds that are associated with energy and vitality; and
- (iii) Additives having colouring properties for emissions;
- (iv) Additives that facilitate inhalation or nicotine uptake; and
- (v) Additives which are classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic for reproduction or respiratory sensitisers.

- (b) No person may produce or supply a Tobacco Stick product containing additives in quantities that increase, to a significant or measurable degree, the toxicity, addictiveness or carcinogenic, mutagenic or reprotoxic properties of the product when it is consumed.

12. Substantial Modification of Tobacco Sticks

If a Manufacturer substantially modifies a tobacco stick product, which leads to significant increases of the toxicology levels in the Ingredient (as determined by a competent, qualified and registered toxicologist), new flavour compounds are introduced, or any other modification is made which will alter the Consumer risk profile, then a new technical dossier shall be produced for the substantially modified product.

13. Tobacco Heating Device Regulation

Tobacco Heating Device and other materials that come into contact with Tobacco Sticks shall comply with the regulations on good manufacturing practice in force in Nigeria which applies to food contact, so that these materials do not represent a danger for the Consumer, nor change the composition or characteristics of the Tobacco Stick or vapour.

14. Substantial modification of Tobacco Heating Device

- (1) If a manufacturer modifies a Tobacco Heating Device so that it performs differently from the original, then a new technical dossier shall be produced by the Manufacturer for the modified product.
- (2) Minor modifications which do not have the potential to alter the Consumer risk profile should be noted in the technical dossier but do not require a new technical dossier.

15. Batteries and chargers of Tobacco Heating Products
 - (1) Manufacturers shall request for certificates and full test reports relating to legal compliance testing from their battery and charger suppliers.
 - (2) Batteries shall be designed to meet the requirements of the Standards Organisation of Nigeria and/or other relevant regulations as they apply to Nigeria.
16. Product Batch Traceability of Tobacco Heating Products
 - (1) A Manufacturer or importer who supplies or intends to supply Tobacco Heating Product including Tobacco Stick shall keep a written record of the batch number(s) and the supplier's details for all ingredients used in the manufacture of each specific batch of products, and the batch number assigned to the final Tobacco Heating Product and Tobacco Stick following manufacture.
 - (2) The batch records required under Section 16(1) shall be kept by the Manufacturer or importer for a minimum period of 3 (three) years from the date of manufacture or import of the product, and shall be made available to the Minister upon request.
 - (3) A Manufacturer or importer must comply with a request under Section 25(2) by the date reasonably required by the Minister.
 - (4) A person submitting information in accordance with this Section 25 must specify any information which that person considers to constitute a trade secret.
 - (5) The Minister shall take the need to protect trade secrets duly into account when making any information submitted in accordance with this Section 16 publicly available.
17. Toxicological risk assessment of Tobacco Heating Products
 - (1) A Manufacturer or Importer who intends to supply Tobacco Heating Products shall obtain a toxicological risk assessment of the product by a competent qualified and registered toxicology specialist taking into account every ingredient present in the tobacco stick product and on the basis of on-going risk-based compliance checks.
 - (2) The toxicological risk assessment shall estimate Consumer exposure based on knowledge of how the product is intended to be normally used.
 - (3) Exposure and risk shall also be estimated for cases of accidental or deliberate misuse or malfunction.
 - (4) Risk assessment and Consumer risk profile shall be based on comparability to other exposure benchmarks e.g. occupational exposure limits with appropriate safety factors.
 - (5) Where an analyte of interest is identified in the emissions from a Tobacco Heating Product at a level of toxicological concern, the source of these levels shall be identified. Attempts shall be made to alter the structure, components or design to reduce the levels present to a level that is toxicologically supportable. This shall be verified by further toxicological risk assessment of emissions from the modified product. In identifying a supportable level, comparators may be assessed, such as workplace exposure levels.
 - (6) The toxicological risk assessment shall be documented and maintained for review by the Minister.
18. Technical Dossier of Tobacco Heating Products

- (1) A technical dossier shall be produced and maintained by the Manufacturer and approved by an authorised representative of the manufacturer company for each Tobacco Heating Product manufactured.
- (2) The technical dossier shall contain the following for each Tobacco Heating Product as applicable:
 - (a) contact details for authorised representative of Manufacturer, including physical address, telephone contact number and email address;
 - (b) general description and product specification;
 - (c) list of Ingredients present in the tobacco stick, with batch analytical data and UBRs;
 - (d) copies of certifications for manufacturing facilities and product ingredients including certification confirming the level of any potential substances of toxicological concern;
 - (e) testing reports of the regular batch testing of the product; and
 - (f) toxicological risk assessments for the product.
- (3) For each Tobacco Stick product:
 - (a) contact details for authorized representative of manufacturer, including physical address, telephone contact number and email address;
 - (b) identification of specific product model with specification
 - (c) product development and stability data;
 - (d) manufacturing process description and validation;
 - (e) copies of certifications for manufacturing facilities; and
 - (f) copies of all test reports relevant to the quality and safety of the product, including electrical safety.
- (4) For each Tobacco Heating Device:
 - (a) contact details for authorized representative of manufacturer, including physical address, telephone contact number and email address;
 - (b) identification of specific product model with specification
 - (c) product development and stability data;
 - (d) manufacturing process description and validation;
 - (e) copies of certifications for manufacturing facilities; and
 - (f) copies of all test reports relevant to the quality and safety of the product, including electrical safety.
- (5) For all Tobacco Heating Products:
 - (a) copies of product label/packaging design;
 - (b) copy of the instructions for use and product information; and
 - (c) records of customer complaints and/or reports of adverse events relating to the product, if they relate to product safety, and documentary evidence of any necessary corrective actions taken.
- (6) The technical dossier shall be kept by the Manufacturer for a minimum period of 3 (three) years from the date of manufacture.
- (7) The technical dossier shall be made available to the Minister upon request within seven days of such request being made, unless otherwise justified. The Minister shall

ensure that trade secrets and other confidential information provided are treated in a confidential manner and not disclosed pursuant to a request under local laws.

General Obligations Applicable to Non-Combustible Products

19. Vigilance requirements
 - (1) A Manufacturer or importer who supplies or intends to supply Non-combustible Products must establish and maintain a system for collecting information about all of the suspected adverse effects on human health of the products.
 - (2) Sections 19(3) and 19(4) apply where a Manufacturer or importer of Non-combustible Products believes that a product which is in its possession and is intended to be supplied, or which has been supplied, is not —
 - (a) safe;
 - (b) of good quality; or
 - (c) in conformity with this Bill.
 - (3) The manufacturer or importer must (as appropriate) —
 - (a) immediately take the corrective action necessary to bring the product into conformity with this Bill;
 - (b) withdraw the product; or
 - (c) recall the product.
 - (4) The manufacturer or importer must immediately inform the Minister, giving details of, in particular —
 - (a) the risk to human health and safety;
 - (b) any corrective action taken; and
 - (c) the results of any corrective action taken.
 - (5) The Minister may request additional information from a Manufacturer or Importer of Non-combustible Product, relating to any matter under this Section.
 - (6) A Manufacturer or importer must comply with a request made of it under Section 19(5) by the date reasonably required by the Minister.
 - (7) A person submitting information in accordance with this Section 19 must specify any information which that person considers to constitute a trade secret.
 - (8) The Minister shall take the need to protect trade secrets duly into account when making any information submitted in accordance with this Section 28 publicly available.
20. Complaint register

The Minister shall prescribe a mechanism for Consumers to lodge complaints or concerns in relation to any Non-combustible Products.
21. Exemptions

The Minister may by notice in the Gazette exempt any Non-combustible Products from a provision of this Bill on such conditions as the Minister may determine in the notice, provided that it is in the public interest for the particular Non-combustible Products to be so exempted.

22. Regulations

- (1) The Minister may make regulations regarding —
 - (a) anything that must or may be prescribed in terms of this Bill; and
 - (b) any ancillary or incidental administrative or procedural matter that it is necessary to prescribe for the proper implementation or administration of this Bill.
- (2) The Minister may make these regulations subject to the ratification of both Houses of the National Assembly in accordance with the applicable legislative process for amendments of Laws in Nigeria.
- (3) The Minister shall, six months before issuing any regulation under this Bill, cause a draft of the regulation to be published in the Gazette, together with a notice declaring the intention to issue such a regulation and inviting interested persons to furnish with any comments thereon or representations in connection therewith within a specified period (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 21 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Tobacco Control Act, 2015 to Provide for the Regulation and Control of Tobacco, Tobacco Products, and Non-combustible Products in Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 47 & HB. 1151) (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Healthcare Services on a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Tobacco Control Act, 2015 to cure certain defects in the Act, ensure its effective Implementation in Nigeria and address the Lacuna that may be easily exploited by the Tobacco Industry in Nigeria and impose stiffer Penalties for Smoking of Tobacco in Public Places and for Related Matters (HB.47 & HB.1151) and approved Clauses 1 - 3, rejected Clause 4, approved Clause 5, rejected Clause 6, approved Clauses 7 - 11, rejected Clause 12, approved Clauses 13 - 15, rejected Clause 16, approved Clauses 17 - 21, 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.

(iv) **Committee on Healthcare Services:**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Healthcare Services on a Bill for an Act to Establish Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria to Provide for the Control, Health Administration and Regulation of the activities of its Members and for Related Matters (HB.935)” (*Hon. Akiba Bassey Ekpenyong — Calabar Municipal/Odukpani 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 Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

**A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SERVICE
ADMINISTRATORS OF NIGERIA TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTROL,
HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND REGULATION OF THE ACTIVITIES
OF ITS MEMBERS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB.935)**

**PART I — OBJECTIVES OF THE INSTITUTE OF
HEALTH SERVICE ADMINISTRATORS OF NIGERIA**

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 2: Objectives.

The objectives of the Institute shall be to —

- (a) determine the standards of knowledge and skills to be attained by its members;
- (b) establish and maintain a register of its eligible members to practice the profession under this Bill;
- (c) review and publish from time to time, the list of members seeking to become members of the profession;
- (d) formulate and raise standards to be met from time to time by members in line with global best practice in medicine;
- (e) provide training for health services professionals and members from time to time;
- (f) train members to acquire analytical, creative, advisory, administrative and other skills and knowledge necessary to formulate and execute policies and directives, respond to change, including changes in social, cultural, racial and linguistic character of the society;
- (g) develop a new generation of holistic managers with capacity to manage health policies, strategies and projects in a dynamic and complex environment;
- (h) collaborate and strengthen partnerships between health administrators and other institutions and bodies with similar objectives;
- (i) regulate and control the planning and administration of members in health services professionals in Nigeria; and
- (j) performing such other functions as may be conferred on the Institute by this Bill;
- (k) carry out such other activities as the Institute may, from time to time, deem necessary for the purpose of carrying out its functions under this Bill (*Hon.*

Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 2: Establishment of the Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria.

- (1) There is established a body to be known as the Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria (in this Bill referred to as "the Institute").
- (2) The Institute, —
 - (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession, have a common seal;
 - (b) shall be capable of suing and being sued in its corporate name; and
 - (c) may acquire, hold or dispose of any property, movable or immovable,

for the purpose of carrying out any of its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

PART II — THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE INSTITUTE, MEMBERSHIP, ETC.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 3: Governing Council of the Institute.

- (1) There shall be for the Institute, a Governing Council (in this Bill referred to as the Council).
- (2) The Council shall consist of —
 - (a) President, who shall be a Fellow member of the Institute, elected at the annual general meeting of the Institute and shall be Chairman of the Council;
 - (b) a representative of each of the health zones in the six geo-political zones and also representing the State branches of the Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria in their respective zone;
 - (c) non-medical person appointed by the Minister responsible for Health to represent the public interest,
 - (d) a representative of the Federal Ministry of Health, not below the rank of a Director;
 - (e) a representative of collaborating universities running health planning and management courses, who shall serve on a rotational basis for two years at a time;
 - (f) two members elected at the annual general meeting of the Institute to represent the Federal Medical Centres, Teaching and Specialist hospitals, who shall serve on a rotational basis for two years at a time;

- (g) two members elected at the annual general meeting of the Institute to represent State Health and Hospital Management Boards on rotational basis for two years at a time; and
- (h) two members elected at the annual general meeting of the Institute to represent private and voluntary agency hospitals in Nigeria (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 4: Tenure of the members of the Council.

- (1) The President shall hold office for a period of three years from the date of his appointment or election and may be reappointed or re-elected for a further period of three years and no more.
- (2) Other members of the Council shall hold office for a period of three years in the first instance and may be reappointed or re-elected for a further period of three years and no more.
- (3) A member of the Council other than a public officer may resign his appointment by a letter addressed to the President of the Institute and his resignation shall take effect from the date of the receipt of the letter by the President of the Institute.
- (4) Where a member of the Council ceases to hold office before the expiry of its tenure, such member shall be replaced by the body date when his term of office would have expired, the body or person by whom he was appointed or elected shall as soon as possible, appoint or, as the case may be, elect a person to fill the vacancy for the residue of the term aforesaid (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 5: Power of the Council.

The Council shall have powers to —

- (a) formulate and implement the activities of the Institute in accordance with this Bill;
- (b) collaborate and enter into agreements with educational or training institution, to carry out its functions to achieve the objects of this Bill;
- (c) borrow money to execute or finance the objectives of the Institute subject to the approval of the Council;
- (d) dispose of any property of the Institute having obtained the approval of the Institute at its annual general meeting;
- (e) organize and render operational research services, capacity evaluation services and facilities to its members and members of the public;
- (f) collect such fees from its members and charge fees for its services;
- (g) pay remuneration, allowances and expenses incurred by the employees and

members of the Council in the performance of official duties on behalf of the institute (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

PART III — APPOINTMENT OF THE REGISTRAR AND OTHER STAFF OF THE INSTITUTE

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 6: Appointment of the Registrar of the institute.

- (1) The Council shall appoint for the Institute a Registrar, who shall be a member of the Institute with at least ten years post qualification experience as a health practitioner.
- (2) The Registrar shall be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Institute, under the supervision of the Chairman of the Council or a committee designated by the Council.
- (3) The Council may, whenever the Registrar is absent for any reason or is unable to discharge the functions of his office, appoint an acting Registrar to discharge the functions of the office.
- (4) The Registrar shall serve as the secretary to the Council and be responsible to the Council for the management of the affairs of the Institute.
- (5) Hold office on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment.
- (6) Entitled to earn a remuneration and allowances as determined by the Council (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 7: Other staff of the Institute.

- (1) The Council may appoint such other persons as employees of the Institute, to assist the Registrar in the day-to-day performance of its functions under this Bill.
- (2) The staff or employees of the Institute appointed under subsection (1) of this section shall hold office on such conditions as shall be determined by the Institute at its annual general meeting (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 8: Establishment of the Disciplinary Committee.

- (1) There shall be established a Disciplinary Committee (in this Bill referred to as "The Disciplinary Committee"), charged with the responsibility of considering and determining any case referred to it by the Council.
- (2) The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a Chairman and six other members appointed by the Council of the Institute.
- (3) At any meeting of the Disciplinary Committee, five members including the Chairman shall form a quorum.

- (4) Any matter requiring the decision of the Disciplinary Committee shall be determined by the majority vote of members present at the meeting.
- (5) At every meeting of the Disciplinary Committee, each member present shall be entitled to one vote on the matter to be decided and in the event of any equality of votes, the chairman shall have in addition to deliberative vote, a casting vote (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 9: Registration.

- (1) A person shall be registered as a member of the Institute under this Bill having fulfilled the following conditions —
 - (a) holds a qualification granted outside Nigeria and such qualification is accepted by the Institute under this Bill as regards the profession;
 - (b) has no legal disability in the practice of the profession in the country in which the qualification was granted; and
 - (c) be of good character and paid all prescribed fees;
- (2) The Institute shall from time to time publish the qualifications acceptable to the Institute.
- (3) The qualifications specified in the Third Schedule to this Bill are those accepted by the Institute as the minimum qualifications for the purpose of being admitted into the register of the Institute.
- (4) A person may be temporally registered in accordance with the provisions of temporary registration of this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 10: Temporary Registration.

- (1) A person may be temporarily registered by the Institute, where the person —
 - (a) has been employed for a specified period in the capacity in which a registered person under this Bill is employed and intends to serve temporarily for the purpose of the employment in question;
 - (b) holds or has passed necessary examinations for obtaining a qualification granted outside Nigeria, as accepted by the Council for the purpose of this section with respects to the capacity in which the person is employed to serve; and
 - (c) pays necessary fees or dues as prescribed for registration by the Institute.
- (2) Temporary registration shall only continue while the person is in the employment under subsection (1) (a) of this section or shall cease when the

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- (a) period of employment specified to the Council under that subsection elapsed, or
 - (b) said employment before the end of that period, whichever occurs first.
- (3) Nothing in subsection (2) of this section shall preclude the Council from giving a further direction under subsection (1) of this section in respect of a specified period, whose commencement period coincides with the termination of another period.
 - (4) A person who is temporarily registered shall, in relation to his employment under subsection (1) (a) of this section and to things done or omitted to be done in the course of that employment, be deemed to be fully registered.
 - (5) The decision of the Council shall be conclusive, where there is a doubt as to whether a person's employment has been terminated or not, for the purposes of subsection (2) of this section.
 - (6) The Council may direct the Registrar from time to time to remove from the register the name of any person ceasing to be entitled to the benefit of this section (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 11: Register of the Institute.

- (1) There shall be for the Institute a register, prepared and maintained in accordance with the rules made by the Institute.
- (2) The register shall contain the names, addresses, approved qualifications and such other particulars as may be required by the Institute from members as professional health service administrators.
- (3) The register shall consist of six (6) categories of members as follows —
 - (a) Fellow;
 - (b) Associate;
 - (c) Licentiate;
 - (d) Affiliate;
 - (e) Honorary member; and
 - (f) registered students (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 12: Publication of the register and corrections made thereto.

- (1) The Registrar shall cause to be published —

- (a) the register, printed and put-on sale to members of the public, not later than two years from the commencement of this Bill; and
 - (b) annually, an updated version of the register or a list of alterations made to the register when it was last printed.
- (2) The Registrar shall keep and may give access at all reasonable time for inspection by members of the public willing to do so.
- (3) A document purporting to be a print of an edition of a register published under this section by authority of the Registrar, shall without prejudice to any other mode of proof, be admissible in any proceedings as evidence that the person specified in the document as being registered was registered and the person not so specified was not registered (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 13: Striking off entries from the register.

- (1) Where it is proved to the satisfaction of the Council that an entry in the register has been fraudulently or incorrectly made, the Council may direct that the entry be deleted from the register.
- (2) Any reference in this Bill to the deletion from the register of the name of a registered member shall be construed as including a reference to the deletion from the register of any other registrable particulars relating to the member (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 14: Restoration of registration of a member.

- (1) Where the name of a person has been deleted from the register in pursuance to a direction given under this Bill, the Disciplinary Committee may, where it thinks fit, recommend to the Council the restoration of the name of the person deleted from the register.
- (2) An application for the restoration of name back to the register under this Bill shall be made to the Council before the expiration of the period specified under this Bill.
- (3) There shall be payable to the Institute a restoration fee by a person seeking for the restoration of his name to the register in pursuance of a direction given under this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

PART IV — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 15: Fund of the Institute.

- (1) There is established for the Institute a Fund to be known as the Institute of Health Service Administrators Fund (in this Bill referred to as "the fund").
- (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund —

- (a) monies paid to the Institute by way of grants, subsidies, donations, gifts, charges, fees, subscriptions and interests; and
- (b) all other sums of money accruing to or vested in the Institute in respect of any matter incidental to its powers or function under this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 16: Expenditure of the Institute.

The Institute may, from time to time, apply its Fund to —

- (a) the cost of administration of the Institute;
- (b) the payment of emoluments, allowances and benefits of members of the Institute and for reimbursing members of the Institute or of any committee setup by the Council and for expenses as may be expressly authorised by the Institute;
- (c) the development and maintenance of property vested in or owned by the Institute; and
- (d) any of its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 17: Annual estimates.

- (1) The Institute shall submit to the Council, not later than 31st of October each year, its programme of work and estimates of its income and expenditure for the following year.
- (2) The Institute shall cause to be kept, proper accounts and records in respect of each financial year in relation to the accounts (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 18: Accounts and audit.

The Institute shall, not later than 30th of September of each financial year, submit its accounts to auditors appointed by the Council and the auditor's fees and expenses shall be paid from the Fund of the Institute (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 19: Annual report.

The Registrar shall prepare and submit to the Council, not later than the 30th day of September in every year, an annual report of its activities and the report shall include a copy of the audited accounts and the auditor's report of the Institute (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 20: Power to borrow.

The Institute may, with the approval of the Council, borrow by way of loan or overdraft any monies required by the Institute to meet its obligations and its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 21: Power to accept gifts.

- (1) The Council may accept gifts of land, money or other property on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or organisation making the gift.
- (2) The Institute shall not accept a gift, where the condition attached by the person or organisation donating the gift is inconsistent with the objectives of the Institute under this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 21 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 22: Power of the Minister to give directions to the institute.

The Minister may give to the Institute directions of general character or relating to particular matters, but not to any individual person or case with regard to the exercise by the Institute of its duties and it shall be the duty of the Institute to comply with the directions (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 22 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 23: Power to make Regulations.

The Council shall have powers to make Regulations, to regulate the activities and operations of the Institute under this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 23 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

PART V — OFFENCES

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 24: Impersonation.

- (1) Any person whose name is not entered into the register of the Institute, but claims to be duly registered or uses any name, title, description or symbol intended at misleading a person to be a member of the Institute, shall be guilty of an offence of impersonation.
- (2) Whosoever commits an offence under this section, shall be liable on conviction to a fine of ₦100,000 or imprisonment for a term of 6 months or both.
- (3) A person convicted for an offence under this section the second time or for any other offence, is liable to imprisonment for a term of not less than two years without an option of fine (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf*

Federal Constituency).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 25: Securing registration through fraudulent means.

- (1) Where a person, for the purpose of registration, uses a name or qualification, or gives information which is false in a particular material, is guilty of an offence under this Bill.
- (2) Where the Registrar or an employee of the Institute falsifies or alters the register of members to accommodate non-members of the Institute as members of the Institute, is guilty of an offence under this Bill.
- (3) A person who is guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding ₦100,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years or both.
- (4) Where an offence under this section is committed by an individual or a body corporate with the connivance of or attributed to a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the Institute, such director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the Institute shall be deemed to be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to prosecution (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 25 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 26: Penalties for professional misconduct.

- (1) The Disciplinary Committee shall forward its findings and recommendations to the Council, where -
 - (a) a person registered under this Bill is convicted by a court or Tribunal in Nigeria or elsewhere, which in the opinion of the Disciplinary Committee is incompatible with the status of the profession;
 - (b) a registered person is found by the Disciplinary Committee to be guilty of infamous conduct in a professional respect; or
 - (c) the Disciplinary Committee is satisfied that the name of such person has been fraudulently registered.
- (2) The Council may give a direction under subsection (1) of this section, —
 - (a) directing the Registrar to strike off the person's name from the relevant register;
 - (b) reprimanding the person;
 - (c) suspending the person from practice for the period as may be specified in the direction; or
 - (d) directing the person to pay to the Institute any incidental cost to the proceedings incurred and where appropriate, require the refund of monies paid or the handing over of documents or other things as the

case may require.

- (3) In making an inquiry under this section, fact finding believed to have been made in any criminal proceeding in a court in Nigeria or any civil proceeding in a court in Nigeria shall be conclusive evidence (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 26 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 27: Training of members.

- (1) The Institute shall organise and conduct training and seminars for its members from time to time.
- (2) The Institute may collaborate with educational and training institutions either within or outside Nigeria, to conduct training for its members.
- (3) The Institute may as part of its training programme, conduct examination for its members and issued requisite certificate for successful candidates, subject to the Council approval.
- (4) The Institute shall from time to time publish the list of its courses or training programmes and review them in relation to the dynamics in the health profession as approved by the Council (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 27 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 28: Appeal against the Council's decision.

- (1) Where the Council —
 - (a) makes a finding and impose a penalty on a registered member under this Bill;
 - (b) rejects an application for restoration of a name to the register under this Bill; or
 - (c) directs that an entry should be struck off the register under this Bill,the Registrar shall give 28 days notice to the person to whom the proceedings relates effective from the date of the service on the notice, within which to appeal to the Council for re-consideration of its decision.
- (2) Action shall not be taken against the appellant pending the disposition of the appeal filed by the appellant (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 28 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 29: Interpretation.

In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires —

"accepted qualification" means a degree, diploma or other certificates prescribed under this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words “accepted qualification” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Council" means the Council established as the governing body of the Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria under this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Council” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Institute" means the Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria established under this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Institute” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"annual general meeting" means the annual general meeting of the Institute, the attendance of which is open to all registered members of the Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria to discuss issues in between two annual general meetings (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words “annual general meeting” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for Health (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Minister” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"President" means the president of the Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “President” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Profession or Professional" means the Health Service Administration profession (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words “Profession or Professional” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Registrar" means the Registrar of the Institute appointed under this Bill (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Registrar” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Member" means a person fully registered by the Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Member” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"student" means a person receiving training in health services administration and management in an approved training institution (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

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

Question that Clause 29 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 30: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria Bill, 2025 (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 30 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Establish Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria to Provide for the Control, Health Administration and Regulation of the Activities of its Members and for Related Matters (HB.935) (*Hon. Amos Magaji — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Healthcare Services on a Bill for an Act to Establish Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria to Provide for the Control, Health Administration and Regulation of the activities of its Members and for Related Matters (HB.935) and approved Clauses 1 - 30, 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 Establish Federal College of Health Technology, Song, Adamawa State and for Related Matters (HB.1017)" (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara 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 Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF FEDERAL COLLEGE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY, SONG,
ADAMAWA STATE; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT, CONSTITUTION AND
FUNCTIONS OF FEDERAL COLLEGE OF HEALTH

TECHNOLOGY, SONG, ADAMAWA STATE

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 1: Establishment of Federal University of Health Technology, Song, Adamawa State.**

- (1) There is established the Federal College of Health Technology, Song, Adamawa State (in this Bill referred to as "the College") which shall have powers and exercise such functions as conferred on it.
- (2) The College:
 - (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal; and
 - (b) may sue or be sued in its corporate name.
- (3) The College may acquire, hold and dispose of movable and immovable property for the purpose of its function (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 2: Objectives of the College.**

The objectives of the College shall be to —

- (a) provide courses of study, training and research in health technology leading to attainment or award of certificates and professional Diploma as may be attained by the Governing Council;
- (b) provide courses of instruction and other facilities for the pursuit of learning in an health related subjects, and to make those facilities available on proper terms to such persons as are equipped to benefit from them;
- (c) provide avenues for research in health related subjects and continuing education in health related subjects;
- (d) provide the basis for curriculum development in the areas of disease prevention, health restoration, promotion and protection as well as health education, information and communication;
- (e) undertake other activities appropriate for the highest standard of a college (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 3: Functions of the College.**

- (1) The functions of the college consists of —
 - (a) make rules and regulations under which persons may be admitted as students for any particular course in the college;
 - (b) provide courses of instruction in academic and professional subjects of the college;

- (c) make provision for research and health information, particularly at the community or grass-root;
 - (d) hold examinations and award certificates and other distinctions to persons who have pursued a course of study approved by the college and have satisfied such other requirements as the college may specify;
 - (e) establish on the recommendation of the Governing Council campuses, departments and other units of learning and research as the College may require;
 - (f) produce health professionals of both National and International standards;
 - (g) subject to clause 22 of this Bill, to acquire, hold, grant, charge or otherwise deal with or dispose of movable and immovable property wherever situate;
 - (h) accept gifts, grants and donations, but without obligation to accept the same for a particular purpose, unless it approves the terms and conditions;
 - (i) enter into contracts, establish trusts, act as trustee, solely or jointly with any other person, and employ and act through agents;
 - (j) erect, provide, equip and maintain libraries, laboratories, lecture halls, halls of residence, refectories, sports grounds, playing fields and other buildings or things necessary, suitable or convenient for any of the objects of the College;
 - (k) hold public lectures and undertake printing, publishing and book selling;
 - (l) borrow, whether on interest or not, and indeed be, upon the security of any or all of the property movable or immovable of the College, such moneys as the Council may, from time to time in its discretion, find necessary or expedient to borrow or to guarantee any loan, advance or credit facility;
 - (m) make gifts for any charitable purpose;
 - (n) do anything which it is authorised or required by this Bill or by any other Statute to do;
 - (o) do all such acts or things, whether or not incidental to the foregoing powers, as may advance the objects of the College.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of this Bill and of the Statutes made there under and without prejudice to Clause 9 (2) of this Bill, the powers conferred on the College by sub-clause (1) of this Clause shall be exercisable on behalf of the College by the Council or on any other manner which may be authorised by this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 4: Governing Council of the College.**

- (1) The governance of the College and the direction of its affairs shall vest in the Governing Council of the College (in this Bill referred to as "the Council").
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of sub clause (1) of this clause, it shall be the responsibility of the Council to consider and approve:
 - (a) the plan of activities of the College;
 - (b) the programme of studies, courses, and research to be undertaken by the College;
 - (c) the annual estimates and expenditures of the College; and
 - (d) the investment plans of the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 5: Membership of the College.**

- (1) The Council of the College shall consist of a chairman and the following members, to be appointed by the Minister:
 - (a) a representative of the Federal Ministry responsible for education;
 - (b) a representative of the alumni association of the College;
 - (c) three persons appointed on individual merit on a nationwide basis who should have wide experience of service in the public or private sector;
 - (d) two representatives of the Academic Board of the College;
 - (e) one representative of the National Commission for Women; and
 - (f) the Provost of the College.
- (2) Persons to be appointed to the Council shall be persons of proven integrity, knowledgeable and familiar with the affairs and tradition of the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 6: Tenure of Office.**

- (1) A member of the Council (other than an *ex-officio* member) shall hold office for a term of three years and subject to the provisions of sub clause (2) of this clause, shall be eligible for reappointment for a further period of three years.
- (2) A member of the Council shall cease to hold office if:
 - (a) the member resigns his office by notice in writing under his hand,

addressed to the Minister; or

- (b) the Minister is satisfied that it is not in tile interest of the College for the person appointed to continue in office and notifies the member in writing to that effect (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 7: Powers of the Council.

- (1) For the carrying out of the functions of the College, the Council shall have power to:
 - (a) provide amenities for and make such other provision for the welfare of the staff of the College;
 - (b) make gifts for any charitable purpose;
 - (c) invest the funds of the College in securities specified by law or in such other securities in Nigeria as may be approved by the Minister;
 - (d) borrow money within Nigeria in such manner and upon such security as the Minister may from time to time authorise;
 - (e) enter into such contracts as may be necessary or expedient for carrying into effect the objectives of the College;
 - (f) recruit staff of the right calibre and determine the career structure of such staff;
 - (g) establish and maintain teaching units within the College or departments as the Council may, from time to time, decide;
 - (h) institute and award fellowships, medals, prizes and other titles;
 - (i) mount exhibitions and displays designed to foster an appreciation of trends in and the scope and requirements of education;
 - (j) erect, provide, equip and maintain such educational, recreational and residential facilities as the College may require;
 - (k) create lectureships and other academic posts and offices and to make appointments;
 - (l) encourage and make provision for research in the College; and
 - (m) do such acts and things whether or not incidental to the foregoing powers as may advance the objects of the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 8: Visitation.

- (1) The Minister of Health shall be the Visitor of the College.
- (2) The Visitor shall, at least once in every five years, conduct a visitation of the College or appoint a visitation panel consisting of not less than five experts to conduct the visitation:
 - (a) for the purpose of evaluating the academic and administrative performance of the College; or
 - (b) for such other purpose or in respect of any other affairs of the College as the Visitor may deem fit (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 9: The Academic Board and Its Functions.

- (1) The Academic Board consists of:
 - (a) the Provost of the College who shall be the chairman;
 - (b) all heads of departments;
 - (c) the College Librarian; and
 - (d) not more than two members of the academic staff other than heads of departments to be appointed by the Council.
- (2) The Academic Board shall be responsible for:
 - (a) the direction and management of academic matters of the College including the regulation of admission of students, the award of certificates, scholarships, prizes and other academic distinctions;
 - (b) making periodic reports on such academic matters to the Council as the Council may from time to time direct; and
 - (c) discharging any other functions which the Council may from time to time delegate to it (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 10: Powers of the Minister.

The Minister may give directions of general character or relating generally to matters of policy with regard to the exercise by the Council of its functions under this Bill and it shall be the duty of the Council to comply with such decisions (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 11: The Provost of the College.

- (1) There shall be a Provost of the College (in this Bill referred to as lithe Provost") who shall be appointed by the Minister, in accordance with the

provisions of this clause.

- (2) Where a vacancy occurs in the office of Provost, the Council shall:
 - (a) advertise the vacancy in a reputable journal or a widely read newspaper in Nigeria specifying:
 - (i) the qualities of the person who may apply for the post;
 - (ii) the terms and conditions of service applicable to the post; and thereafter draw up a short list of suitable candidates for consideration;
 - (b) constitute a search team consisting of:
 - (i) a member of the Council not being a member of the Academic Board, as chairman;
 - (ii) two members of the academic Board not below the rank of chief lecturer;
 - (iii) two members of the academic community of the College not below the rank of chief lecturer to be selected by the Council, to identify and draw up a short list of suitable persons who are not likely to apply for the post for any reason whatsoever.
- (3) A Joint Council and Academic Selection Board consisting of:
 - (a) the chairman of the Council;
 - (b) two members of too Council not being members of the Academic Board;
 - (c) two members of the Academic Board not below the rank of chief lecturer, who were not members of the search team, shall consider the candidates and persons on the short lists drawn up under sub clause (2) of this clause through an examination of their curriculum vitae and interaction with them and recommend through the Council to the Minister, three candidates for his consideration.
- (4) The Minister shall appoint as Provost one of tile candidates recommended to him under the provisions of sub clause (3) of this clause.
- (5) The Provost:
 - (a) shall hold office for a period of four years beginning with the effective date of appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in the letter of appointment; and
 - (b) may be reappointed for one further period of four years and no more (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 12: Deputy Provost of the College.**

- (1) There shall be for the college "a Deputy Provost".
- (2) The Council shall appoint the Deputy Provost from among the chief lecturers in the College in one of the following ways, that is:
 - (a) from a list of three candidates in order of preference, submitted by the Provost; or
 - (b) on the recommendation of a Selection Board constituted under this clause for that purpose; or
 - (c) on the nomination of the Provost.
- (3) The Selection Board referred to in sub clause (2) of this clause shall:
 - (a) consist of:
 - (i) the chairman of the Council;
 - (ii) the Provost;
 - (iii) two members of the Council not being members of the Academic Board;
 - (iv) two members of the Academic Board; and
 - (b) make such inquiries as it deems fit before making the recommendation required under that sub clause.
- (4) The Deputy Provost shall:
 - (a) assist the Provost in the performance of his functions;
 - (b) act in the place of the Provost when the office of Provost is vacant or if the Provost is, for any reason, absent or unable to perform his functions as Provost; and
 - (c) perform such other functions as the Provost or the Council may, from time to time, assign to him.
- (5) The Deputy Provost:
 - (a) shall hold office for two years from the date of appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in the letter of appointment; and
 - (b) may be reappointed for one further period of two years and no more (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 13: The Registrar and other Staff of the College.**

- (1) The Council of the College shall appoint a Registrar to the College (hereinafter referred to as "the Registrar") who shall keep the records and conduct the correspondence of the Council and shall perform such other duties as the Council and the Provost may from time to time direct.
- (2) The Registrar shall, in addition to other duties conferred on him by or under this Bill, be the secretary to the Council, the Academic Board and any committee of the Council and in his absence, the Councilor any such committee may appoint some other person to act as secretary, and he shall not vote on any question before the Councilor count towards a quorum.
- (3) A Registrar:
 - (a) shall hold office for a period of five years from the effective date of appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in the letter of appointment; and
 - (b) may be reappointed for one further period of five years and no more.
- (4) Where, on the commencement of this clause, a Registrar appointed before the commencement of this clause has held office:
 - (a) for five years or less, the person shall be deemed to be serving the first term of office and may be reappointed for a further term of five years;
 - (b) for more than five years but less than ten years, the person shall complete the maximum period of ten years and thereafter relinquish the post; and
 - (c) for ten years or more, the Council may allow the person to serve as Registrar for a further period of one year only and thereafter he shall relinquish the office (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 14: Resignation of Appointment of Principal Officers.

A principal officer may resign the appointment:

- (a) in the case of the Provost, by notice to the Visitor; and the Bursar; and
- (b) in any other case, by notice to the Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 15: Other Staff of the College.

The Council may appoint such other persons to be employees of the College as the Council may determine to assist the Provost and the principal officers of the College in the performance of their functions under this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 16: Selection Board for other Principal Officers.

- (1) The Selection Board which shall consist of:
 - (a) the chairman of the Council;
 - (b) the Provost;
 - (c) four members of the Council not being members of the Academic Board; and
 - (d) two members of the Academic Board.
- (2) The functions, procedure and other matters relating to the Selection Board constituted under sub clause (1) of this clause, shall be as the Council may, from time to time, determine (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 17: Pension.

- (1) Service in the College shall be approved service for the purposes of the Pensions Act and, accordingly, officers and other persons employed in the College shall in respect of their service in the College be entitled to pensions, gratuities and other retirement benefits as are prescribed in the Act, however nothing in this Bill shall prevent the appointment of a person to any office on terms which preclude the grant of a pension and gratuity in respect of that office.
- (2) For the purposes of the application of the provisions of the Pensions Act, any power exercisable by a Minister or other authority of the Government of the Federation (other than the power to make regulations under clause (23) shall be exercisable by the College and not by any other person or authority (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

PART II — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 18: Establishment of Fund of the College.

- (1) The Council shall establish and maintain a fund which shall be applied towards the promotion of the objectives specified in this Bill.
- (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established under sub clause (1) of this clause:
 - (a) such sums as may from time to time be granted to the Council by the Federal Government through the National Commission for Colleges of Education;
 - (b) all moneys raised for the purposes of the Council by way of gifts,

grants-in-aid or testamentary disposition; and

- (c) all subscriptions, fees and charges for services rendered by the Council and all other sums that may accrue to the Council from any source.
- (3) The Council shall submit to the Minister, through the National Commission for Colleges of Education, not later than three months before the end of each financial year or at such other time as he may direct, an estimate of its revenue and expenditure for the next succeeding financial year (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 19: Power to Accept Gifts.

- (1) The Council may accept gifts of land, money or other property upon such terms and conditions if any, as may be specified by the person making the gift.
- (2) The Council shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached by the person making the gift are inconsistent with the functions of the Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 20: Accounts and Audit.

The Council shall keep proper accounts of its receipts, payments, assets and liabilities and shall in respect of each year cause the accounts to be audited (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 21: Annual Reports.

The Council shall as soon as may be after the expiration of each financial year, prepare and submit to the Minister a report of its activities during the immediately preceding financial year and shall include in the report a copy of the audited accounts of the College for that year and of the auditor's report on the accounts (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 21 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

PART III — MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTARY

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 22: Offices and Premises.

- (1) For the purpose of providing offices and premises necessary for the performance of its functions, the Council may:
 - (a) purchase any interest in or take on lease any land; and
 - (b) build, equip and maintain offices and premises.

- (2) The Council may, with the approval of the Minister, sell any interest in or lease any land, offices or premises held by it and no longer required for the performance of its functions (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 22 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 23: Discipline of Students.

- (1) The Council may make rules providing for the Provost to conduct enquiries into alleged breaches of discipline (including lack of diligence) by students and such rules may make different provisions for different circumstances.
- (2) The rules shall provide for the procedure and rules of evidence to be followed at enquiries under this clause.
- (3) Subject to the provisions of sub clause (1) of this clause, where it is proved during the enquiry that any student of the College has been guilty of misconduct, the Provost may, without prejudice to any other disciplinary powers conferred on him by this Bill or any regulations made there under direct:
 - (a) that the student shall not, during such period as may be specified in the direction, participate in such activities of the College, or make use of such facilities of the College, as may be specified;
 - (b) that the activities of the student shall during such period as may be specified in the directions, be restricted in such manner as may be so specified;
 - (c) that the student may be suspended for such period as may be specified in the direction; or
 - (d) that the student be expelled from the College.
- (4) Where there is temporarily no Provost or where the Provost refuses to apply any disciplinary measures, the Council may, either directly or through some other staff, apply such disciplinary actions as are specified in subclause (3) of this clause to any student of the College who is guilty of misconduct.
- (5) Where a direction is given under sub clause (3) (c) or (d) of this clause in respect of any student, the student may, within 21 days from the date of the letter communicating the decision to him, appeal against the direction to the Council, and where such an appeal is brought, the Council shall, after causing such inquiry to be made in the matter as the Council considers just, either confirm or set aside the direction or modify it in such manner as the Council may think fit.
- (6) The fact that an appeal is brought against a direction is brought in pursuance of sub clause (5) of this clause shall not affect the operation of the direction while the appeal is pending.
- (7) The Provost may delegate his powers under this clause of a disciplinary committee consisting of such members of the College as he may nominate.
- (8) Nothing in this clause shall be construed as preventing the restriction or

termination of a student's activities at the College otherwise than on the ground of misconduct.

- (9) The direction under sub clause (3) (a) of this clause may be combined with a direction under sub clause (3) (b) of this clause,
- (10) In all cases under this clause, the decision of the Council shall be final unless reversed by the Minister on appeal by the student (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 23 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 24: Interpretation.

In this Bill:

"Appropriate authority" means any person, body or authority authorized by law to act in a specific or general capacity in relation to a subject matter (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Appropriate authority" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Campus" means any campus which may be established by the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

"Chairman" means the chairman of the Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

"Council" means the Governing Council of the College established by clause 4 of this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

"Provost" means the Provost of a College appointed under clause 9 of this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

"Functions" includes powers and duties (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for matters relating to health (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal*

Constituency).

Question that the meaning of the word “Minister” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Member" means a member of the Council including the chairman (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Member” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

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

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 25: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the Federal College of Health Technology, Song, Adamawa State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2025 (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 25 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

SCHEDULE

[Clause 4]

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION RELATING TO THE COUNCIL, ETC.

Terms of Service

1. There may be paid to the members of the Council or any committee, other than ex-officio members, such remuneration and allowances as may from time to time be determined by the Minister.
2. Where a vacancy occurs in respect of the membership specified in clause 3 (1) (d) and 3 (2) (d), it shall be filled by the appointment of a successor to hold office for the remainder of the term of office of his predecessor in office and such successor shall represent the same interest as his predecessor.
3. The Council may act notwithstanding any vacancy in its membership or any defect in the appointment of a member or the absence of a member.

Proceedings

4.
 - (1) The Council shall meet for the conduct of business at such times, places and on such days as the chairman may appoint but shall meet not less than once every four months.
 - (2) The chairman may at any time and shall, at the request in writing of not less than six members, convene a meeting of the Council.
 - (3) At any meeting of the Council the chairman shall preside; but in his absence, members present shall elect one of their members to preside at the meeting.
 - (4) Where the Council desires to obtain the advice of any person on any particular matter, the Council may co-opt persons who are not members of the Council but persons co-opted shall not be entitled to vote at a meeting of the Council.

- (5) The quorum of the Council shall be one half of the total members of the Council, at least one of whom shall be a member appointed by the Minister. (6) Decisions of the Council shall be made on approval by a simple majority of members.

Miscellaneous

5. (1) The fixing of the seal of the College shall be authenticated by the signature of the chairman, Provost and of some other members of the Council authorised generally or specially by the Council to act for that purpose.
- (2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person other than a body corporate would not be required to be under seal may be made or executed on behalf of the College by any person generally or specially authorised to act for that purpose by the Council.
- (3) Any document purporting to be duly executed under the seal of the College shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved, be presumed to be so executed (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to establish the Federal College of Health Technology Song, Adamawa State to ensure access to education in health technology, to provide full-time courses of teaching, instruction and training in health technology; and also make provision for the appointment of a Provost and the officials of the College to carry out the administration of the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of Federal College of Health Technology, Song, Adamawa State; and for Related Matters (HB. 1017) (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy 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 Establish Federal College of Health Technology, Song, Adamawa State and for Related Matters (HB.1017) and approved Clauses 1 - 25, the Schedule, 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.

(vi) 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 Amend Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Wesley Guild, Ilesa, Osun State and for Related Matters (HB.1871)” (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara 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 Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRES ACT, 2022 AND ESTABLISH FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRE, WESLEY GUILD, ILESHA; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 1: Amendment of the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022.

The Federal Medical centres Act, 2022 (Hereinafter called "the Principal Act" is amended as set out in this Bill) (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 2: Amendment of the Second Schedule.

The Second Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by inserting a new item "22" —

"22. Federal Medical Centre, Wesley Guild, Ilesha, Osun State" (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 3 Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 to establish Federal Medical Centre, Wesley Guild, Ilesha, Osun State (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Wesley Guild, Ilesha; and for Related Matters (HB. 1871) (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy 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 Amend Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Wesley Guild, Ilesa, Osun State and for Related Matters (HB.1871) and approved Clauses 1 - 3, the Schedule, 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.

(vii) 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 Establish Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Birni-Kebbi, Kebbi State to Provide for Courses Leading to the Award of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Dental Technology, Dental Therapy and for Related Matters (HB.1624)” (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara 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 Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE FEDERAL COLLEGE OF DENTAL TECHNOLOGY AND THERAPY, BIRNIN KEBBI, KEBBI STATE, TO PROVIDE FOR COURSES LEADING TO THE AWARD OF DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES IN DENTAL TECHNOLOGY, DENTAL THERAPY; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 1624)

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT, CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF FEDERAL COLLEGE OF DENTAL TECHNOLOGY, BIRNIN KEBBI, KEBBI STATE

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 1: Establishment of the College.

- (1) There is established the Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Birnin Kebbi, Kebbi State (in this Bill referred to as "the College") which shall have powers and exercise such functions as conferred on it.
- (2) The College:
 - (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal; and
 - (b) may sue or be sued in its corporate name.
- (3) The College may acquire, hold and dispose of movable and immovable property for the purpose of its function (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 2: Establishment and Composition of the Governing Council of the College.

- (1) There is established for the College the Governing Council (in this Bill referred to as "the Council")
- (2) The Council shall consist of:
 - (a) a Chairman who shall be appointed by the president on the recommendation of the Minister
 - (b) a representative from each of the following Ministries:
 - (i) Health and Social Welfare;
 - (ii) Education;
 - (c) a representative of each of the following professional bodies:
 - (i) Dental Technologists Registration Board of Nigeria,
 - (ii) Dental Therapists Registration Board of Nigeria;
 - (d) two persons, at least one of whom shall be a woman, selected on their personal merit based on their contribution either to the development of dental technology and dental therapy, or their special interest in technological education.
 - (e) the Rector of the College;
 - (f) a representative of the Academic Board of the College.
- (3) The supplementary provisions set out in the Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Council and other matters contained therein (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 3: Tenure of office.

- (1) A member of the Council (other than an ex-officio member) shall hold office for a term of four years and subject to subsection (2) of this section, shall be eligible for re appointment for a further period of four years and no more
- (2) A member of Council other than an ex officio member may, by notice addressed to the Council, resign his appointment.
- (3) The Minister may, in writing, with the approval the President, remove any member of tile Council if he is satisfied What it is not in the interest of the College that the member concerned should continue in office.
- (4) Members of the Council other than ex-officio members shall be paid such remuneration and allowances as may from time to time be determined by the President (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 4: Functions of the College.**

The functions of the College shall be to:

- (a) provide courses of instruction, training and research in:
 - (i) Dental Technology;
 - (ii) Dental Therapy;
 - (iii) such other fields of' applied learning relevant to the needs of the development of Nigeria in the areas of Denial Technology and Dental Therapy and other Para-dental courses, and for research in the development and adaptation of techniques as the Council may from time to time determine leading to award of relevant degrees and certificates;
- (b) produce technical, professional and such other skilled personnel normally required for dental technology end dental therapy;

arrange conferences, seminars and study groups relevant to fields of learning specified in paragraph (a) above (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 5: Functions of the Council.**

- (1) Subjeu7u7ct to the provisions of this Bill, the Council shall be the Governing Body of the College and shall control the management of the affairs, property and finances of the College and shall have power to promote the interest of the College.
- (2) The Council may acquire and hold such movable or immovable property as may be necessary or expedient for carrying into effect the provisions of this Bill and for the same purpose may sell, lease, and mortgage or otherwise alienate or dispose of any property so acquired.
- (3) The Council may enter into such contracts as may be necessary or expedient for carrying into effect the provisions so acquired (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 6: Powers of the College.**

The College shall have power to —

- (a) award degrees, diplomas and certificates for course provided by it under section 4 of this Bill;
- (b) enter into such contracts as may be necessary or expedient for carrying into effect the provisions of this Bill;
- (c) acquire, hold, lease, sell, mortgage or otherwise alienate or dispose of any property, moveable or immovable;

- (d) invest its funds in such manner and to such extent as it may think necessary or expedient;
- (e) establish and maintain a library, comprising such books, journals, records, reports, and other publications and information systems as may be required for the discharge of the functions conferred on the College by this Bill;
- (f) accept gifts of land, money or other property upon such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or organization making the gift, but shall not accept any gift(s) if the terms and conditions attached thereto are inconsistent with the functions of the College under the Bill;
- (g) establish and maintain such colleges and other teaching units within the College or extramural departments as the Council may from time to time decide (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 7: Directives by the Minister.

The Minister may give the Council directives of a general character or relating generally to matters of policy with regard to the exercise by the Council of functions under this Bill and it shall be the duty of the Council to comply with such directives (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 8: Appointment of the Rector of the College.

- (1) There shall be a Rector for the College (in this Bill referred to as "the Rector") who shall be appointed by the President in accordance with the provisions of this section.
- (2) The Rector shall be the head of the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 9: Qualification for the post of Rector.

A person to be appointed Rector shall possess:

- (a) PhD in Dental Technology or Dental Therapy with evidence of publications in the relevant fields;
- (b) appropriate professional qualifications in Dental Technology or Dental Therapy and be registered with the Dental Technologists or Dental Therapists Board of Nigeria;
- (c) not less than 15 years cognate experience in the field of Dental Technology or Dental Therapy;
- (d) evidence of community service or hospital administration experience (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 10: Duties of the Rector.

The Rector shall be responsible for:

- (a) the day to day affairs of the College;
- (b) the exercise of authority over the employees of the College; and
- (c) the discipline of the students in the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 11: Tenure of Office of the Rector.

The Rector shall hold office for a period of four years and may be re-appointed for a further period of four (4) years (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 12: Terms and Conditions of the Office of the Rector.

The Rector shall hold office on such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Minister as set out in his letter of appointment (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 13: Vacancy of Office of the Rector.

Where the post of the Rector is vacant the Council shall;

- (a) advertise the vacancy in a reputable journal and three widely circulated newspapers in Nigeria specifying:
 - (i) the qualities of a person who may apply for the position; and
 - (ii) the terms and conditions of service applicable to the post, and thereafter, draw up a short list of suitable candidates for consideration.
- (b) a Joint Committee of the Council and the Academic Board consisting of:
 - (i) the Chairman of the Council;
 - (ii) two members of the Council not being members of the Academic Board not below the rank of Chief Lecturer shall consider the candidates on the short list drawn up under subparagraph (a)(ii) of this section through an examination of their curriculum vitae and interaction with them and recommend to the Council, qualified candidates for its consideration (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 14: Registrar of the College.

- (1) There shall be a Registrar for the College who shall be responsible to the Rector for the day to day administration of the College and shall perform such other duties as the Council or, as the case may be, the Rector may from time require him to do.
- (2) The Registrar shall be the Secretary to the Council, the Academic Board and any committee of the Council and shall attend all the meetings of those bodies unless excused for good cause or reason by the Chairman of the Council.
- (3) Where the registrar is absent for a meeting of the Council, the Chairman of the Council may, after consultation with the Rector, appoint a suitable person to act as Secretary for any particular meeting of the Council.
- (4) The Secretary to the Council or a person appointed to act under subsection(3) of this section shall not be entitled to vote on any question before the Council be counted towards a quorum unless such a person is so entitled as a member of the Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 15: Tenure of Office of the Registrar.

- (1) A Registrar —
 - (a) shall hold office for a period of five years effective from the date of his appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his appointment; and
 - (b) may be re-appointed for one further period of five years and no more.
- (2) Where on the commencement of this Bill, A registrar has held office:
 - (a) for five years or less, he shall be deemed to be serving his first term of office and may be re-appointed for a further term of five years;
 - (b) for more than five years but less than ten years, he shall complete the maximum period often years and thereafter relinquish his position and be assigned other duties in the College;
 - (c) for ten years or more, the Council may allow him to serve as Registrar for a further period of one year only and thereafter he shall relinquish his post and be assigned other duties in the college (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 16: Appointment of the Deputy Rector.

- (1) There shall be for the College a Deputy Rector.
- (2) The Council shall appoint the Deputy Rector from among the Chief lecturers in the College in one of the following ways:
 - (a) from a list of three candidates, in order of preference, submitted by the Rector; or
 - (b) on the recommendation of the Selection Board constituted for the College.
- (3) The Selection Board referred to in subsection (2) of this section:
 - (a) shall consist of —
 - (i) the Chairman of the Council;
 - (ii) the Rector;
 - (iii) two members of the Council not being members of the Academic Board;
 - (iv) two members of the Academic Board; and
 - (b) make such inquiries as it deems fit before making the recommendation required under subsection (2) (b).
- (4) The Deputy Rector shall:
 - (a) assist the Rector in the performance of his functions;
 - (b) perform the functions of the Rector when the post of Rector is vacant or if the Rector is for any reason absent or unable to perform his functions as Rector; and
 - (c) perform such other functions as the Rector may, from time to time, assign to him.
- (5) The Deputy Rector —
 - (a) shall hold office for a period of two (2) years and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment, - and
 - (b) may be re-appointed for one further period of two years and no more (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 17: Other Principal officers of the College.

- (1) There shall be for the College the following other principal officers in addition to the Registrar, that is:
 - (a) the Bursar; and

- (b) the Librarian, who shall be appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the Selection Board constituted under section 16 (3) of this Bill.
- (2) The Bursar shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the College and shall be responsible to the Rector for the day to day administration and control of the financial affairs of the College.
- (3) The Librarian shall be responsible to the Rector for the administration of the College Library and the co-ordination of the library services in the teaching units of the College.
- (4) The Bursar or Librarian —
 - (a) shall hold office for a period of four (4) years in the first instance and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment;
 - (b) may be re-appointed for a further period of four (4) years and no more.
- (5) Where on the commencement of this Bill, a Bursar or Librarian has held office:
 - (a) for four (4) years or less, he shall be deemed to be serving his first term of office and may be reappointed for a further term of four (4) years;
 - (b) for more than four (4) years but less than eight (8) years, he shall complete the maximum period of eight (8) years and thereafter relinquish his post and be assigned other duties in the College;
 - (c) for eight (8) years or more, he shall relinquish his post and be assigned to other duties in the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 18: Resignation of Appointment by Principal Officers.

A principal officer may resign his appointment:

- (a) in the case of the Rector, by notice to the President;
- (b) in any other case, by notice to the Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 19: Appointment of other employees of the College.

- (1) The Council may appoint such other persons to be employees of the College as the Council may determine to assist the Rector and the principal officers of the College in the performance of their functions under this Bill.
- (2) The power to appoint all other staff of the College apart from the Rector and

the principal officers shall be exercised:

- (a) in the case of a senior staff, by the Council on the recommendation of the Senior Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee set up under the provisions of paragraph 2 (2) (a) of the Schedule to this Bill;
 - (b) in the case of a junior staff, by the Rector on the recommendation of the Junior Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee set up under paragraph 2 (2) (b) of the Schedule to this Bill.
- (3) The remuneration and tenure of office of staff of the College shall be determined by the Council with the approval of the Minister (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 20: Staff Regulations.

- (1) The Council may, subject to the provisions of this Bill, make staff regulations relating generally to the conditions of service of the staff of the College and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, such regulations may provide for:
- (a) the appointment, promotion and discipline of employees of the College; and
 - (b) appeals by such employees against dismissal or other disciplinary measures, and until such regulations are made, any instrument relating to the conditions of service of public officers in the university system shall be applicable, with such modifications as may be necessary, to employees of the College.
- (2) Staff regulations made under subsection (1) of this section shall not have effect until approved by the Minister and when so approved, the regulations need not be published in the Gazette but the Council shall cause them to be brought to the notice of all affected persons in such manner as it may, from time to time, determine (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 21: Establishment of the Academic Board of the College.

- (1) There shall be established for the College a board to be known as the Academic Board which shall consist of the following numbers:
- (a) the Rector of the College, as the Chairman;
 - (b) the Deputy Rector of the College;
 - (c) all Heads of Departments;
 - (d) the Librarian; and
 - (e) not more than two members of the academic staff other than heads

of departments who may be appointed by the Academic Board.

- (2) The Academic Board shall be responsible for:
- (a) the direction and management of academic matters of the College including the regulation of admission of students, the award of certificates and diploma, scholarships, prizes and other academic distinctions;
 - (b) presenting to the Council of such periodic reports on such academic matters as the Academic Board may think fit or as the Council may from time to time direct; and
 - (c) the discharge of any other functions which the Council may delegate to it (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 21 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 22: Removal of the Rector from office.

Where it appears to the Council that the Rector should be removed from office on the ground of misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council shall make a recommendation to that effect to the President and if the President, after making such inquiries as he considers necessary, approves the recommendation, the President shall in writing, declare the office of the Rector vacant (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 22 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 23: Removal of staff of the College from office.

- (1) Where it appears to the Council that there are reasons for believing that any person employed as a member of the academic, administrative or technical staff of the College, other than the Rector, should be removed from office on the ground of misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council shall:
- (a) give notice of those reasons to the person in question;
 - (b) afford him an opportunity of making representations in person on the matter to the Council within a specific period of time; and
 - (c) if the person in question is an administrative staff, he may request in writing that a Committee of the Council be constituted to conduct a joint investigation of the reasons for the removal with the Administrative Board of the College, and the joint investigation Committee shall submit its report to the Council within one month of constituting the joint investigation committee and the decision of the Council on the matter shall be final;
 - (d) if the person in question is an academic staff, he may request in writing that a Committee of the Council be constituted to conduct a joint investigation of the reasons for the removal with the Academic Board of the College, and the joint investigation Committee shall

submit its report to the Council within one month of constituting the joint investigation committee and the decision of the Council on the matter shall be final;

- (e) if the person in question is a technical staff, he may request in writing that a Committee of the Council be constituted to conduct a joint investigation of the reasons for the removal with the Technical Board of the College, and the Joint investigation Committee shall submit its report to the Council within one month of constituting the Joint investigation committee and the decision of the Council on the matter shall be final;
 - (f) on the other hand, any three (3) members of the Council may request that a Committee of the Council be constituted to conduct a joint investigation of the reasons for the removal with the Administrative Board, Academic Board or Technical Board of the College depending on category of the person sought to be removed notwithstanding that the person sought to be removed did not make such request, and the joint investigation Committee shall submit its report to the Council within one month of constituting the joint investigation committee and the decision of the Council on the matter shall be final.
- (2) The Rector may, in case of misconduct by a member of the staff which in the opinion of the Rector is prejudicial to the interests of the College suspend such member and any other suspension shall forthwith be reported to the council.
- (3) A member of staff may be suspended from office for good cause, or his appointment may be terminated by the Council. For the purpose of this subsection, "good cause" means:
 - (a) any physical or mental incapacity which the Council, after obtaining advice from a panel of two (2) medical expert constituted by the Council, considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit for the discharge of the functions of his office; or
 - (b) any physical or mental incapacity which the council, after obtaining medical advice from a panel of two(2) medical experts constituted by the Council, considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold his office; or
 - (c) conduct of a scandalous or disgraceful nature which the Council considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold his office; or
 - (d) conduct which the Council considers to be such as to constitute failure or inability of the person concerned to discharge the functions of his office or to comply with the terms and conditions of service.
- (4) Any person suspended pursuant to subsection (2) or (3) of this section, shall be placed on half pay and the Council shall before the expiration of the three months after the date of such suspension consider the case against that person and come to a decision as to:
 - (a) whether to continue such person's suspension and if so on what

terms (including the proportion of the emoluments to be paid to him);

- (b) whether to reinstate such person, in which case the Council shall restore his full emoluments to him with effect from the date of suspension;
 - (c) whether to terminate the appointment of the person in question, in which case such a person, will not be entitled to the proportion of his emoluments withheld during the period of suspension; or
 - (d) whether to take such lesser disciplinary action against such person (including the restoration of such proportion of his emoluments that might have been withheld) as the Council may determine, and in any case where the Council, pursuant of this section, decides to continue a person's suspension or decides to take further disciplinary action against a person, the Council shall before the expiration of a period of three months from such decision come to a final determination in respect of the case concerning any such person.
- (5) It shall be the duty of the person by whom an instrument of removal is signed in pursuance of subsection (1) above to use his best endeavors to cause a copy of the instrument to be served as soon as reasonable practicable on the person to whom it relates.
- (6) Nothing in the forgoing provisions of this section shall prevent the Council from making such regulations for the discipline of other categories of staff and workers of the College as it may think fit (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 23 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 24: Discipline of Students.

- (1) The Council may make rules providing for the Rector to enquire into alleged acts of misconduct and indiscipline among students.
- (2) The rules shall provide for the procedure and rules of evidence to be followed at enquiries under this section.
- (3) Subject to the provision of this section, where it appears to the Rector that any student of the College has been guilty of misconduct, the Rector may, without prejudice to any other disciplinary powers conferred on him by this Bill or regulations, made here under direct:
 - (a) that the student shall not, during such period as may be specified in the direction, participate in such activities of the College, or make use of such facilities of the College, as he may specify; or
 - (b) that the activities of the student shall, during such period as may be specified in the direction, be restricted in such manner as may be specified; or
 - (c) that the student be suspended for such period as may be specified in the direction; or

- (d) that the student be expelled from the College.
- (4) Where the post of the Rector is vacant or where the Rector refuses to apply any disciplinary measures, the Council may, either directly or through some other staff, apply such disciplinary actions as are specified in subsection (1) of this section to any student of the College who is considered guilty of misconduct.
- (5) Where a direction is given under subsection (3) (c) or (d) above in respect of any student, the student may, within a period of twenty one (21) days from the date of the letter communicating the decision to him, appeal from the direction to the Council; and where such an appeal is brought, the Council shall, after causing such inquiry to be made in the matter as the Council considers just either confirm or set aside the direction or modify it in such manner as the Council may think fit.
- (6) The fact that an appeal from a direction is pending pursuant to subsection (5) of this section shall not affect the operation of the direction while the appeal is pending.
- (7) The Rector may delegate his powers under this action a disciplinary committee consisting of such members of the College as he may nominate.
- (8) Nothing in this section shall be construed as terminating a student's activity(ies) at the College except on the ground of misconduct.
- (9) It is hereby declared that the direction under subsection (3) (a) of this section may be combined with a direction under subsection (3) (b) of this section.
- (10) In all cases under this section, the decision of the Governing Council shall be final (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 25: Audit of Accounts.

- (1) The Council shall keep proper records and accounts of its activities and shall cause to be prepared not later than 1st October in each financial year an estimate of its revenue and expenditure for ensuing financial year and when prepared the estimates shall be submitted to the Minister for approval.
- (2) At the end of each financial year but not later than 30th June, the Council shall cause to be prepared a statement of its income and expenditure during the previous financial year. The statement referred to in subsection (2) above shall, when certified by the Rector, be audited by a firm of auditors appointed by the Council from a list of four (4) firms in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor General of the Federations and shall be published in the annual report of the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 25 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 26: Establishment of the Fund for the College.

- (1) The College shall establish and maintain a fund from which shall be defrayed

all expenditure incurred by the College in the performance of its functions under this Bill.

- (2) The funds of the College shall include:
- (a) such sums as may, from time to time, be granted to the College by the Federal Government of Nigeria;
 - (b) fees charged and payable to the College by the Students;
 - (c) any other amount, charged or dues recoverable by the College;
 - (d) revenue from time to time accruing to the College by way of subvention, grants-in-aids, endowment or otherwise;
 - (e) interest on investments; and
 - (f) donations and legacies accruing to the College from any source, for the general or special purpose of the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 26 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 27: Donations for Particular Purposes.

- (1) Donations of money to be applied to any particular purpose shall be placed to the credit of a special reserve account approved by the Council until such time as they may be expended in fulfillment of such purpose.
- (2) The Council shall not be obliged to accept a donation for a particular purpose unless it approves of the terms and conditions attached to such donations (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 27 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 28: Payment into Bank.

All sums of money received on account of the College shall be paid into such bank as may be approved for the credit of the College's general, current or deposit account (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 28 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 29: Annual Report.

The Council shall on or before 31st December in each year prepare and submit to the President through the Minister a report of its activities during the preceding financial year and shall include in the report, the audited accounts of this College in respect of that financial year and the auditor's comments on the account (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 29 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 30: Power to make Bye-laws.

- (1) The Council may make bye-laws relating to any matter within its competence under this Bill other than matters for which provision is to be made by standing orders pursuant to paragraph (6) of the schedule to this Bill
- (2) All such bye-laws shall be in writing and shall come into force when sealed with the seal of the Council unless some other date for their commencement is prescribed therein.
- (3) Nothing in subsection (2) above shall make it obligatory for the Council to publish any of the said bye-laws in the gazette but the Governing Council shall bring such bye-laws to the notice of all affected persons (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 30 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 31: Exclusion or Discrimination on Account of Race, Religion, etc.**

- (1) A person shall not on ground of race, place of birth, sex, family background, religious or political interest be denied:
 - (a) admission into the College;
 - (b) appointment at the College;
 - (c) membership of anybody established in pursuant to this Bill; or
 - (d) be given/preferential advantage or be subjected to any other form of discrimination.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (1) above, the College shall not be prevented from imposing any restriction on any person(s) where a person willfully refuses on grounds of the above circumstances to undertake any duty which may be imposed on national interest or any other justifiable reasons (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 31 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 32: Interpretation.**

In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Academic Board" means the board established under section 21 of this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Academic Board" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Senior Staff Appointments and Promotion Committee" means a body by that name established under paragraph 2 (2) (a) of the Schedule to this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Senior Staff Appointments and Promotion Committee" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Junior Staff Appointments and Promotion Committee" means a body by that name set up under paragraph 2 (2) (b) of the schedule to this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Junior Staff Appointments and Promotion Committee" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Minister" means Minister charged with responsibility for matters relating to Health (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

"Registrar" means the Registrar of the College appointed under section 14(1) of this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Question that Clause 32 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 33: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Birnin -Kebbi, kebbi state (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 33 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

SCHEDULE

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNCIL

1. The Council may notwithstanding any vacancy in the membership or the absence of any member or that a person not entitled to do so took part in its proceedings.

Committees

2. (1) The Council may appoint one or more committees to which it may delegate any of its functions.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of subparagraph (1) of this Schedule, the Council shall appoint the following committees, that is:
 - (a) the Senior Staff Appointments and Promotion Committee which shall:
 - (i) consist of a chairman and for (4) members who shall be appointed by the Council, and four (4) other members who shall be appointed by the Rector from members of the senior staff of the College;
 - (ii) be charged with the responsibility of making recommendations to the Council on the appointment and promotion of the academic and senior staff of the college and have a quorum of five (5) members; and if the Chairman of the committee is absent from any meeting of the Committee, the members present shall elect one of their

members to act as chairman for that particular meeting;

- (b) Junior Staff Appointments and Promotion Committee which shall consist of a chairman and four (4) other members to be appointed by the Rector and shall have powers set out in sections 19 (2) of this Bill.
 - (c) the committee on Student's Affairs which shall consist of the following members:
 - (i) a Chairman who shall be appointed by the Rector from among the senior employees of the College;
 - (ii) one member of the Council;
 - (iii) two members of the academic staff of the College; and
 - (iv) four(4) students of the College;
 - (d) the Committee on Students Affairs shall be charged with the duty of:
 - (i) considering any matter which relates to the welfare of students;
 - (ii) any other matter referred to it by either the Council or students of the College;
 - (e) any matter which the students refer to the Council shall be referred to the Council shall be referred to the Committee on Students Affairs in the first instance.
- (3) No decision of a committee shall have effect unless same is confirmed by the Council.

Proceedings of the Council

3. (1) The Council shall meet for the conduct of business at such times as the Chairman of the Council may appoint but the meeting of the Council shall not less than twice in a year.
- (2) The Chairman of the Council may at time and shall at the request in writing of not less than five members of the Council summon a meeting of the Council.
- (3) Particulars of the business to be transacted by the Council shall be circulated to members with the notice of the meeting at least two weeks before the date of the meeting.
- (4) Where the Council desires to obtain the advice of any person on any particular matter, it may co-opt such person as a member for a meeting whether or not expressly convened for the purpose of considering the particular matter but not co-opted member shall be entitled to vote or considered as part of the quorum.
5. (1) Every question put before the Council at a meeting shall be decided by a simple majority of the members present and voting.
- (2) Seven members shall form a quorum at any meeting of the Council.
- (3) The chairman shall, at any meeting of the Council, have a vote and in the case of an

equality of votes, may cast a deciding vote.

6. The Council may make standing orders with respect to holding meetings, the nature of notices to be given, the proceedings thereat, the keeping of minutes of such proceedings and the custody and production for inspection of such minutes.
7. Where the Chairman of the Council is absent from a meeting of the Council, the members present shall elect one of their members to act as Chairman for the purpose of that meeting.

Miscellaneous

8. Any contract or instrument which if entered into by a person not being a body corporate would not be required to be under seal may in like manner be entered into or executed on behalf of the Council by any person generally or specifically authorized by it for that purpose.
9.
 - (1) The common seal of the Council shall not be used or affixed to any document except in pursuance of a resolution duly passed at a properly constituted meeting of the Council and recorded in the minutes of such meeting.
 - (2) The fixing of the seal of the Council shall be authenticated by the signature of the chairman of the Council and some other member authorized generally or specifically by the Council to act for that purpose.
 - (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed under the seal of the Council shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to be so executed.
10. Any member of the council or committee thereof who has a personal interest in any contract or arrangement entered into or proposed to be considered by the Council or a Committee thereof shall forthwith disclose his interest to the Council and shall not vote on any question relating to such contract or arrangement (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to establish the Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Birnin-Kebbi, Kebbi State, to make the institution more effective in the discharge of its functions by strengthening the organizational framework; and to bring its provision in conformity with current democratic principles and operations of existing educational technological institutions, and the laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

This Bill empowers the College to provide courses of instructions leading to the award of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Dental Technology, Dental Therapy (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Birnin Kebbi, Kebbi State, to Provide for Courses Leading to the Award of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Dental Technology, Dental Therapy; and for Related Matters (HB. 1624) (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy 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 Establish Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Birni-Kebbi, Kebbi State to Provide for Courses Leading to the Award of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Dental Technology, Dental Therapy and for Related Matters (HB.1624) and approved Clauses 1 - 33, the Schedule, 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.

(viii) 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 the Federal College of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences, Damagun, Fune, Yobe State and for Related Matters (HB. 1022)” (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara 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 Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
FEDERAL COLLEGE OF NURSING, MIDWIFERY, AND HEALTH SCIENCES,
DAMAGUN, FUNE, YOBE STATE; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COLLEGE

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 1: Establishment.

- (1) There is hereby established for the Federal College to be known as the Federal College of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences, Damagun, Fune, Yobe State.
- (2) The College shall:
 - (a) have the status of a Tertiary Institution with right and privileges of such institutions; and;
 - (b) be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal with powers to sue and be sued in its corporate name (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 2: Objectives of the College.

The objects of College shall be:

- (a) to provide training and research in general Nursing, Midwifery and other specialties of Nursing leading to the award of Professional Certificates, Diplomas, Degrees and other Post Basic Certificates;
- (b) to provide avenues for continuing education in Nursing, Midwifery and other related specialties of Nursing; and
- (c) to provide such services that is necessary and incidental to the object of the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 3: Powers of the College.

- (1) The College shall be a teaching and examining body and shall subject to the provisions of this Bill and the regulations of the College have powers to:
 - (a) provide rules and conditions under which persons may be admitted as student for any particular course of study provided by the College;
 - (b) provide courses of instruction in the academic and professional programmes for student;
 - (c) make provision for research and the dissemination of knowledge;
 - (d) establish Departments and such other units of learning and research as the purpose of the College may require;
 - (e) create such offices and post as the purpose of the College may require and to appoint persons and remove person from such offices or posts and prescribe their conditions of service;
 - (f) maintain libraries, laboratories, workshops, lecture halls, hostels, dining halls, sport field and other building or facilities of the College;
 - (g) provide for residence, recreation and welfare of members of staff and students of the College as may be deemed necessary;
 - (h) demand and receive from students and other persons attending the College for the purpose of instruction such fees as the College may from time to time determine;
 - (i) prescribe rules for the discipline of students of the College;
 - (j) conduct examination and arrange for award of certificates and distinctions to persons who pursue courses of studies approved by the College and who satisfy such other requirement as may from time to time be Prescribe;
 - (k) subject to specific limitations or conditions that may imposed by extant Government regulations or circular, invest any fund apportioned to the College by way of endowment, whether for general or special purpose and such monies as may not immediately

be required for current expenditure in any investment or securities;

- (l) print or publish works or undertake service as may be deemed consistent with the object of the College;
 - (m) do such other acts and things necessary under this Bills for the attainment of the object of the College or incidental to the powers of the College; and
 - (n) carry out any special or general directive consistent with Government policy as the Secretary of health may give in writing.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of the Provision of Section 2 of this Bill and Subsection (1) this Section, the College may by special arrangement with the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria or other Examination bodies prepare it students for award of certificates or other distinctions.
- (3) Subject to the Provisions of this Bill and of any other Statute, the Power conferred on the College by Subsection (1) of this Section shall be exercise on behalf of the College by the Council and the Committees established for the College or by such officers and other staff of the College as may be authorize in that behalf and may also be exercised through schools established under this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 4: Custody of Common Seal.

- (1) The Provost shall have custody of the common seal of the College and shall be responsible for affixing same to documents.
- (2) The common seal of the College shall not be used save upon the direction of the Council and shall be authenticated by the signature of the Provost (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

PART II — GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE COLLEGE

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 5: Governing Council of the College.

- (1) There shall be established for the College a Governing Council to be known as the Governing Council of the Federal College of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences, Damagun, Fune, Yobe State.
- (2) The Council shall consist of:
 - (a) Chairman who shall be appointed on part time basis by the President on the recommendation of the Minister of Health and Social Welfare;
 - (b) a representation of the Minister of Health;
 - (c) the Provost of the College;

- (d) a representative of National Association of Nigeria Nurses and Midwives;
- (e) two members, to represent the interest of the public to be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister of Health;
- (f) the Director, Nursing Services of the Secretariat who shall also serve as the Secretary (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 6: Tenure of Members.

- (1) Members of the Council other than Ex-officio Members shall hold office for a period of four years from the date of their appointment and shall be eligible for re-appointment for one further term of four years and no more.
- (2) Any member of the Council other than an ex officio member may by notice to the council resign his appointment.
- (3) Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Council shall be filled by the appointment of a successor who shall represent the same interest as his predecessor for the remainder of the term of the predecessor (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 7: Functions of the Council.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Council shall:
 - (a) be the governing authority of the College;
 - (b) be charged with general control and superintendence of the policies, finances and properties of the College;
 - (c) make regulations for the day to day management of the College; and
 - (d) do any other thing necessary or incidental to attainment of objects of the College.

Functions of the Academic Committee.

- (2) Without prejudice to the provisions of Subsection (1) of this Section, the Council shall:
 - (a) ensure that the courses and instructions provided by the College conform to the required standard laid down from time to time by the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria;
 - (b) regulate the teaching of course offered by the College, and also regulate the conduct of examination with respect to the College;
 - (c) approve contracts for procurement of equipment, furniture and other properties required for the purpose of the College;

- (d) approve contracts for maintenance of the premises and other properties of the College;
 - (e) formulate policies and initiate programmes in all field of learning conducted by the College;
 - (f) assess from time to time the course offered by the College; and
 - (g) perform such other function as may be necessary.
- (3) The Council may delegate any of its functions, other than the power to make regulations, to the Chairman or any other person, Board or Committee it deems it fit in that behalf, but no decision of such person or committee shall take effect unless ratified by Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 8: Secretary to the Council.

The Director, Nursing Services of the Secretariat shall be the Secretary to the Secretary to the Council, and for any particular meeting that he may be absent, he shall send a representative to act in that behalf (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 9: Power of the Secretary.

- (1) The Minister of Health to the Council may give to the council directions as to the discharge of its function in relation to matters appearing to the Council to affect public interest and the council shall give effect to such directive.
- (2) The council shall afford the Minister of health facilities for obtaining information with respect to the property of the College and the functions of the council and he shall be furnished with returns, accounts and facilities for verification of the information in such manner and at such times as he may require (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

PART III — SCHOOLS, DEPARTMENTS AND UNITS WITHIN THE COLLEGE

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 10: Schools, Departments and Units.

- (1) There shall be within the College a School of Nursing and a School of Midwifery and such other Schools as the Council may, with the approval of the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria.
- (2) Each school shall provide instruction for courses, conduct research and carry out such functions as may be prescribed by the council with the approval of the Minister of Health.
- (3) The constitution of and other matters relating to each schools may be prescribed by the Council with the approval of the Minister of Health.

- (4) The constitution of and other matters relating to each schools may be prescribed by the Council with the approval of the Secretary of Health (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 11: Departments.

In furtherance of the Provisions of Section 3 (1)(c) of this Bill, the Council shall with the approval of the Minister of Health for each school such department as the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria may from time to time prescribe (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 12: Establishment of Special Purpose Units.

Subject to the Provision to this Bill, the Council may with the approval of the Minister of Health establish units for special purposes within the College; and the name, constitution and functions of any such units may be prescribed by Director of the Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

PART IV — PRINCIPAL OFFICER AND STAFF OF THE COLLEGE

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 13: Provost of the College.

There shall be for the College, a Provost and other principal Officers, the designations, qualifications, functions, appointments and removal of whom are spelt out in Sections 15 to 22 of this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 14: Principal Officers of the College.

- (1) The Principal Officers of the College shall include:

- (a) the Provost of the College;
- (b) the Deputy Provost (Academics and Administration) of the School in the College;
- (c) the Registrar;
- (d) Director Office of Academic and Professional Development (OAPD); and
- (e) Director, Works and Services.

- (2) The principal officers of the College other than Deans and Deputy Deans of Schools in the College shall be appointed by the Council subjects to the approval of the Minister.

- (3) The Deans and Deputy Deans of Schools in the College shall be appointed by the Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 15: Appointment of Provost.

- (1) The Provost shall be appointed by the President on recommendation of the Minister and shall be the Chief Executive and Administrator of the College and also be responsible to the council for maintaining and promoting efficiency and discipline in the College.
- (2) The Provost shall hold a degree in Nursing and shall be a registered Educator in Nursing, Midwifery or other specialty areas of Nursing with not less than fifteen years of teaching experience (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 16: The Deans.

- (1) The Deans of Schools in the College shall be responsible to the Provost for the Administration of the Schools.
- (2) The Deans of schools in the College shall hold degree in Nursing and shall be registered Educators in the Nursing specialty related to their respective school and with not less than ten years of teaching experience (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 17: The Deputy Deans.

- (1) The Deputy Deans of Schools in the College shall be the Chief Assistants to the Deans of their respective Schools and shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the Deans.
- (2) The Deputy Deans of Schools in the College shall hold degree in Nursing and shall be registered Educator in the Nursing specialty related to their respective schools with not less than seven years experience (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 18: The Registrar of the College.

- (1) The Registrar of the College shall be the head of administration of the school and shall be responsible to the provost.
- (2) The Registrar shall be an experienced graduate of Social Sciences, Management or Humanities with not less than fifteen years' experience in Public Administration.
- (3) The person holding the Office of the Registrar of the College shall by virtue

of that office be the secretary to the Academic Board and the finance and General purpose Committee (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 19: The Bursar.

- (1) The Bursar shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the College and shall be responsible to the provost for the day to day administration of the financial affairs of the College.
- (2) The Bursar shall be a qualified Accountant with not less than Ten years post qualification experience (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 20: The Librarian.

- (1) The Librarian shall be responsible to the Provost for the co-ordination of Library Services in the College.
- (2) The Librarian shall have a degree in Library Sciences with not less than ten years qualification experience as a Librarian (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 21: Other Staff of the College.

The Council may appoint such other persons to be Staff of the College as it may deems fit on such terms and conditions as may specified in their instructions of appointment (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 21 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 22: Removal from Office.

- (1) The Principal Officers and other Senior Staff of the College may be removed from office by the Minister for misconduct, incompetence or any other justifiable reason on the recommendation of the Council.
- (2) The Council shall have power to remove any Junior Staff of the College for justifiable reasons (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 22 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

PART V — ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTIONS OF COMMITTEES

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 23: Finance and General Purpose Committee.

There shall be a Committee of the Council to be known as the Finance and General Purpose Committee (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara*

Federal Constituency).

Question that Clause 23 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 24: Composition of the Committee.

- (1) The Finance and General Purpose Committee shall consist of:
 - (a) the Chairman of the Governing Council who shall be the Chairman;
 - (b) the representative of the Minister of Health
 - (c) the Provost of the College;
 - (d) Director of Finance and Administration in Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare;
- (2) The Registrar shall be the Secretary of the Committee (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 25: Functions of the Finance and General Purpose Committee.

- (1) The Finance and General Purpose Committee shall:
 - (a) exercise control over property, revenue and expenditure of the College;
 - (b) award contracts for the execution of project of the College; and
 - (c) perform such other functions as the Council may delegate to it (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 25 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 26: Other Committees.

- (1) Further to the Provisions of Section 11 of this Bill, any body of persons established by this Bill shall without prejudice to the generality of the powers of that body, have power to Constitute Committees, which need not consist exclusively of members of that body, and to authorize a committee established by it:
 - (a) to exercise, on its behalf, such of its function as it may determine; and
 - (b) to co-opt members , and may direct whether or not co-opted members if any, shall be entitle to vote in that committee.
- (2) Any two or more such bodies may arrange for the holding of joint meetings of those bodies or for the appointment of Committees consisting of members of those bodies for the purpose of considering any matter within the competence of those bodies or any of them and either of dealing with it or of reporting on it to those bodies or any of them.

- (3) The quorum and procedure of a committee establish or meeting held in pursuance of this section shall be such as may be determined by the body or bodies which have decide to establish the committee or hold the meeting (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 26 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

PART VI — ACADEMIC BOARD

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 27: Establishment of Academic Board.

There shall be for each school of the College an Academic Board which shall be responsible for the academic work of the school (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 27 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 28: Composition of the Academic Board.

The Academic Board for each School of the College shall be composed of:

- (a) the Provost of the College, as Chairman;
- (b) the Dean of the School, as Deputy Chairman;
- (c) the Deputy of the Dean of the School;
- (d) all Heads of Department of the schools;
- (e) one Academic Staff not below the rank of Senior Lecturer to be selected from each of the Department of the School;
- (f) the School Librarian; and
- (g) the Registrar who shall be the Secretary of the Board (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 28 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 29: Functions of the Academic Board.

Subject to the overall control and direction of the Council, the Academic Board of each School of the College shall perform the following functions:

- (1) Regulating and organizing the process of admission, conduct of examinations, award of certificates and all formalities relating to the registration and licensing of graduates.
- (2) Making recommendation to the council on appointment of Academic staff of the school and on the organization of department, Libraries and other units of learn and research in the school.
- (3) Making guideline for the purpose of exercising any of the Functions conferred on it under the provisions of this section.

- (4) Preparing curriculum for the school in line with guidelines from the Nursing and Midwifery council of Nigeria and or other regulatory bodies.
- (5) Performing such other functions that may be assigned to it by the Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 29 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

PART VII — SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 30: Schedule.

The supplementary provision contained in the schedule shall have effect in relation to the proceeding of the various bodies appointed under the provision of this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 30 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 31: Transition.

In the absence of the council and until it is constituted for the College, the functions and powers of the council under this Bill may be exercise by the Secretary of Health in Consultation with the Director of Nursing Services in the Secretariat (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 31 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

PART VIII — PROPERTY AND FINANCE

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 32: Transfer of Property.

The Federal Government may, by order transfer any property whether movable or immovable to the College and from the date of such order, any property so transferred shall vest in the College and shall be used for the purpose of the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 32 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 33: Property of the College.

The Council may, subject to the provision of this Bill:

- (a) acquire and hold such movable or immovable property as may be necessary or expedient for carrying into effect the provisions of this Bill;
- (b) invest the funds of the College in such manner and to such extent as it may deem necessary or expedient; and
- (c) enter into contractual agreement on behalf of the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 33 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 34: Expenditure of the College.

- (1) The Council shall have power to approve expenditure of over ₦100,000.00 but not exceeding ₦1,000,000.00 per unit transaction for the procurement of the goods, works and services and shall refer procurements exceeding the amount to the Minister of Health.
- (2) The Provost shall approve procurement of works, goods and services not exceeding ₦100,000.00
- (3) The threshold mentioned in this section may be adjusted, in the case of:
 - (a) Subsection (1), by the Minister of Health; and
 - (b) Subsection (2), by the Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 34 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 35: Revenue of the College.

The Finance of the College shall include:

- (a) monies from time to time accruing to the College by way of Government grant, subvention or endowment or other forms of grant-in aid;
- (b) fees charges by and payable in respect of student;
- (c) any other amounts charges or dues recoverable by the College;
- (d) receipts for publications or services;
- (e) interest on investments;
- (f) donations and legacies (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 35 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 36: Annual Estimates.

Before the end of each financial year or at such other time as may be required by the College shall present for Council estimate of revenue and expenditure for the ensuing financial year and the accepted estimates shall be presented to the Secretary Health and Human Service Secretary who shall cause same to be placed before the Commissioner for approval (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 37: Statement of Account.

- (1) The College shall prepare in respect of each financial year a statement of account and the said annual statement of account shall be a fair and accurate statement of the financial position of the College for the financial year to which it relates.

Account Audit.

- (2) The said annual statement of accounts shall be audited by the Auditor-General of the Federation or by such competent Auditor appointed by him.
- (3) The said audited statement of accounts, after verification by the Council shall together with the auditor's report is forwarded to the Secretary of Health who shall cause the same to be placed before the Minister (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 37 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 38: Interpretation.

In this Bill unless the context otherwise requires:

"Academic Board" means the Academic Board established under this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Academic Board" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Chairman" means the Chairman of the Governing Council of the College or where the context requires Chairman of the respective Committees established under this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

"College" means the Federal College of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences, Damagun, Fune, Yobe State (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

"Council" means the Governing Council established under section 4(1) of this Bill for the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

"Executive Committee" means the Executive State Executive Committee (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Executive Committee" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner for Health Yobe State (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

"Junior Staff" is a reference to Staff on CONHESS 01-05 or Salary Grade Levels

01-06 (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words “Junior Staff” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

“Members” means members of the Council and includes the Chairman of the Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Members” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

“Provost” means the Provost of the College (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Provost” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

“Regulations” means any regulation formulated for the College by the Council (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Regulations” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

“Secretariat” means Health and Human Services Secretariat of Yobe State (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Secretariat” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

“Secretary” means the Secretary to the Council of the College and otherwise means the Secretary of any Committees established under this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Secretary” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

“Minister of Health” means the Minister of Health and Human Services or such other official as may be from time-to-time designation as head of the body responsible for Health Service under Yobe State (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words “Minister of Health” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

“Senior Staff” is a reference to staff on CONHESS 06-16 or salary Grade levels 07-17 (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words “Senior Staff” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 38 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 39: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the Federal College of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences, Damagun, Fune, Yobe State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 39 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to provide for the establishment of the Federal College of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences, Damagun, Fune, Yobe States, and to provide training and research in general Nursing, Midwifery and other specialties of Nursing (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of the Federal College of Nursing, Midwifery, and Health Sciences, Damagun, Fune, Yobe State; and for Related Matters (HB. 1022) (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy 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 the Federal College of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences, Damagun, Fune, Yobe State and for Related Matters (HB. 1022) and approved Clauses 1 - 39, 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.

(ix) 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 Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Obukpa, Enugu State and for Related Matters (HB.348)” (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara 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 Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRES ACT AND ESTABLISH FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRE, OBUKPA, ENUGU STATE AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 1: Amendment of the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022.

The Federal Medical centres Act, 2022 (Hereinafter called "the Principal Act" is

amended as set out in this Bill) (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 2: Amendment of the Second Schedule.

The Second Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by inserting a new item "22" —

"22. Federal Medical Centre, Obukpa Enugu State" (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 3: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 to establish Federal Medical Centre, Obukpa, Enugu State (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Obukpa, Enugu State and for Related Matters (HB.348) (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy 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 Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Obukpa, Enugu State and for Related Matters (HB.348) and approved Clauses 1 - 3, the Schedule, 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.

(x) 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 Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Ankpa, Kogi State and for Related Matters (HB. 1855)" (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara 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 Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRES ACT AND ESTABLISH FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRE, ANKPA, KOGI STATE AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 1: Amendment of the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022.

The Federal Medical centres Act, 2022 (hereinafter called "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 2: Amendment of the Second Schedule.

The Second Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by inserting a new item "22" —

"22. Federal Medical Centre, Ankpa, Kogi State (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 3: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 to establish Federal Medical Centre, Ankpa, Kogi State (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Ankpa, Kogi State and for Related Matters (HB.1855) (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy 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 Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Ankpa, Kogi State and for Related Matters (HB. 1855) and approved Clauses 1 - 3, the Schedule, 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.

32. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 21 May, 2025 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.08 p.m.

Abbas Tajudeen
Speaker