

**REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL MATTERS ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE ELECTORAL ACT, 2026 TO PROVIDE FOR THE JURISDICTION FOR PRE-ELECTION MATTERS; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (SB. 1035).**

PROVISIONS OF THE BILL	COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION	REMARKS
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES</b></p> <p><i>Clause:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amendment of Electoral Act, 2026.</li> <li>2. Amendment of Section 29.</li> <li>3. Insertion of new Section 29A.</li> <li>4. Citation</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES</b></p> <p><b>Retained</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Amendment of Electoral Act, 2026.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Electoral Act, 2026 (in this Bill referred to as the Principal Act) is amended as set out in this Bill.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Amendment of Electoral Act, 2026.</b></p> <p><b>1. Retained</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Amendment of Section 29(5) of the Principal Act</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Section 29(5) of the Principal Act” is amended by substituting for the existing subsection (5) a new subsection (5) as follows –</li> </ol> <p>“(5) An aspirant who participated in the primaries of his political party and who has reasonable grounds to believe that any information given by the political party’s candidate in the affidavit or any document submitted by that candidate in relation to his constitutional requirements to contest the election is false, may file a suit at <u>a court</u> in the Federal Capital Territory or in the jurisdiction where the cause of action arose, against that candidate seeking a declaration that the information contained in the affidavit is false.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Amendment of Section 29(5) of the Principal Act</b></p> <p><b>2. Retained</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Insertion of new Section 29A of the Principal Act.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. The Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after Section 29 a new section “29A” as follows –</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Insertion of new Section 29A of the Principal Act.</b></p> <p><b>3. Retained</b></p>	

***“Jurisdiction and Determination of Pre-Election Matters***

**29A.** (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, all pre-election matters arising from the nomination of candidates and other pre-election activities under Section 285 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (As Altered) and this Act shall be commenced, heard and determined in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(2) Pre-election matters relating to elections into the National Assembly, the State Houses of Assembly, the office of Governor and Deputy Governor shall be commenced at the Federal High Court, and any appeal arising therefrom shall lie as of right to the Court of Appeal.

(3) Pre-election matters relating to the office of President and Vice President shall be commenced at the Court of Appeal, which shall have and exercise original jurisdiction, and any appeal arising therefrom shall lie as of right to the Supreme Court.

(4) No court shall entertain any pre-election matter except in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(5) The provisions of this section shall apply to all actions instituted under this Act in respect of pre-election matters.”

**Citation**

**4.** This Bill may be cited as the Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

**Citation**

**5. Retained**