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Weekly Legislative Digest

Weekly highlights from plenary sittings of the Senate and the House of Representatives

Week of 27–29 October 2026 | 10th National Assembly · Fourth Session

THE WEEK IN BRIEF

The President asked the Senate to approve about $20.5 billion and €1.05 billion in new foreign loans, and the Senate passed a bill to toughen oil-spill penalties. The House summoned the INEC chairman over 2027 election readiness, passed six bills and approved a ₦100.5 billion promissory note for Yobe State.

$20.5bn
plus €1.05bn in new external borrowing sought by the President

18
nominees confirmed to the fiscal responsibility and human rights boards

6
bills passed by the House, two of them now through both chambers

₦100.5bn
promissory note approved by the House to reimburse Yobe State for its cargo airport

SPOTLIGHT

President seeks approval for $20.5 billion and €1.05 billion in new foreign loans

On Tuesday 27 October, the Senate President read a letter from President Tinubu seeking approval of a 2026–2027 Supplementary External Borrowing Plan of $20,517,755,901 and €1,045,083,643.

The loans would fund power, transport, agriculture, health, education, water supply and security projects and financial management reforms, mostly across the 36 states and the FCT.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

The Senate Committee on Local and Foreign Debts, working with Appropriations, is to report back within one week, by about 3 November.

TOP STORIES

Senate passes bill to toughen penalties for oil spills
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House summons INEC chairman over 2027 election readiness
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House seeks a halt to fee increases and a one-year tuition waiver
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House backs road concessions and the return of toll gates
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Senate: Bills and Letters

The Senate sat on Tuesday and Wednesday and did not sit on Thursday. One bill passed, two went through second reading, eight were read the first time and 19 nominees were confirmed.

Passed

Tuesday

- **National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Amendment) · SB. 74.** Jail terms for people and companies whose acts or omissions cause catastrophic spills, much higher fines, and stronger enforcement powers for NOSDRA. Passed on the Environment Committee's report; the House read it the first time on Thursday.

Second readings

Tuesday

- **National Postgraduate Medical College (Amendment) · SB. 1068** (Senate Leader). Lets the College award PhDs in clinical medicine, dentistry and related fields, subject to NUC accreditation. To Tertiary Institutions and TETFund.
- **Nigerian Safety Investigation Bureau (Amendment) · SB. 1078** (Senate Leader). An independent multimodal investigator with fewer ministerial approvals. To Aviation. The House took its version to second reading on 22 October.

Letters from the President

Tuesday

- **Foreign loans.** The 2026–2027 Supplementary External Borrowing Plan: $20.5 billion and €1.05 billion. To Local and Foreign Debts, with Appropriations; report in one week (page 1).
- **Transfer of convicted offenders.** An executive bill, sent under section 58(2) of the Constitution, so Nigeria can carry out prisoner-transfer agreements with non-Commonwealth countries. To Rules and Business; read the first time on Wednesday (SB. 1086).

First readings

Tuesday · Wednesday

- **Tuesday.** Institute of Actuarial Professionals of Nigeria (SB. 1085); Federal University of Medical and Health Sciences, Item, Bende (Amendment) (HB. 2775); Federal College of Education, Bende (Amendment) (HB. 2776).
- **Wednesday.** West African University of Legislative Studies (SB. 1087); Transfer of Convicted Offenders (Amendment) (SB. 1086); Federal Medical Centres (Amendment) (HB. 1471); Chartered Institute of Nigerian Universities Professional Administrators (HB. 784); National Commission for Higher Technical Education (HB. 673).

SB. 1087 would turn NILDS into a university for legislators from across ECOWAS. Deputy Senate President Barau Jibrin presented SB. 1085 and SB. 1087; the Senate Leader presented the rest.

Confirmations

Tuesday · Wednesday

- **Public Complaints Commission** (Tue). Mr Akinyele Akintola as commissioner for Osun State.
- **Fiscal Responsibility Commission** (Wed). Dr Abdullahi Maikano Saidu as executive chairman and six members, one from each geopolitical zone, on the Finance Committee's report.
- **National Human Rights Commission** (Wed). Dr Salamatu Hussaini Suleiman as chair and 10 members, on the report of the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters.

STEPPED DOWN ON TUESDAY

Concurrence on the SSS Research and Development Bureau (HB. 2716) and National Sugar Development Council (HBs. 2022 and 2030) bills, and the motion on aircraft safety inspections.

Senate: Report and Motions

Trafficking of Nigerians to Libya, killings in Taraba and a tribute to the late Afenifere leader Pa Reuben Fasoranti.

Report adopted

Tuesday

Trafficking and abuse of Nigerians in Libya. A joint report of the Diaspora and NGOs, Judiciary, Foreign Affairs and Special Duties committees. The Senate resolved that:

- NAPTIP, the police, Immigration, the EFCC and other agencies investigate trafficking networks and travel agencies;
- the 2015 Trafficking in Persons Act and the Child Rights Act are reviewed and enforced, and NAPTIP gets more funding;
- returning victims get a national reintegration programme, run by NCFRMI with NAPTIP;
- the Federal Government steps up engagement with Libya to break trafficking networks.

In debate, the Senate President and others pressed for "know your tenant" rules and regulation of short-let apartments.

Motions

Wednesday

- **Killings in Binnari, Taraba** (Sen. Shuaibu Isa Lau, Taraba North). About 80 people reportedly killed in an attack on 23 October in Karim Lamido LGA. Security camps and surveillance along the Taraba, Plateau and Bauchi borders; relief from NEMA and the North-East Development Commission; a minute's silence.
- **Pa Reuben Fasoranti** (Sen. Adeniyi Adegbonmire, Ondo Central). The Senate urged the Federal Government to name an educational institution after the late Afenifere leader and to send a condolence delegation to Ondo State.

BOTH CHAMBERS

Procedure and Practice Watch

- **A week to scrutinise $20.5 billion.** The borrowing plan went to committee with a one-week deadline. The letter read in plenary listed sectors rather than individual projects; the plan itself was attached.
- **Executive bills by letter.** The prisoner-transfer bill arrived by presidential letter under section 58(2) of the Constitution on Tuesday, went to Rules and Business, and was read the first time the next day, when the House also read its version (HB. 2843).
- **Committee, not plenary.** The House asked the INEC chairman to brief its Electoral Matters Committee rather than the whole House, after Deputy Speaker Benjamin Kalu argued that a plenary briefing so soon after the chairman's briefing to the nation was not ideal.
- **Adopted without debate.** The House adopted the road concession and toll gate motion without debate and sent it to three committees.
- **Three stages in three days.** The House read the Senate's Employees' Compensation Trust Fund Agency bill (SB. 557) the first time on Tuesday and the second time on Wednesday, and took it in Committee of the Whole on Thursday.
- **State police.** With the required two-thirds of state assemblies reported to have approved the state police amendment to the Constitution, the Senate's spokesman, Sen. Yemi Adaramodu, said the process would be completed before the Christmas recess.

House: Motions

Eleven motions over three sittings, on election readiness, school fees, roads and more. Bills and reports are on page 5.

Election readiness

Wednesday

INEC chairman summoned. On a motion by Hon. Mansur Manu Soro and Hon. Abdussamad Dasuki, the House told INEC Chairman Prof. Joash Amupitan to brief its Committee on Electoral Matters within seven legislative days on voter registration and PVCs, logistics, training, security, technology including BVAS and IReV, funding, and lessons from the Ekiti election.

Fees and student loans

Tuesday · Thursday

Halt to fee increases (Hon. Ifeoluwa Ehindero; Tue). Some public tertiary institutions have raised fees by more than 100%, which the House warned could undermine NELFUND student loans. It urged higher subventions, asked the Education Ministry and the NUC to seek a pause and a fee review, and told three committees to investigate.

One-year tuition waiver (Hon. Satomi Alhaji Ahmed; Thu). The House urged a time-bound waiver for eligible students in federal tertiary institutions, with institutions compensated for lost fees and priority for low-income and displaced families. States were urged to follow.

Roads

Wednesday · Thursday

Concessions and toll gates (Hon. Esosa Iyawe and three others; Wed). Adopted without debate. The House urged:

- the Works Ministry to draw up a framework for concessioning eligible federal roads to private investors through transparent public–private partnerships;
- a review, with the ICRC and FERMA, of which roads are suitable;
- toll gates on selected highways only after substantial rehabilitation, with charges set after economic assessment and public consultation.

Committee watch. The Public Assets, Works and Finance committees are to report back within four weeks.

Rahama Road (Hon. Dabo Ismaila Haruna; Wed). Emergency repairs and full rehabilitation of the road linking the North-East with Kaduna and Kano, with safety measures while work goes on.

Kirikiri Road, Lagos (Hon. Kalejaiye Adeboye Paul; Thu). FERMA to fix substandard work and finish the Ajeromi-Ifelodun section left out of earlier repairs.

Also adopted

TUESDAY

Electric and CNG vehicle imports (Hon. Ademorin Aliu Kuye). Licensing rules, NADDC criteria and a public register of importers. Report in four weeks.

WEDNESDAY

Federal University, Wukari (Hon. Gaza Gbefwi and others). Rename it after Gen. T. Y. Danjuma, subject to amending its Act.

TUESDAY

Research into policy (Hon. Abdussamad Dasuki). A system to act on NIPSS, National Defence College and NISS findings. Report in four weeks.

THURSDAY

Phone device checks (Hon. Sani Adamu Wakili). The NCC to simplify its rules and treat used phones fairly. Report in four weeks.

WEDNESDAY

Biology in senior schools (Hon. Ibrahim Isiaka). Restore Biology as a compulsory senior secondary subject. Report in four weeks.

House: Bills and Reports

Six bills passed third reading and the House approved a ₦100.5 billion promissory note for Yobe State. Items stepped down are at the foot of the page.

Passed

Wednesday · Thursday

NEPAD framework and African Union Development Agency	HB. 271 · Wed
Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service	HB. 2817 · Wed
Federal College of Horticulture, Iyara, Kogi	HB. 1447 · Wed
Federal University of Information Technology, Ikare-Akoko	SB. 289 · Thu
National Eye Centre, Jimeta, Adamawa	SB. 524 · Thu
Federal Medical Centre, Ohafia, Abia	HB. 257 · Thu

The two Senate bills have now passed both chambers. The four House bills go to the Senate.

Reports

Wednesday · Thursday

- **₦100.5bn promissory note** (Wed). On the Aids, Loans and Debt Management Committee's report, the House approved ₦100,509,017,234.55 in promissory notes to reimburse Yobe State for the Federal Government's takeover of the Muhammadu Buhari International Cargo Airport, Damaturu.
- **Committee of the Whole** (Thu). Nigeria Employees' Compensation Trust Fund Agency (SB. 557), which would replace the NSITF and Employees' Compensation Acts; Federal Medical Centres at Iyamho, Edo (SB. 717) and Obi, Benue (HB. 163).
- **Public petitions** (Thu). Six reports, recommending among other things that NECO and the NDLEA reinstate dismissed staff and that the FRSC vacate disputed land on the Kaduna–Abuja Expressway.

Second readings

Tuesday – Thursday

- **Tuesday.** Bills to shrink hospital boards and create a National Specialty Hospitals Management Board (HBs. 2687, 2690 and 2691; Hon. Julius Ihonvbere); NIA pensions (HB. 2837); Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Ifako-Ijaiye (HB. 2323).
- **Wednesday.** Nigeria Employees' Compensation Trust Fund Agency (SB. 557); twelve Senate bills for new federal medical centres, from Bonny to Potiskum; National Agro-Industrial Development Authority (HB. 2787; the Speaker); testing and certification of farm machinery (HB. 2818); DIA civilian pensions (HB. 2838); Chartered Institute of Public Health Nursing Practitioners (HB. 2796).
- **Thursday.** Federal College of Education, Umuobom, Imo (HB. 1425); Federal Medical Centre, Ifako-Ijaiye (HB. 2296); Federal College of Aviation Technology, Ihiala, Anambra (HB. 328).

First readings and reports laid

Fifteen bills were read the first time: SB. 557 (Tue); three on Wednesday, including the executive's prisoner-transfer amendment (HB. 2843) and a Constitution (Sixth Alteration) bill (HB. 2841); and eleven on Thursday, including the Senate's oil spill amendment (SB. 74) and bills on domestic workers (HB. 2844) and police veterans (HB. 2847).

Reports laid on Thursday: the National Safety Regulatory Board bill (HB. 1377), and insecurity in Abuja despite a $460 million CCTV project.

STEPPED DOWN

Reports on the Police Service Commission Training Institute (SB. 564) and Nigeria Mines Ranger Service (SB. 253) bills; Thursday's second readings of HB. 1790 (poor-quality federal contract work) and HB. 2639 (nursing college, Ibadan North).

Bills on the Move

Bills that moved this week and where they stand.

BILL	THIS WEEK	STAGE, END OF WEEK
Federal University of Information Technology, Ikare-Akoko; National Eye Centre, Jimeta · SBs. 289, 524	House · Committee of the Whole · Wed; third reading · Thu	Passed both chambers
NEPAD and African Union Development Agency; Agricultural Quarantine Service; College of Horticulture, Iyara; FMC Ohafia · HBs. 271, 2817, 1447, 257	House · third reading · Wed; HB. 257 · Thu	Passed House
National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Amendment) · SB. 74	Passed Senate · Tue; House first reading · Thu	Before the House
Nigeria Employees' Compensation Trust Fund Agency · SB. 557	House · first reading · Tue; second reading · Wed; Committee of the Whole · Thu	Awaiting third reading
Transfer of Convicted Offenders (Amendment) · SB. 1086, HB. 2843	Executive bill · letter to the Senate · Tue; first reading in both chambers · Wed	First reading, both
Federal Medical Centres: twelve Senate bills, Bonny to Potiskum	House · second reading · Wed; Iyamho (SB. 717) in Committee of the Whole · Thu	In the House
Nigerian Safety Investigation Bureau (Amendment) · SB. 1078	Senate · second reading · Tue. The House version took second reading on 22 Oct	In committee, both

DATES TO WATCH

Looking Ahead

c. 3 Nov	Senate Local and Foreign Debts Committee reports on the $20.5bn and €1.05bn borrowing plan.
c. 10 Nov	Senate committees report on the NAFDAC and suicide prevention bills; House committees on Delta flooding and SME credit.
c. 12 Nov	INEC chairman due before the House Committee on Electoral Matters (seven legislative days from 28 Oct).
12–13 Nov	House Electoral Matters reports on Njiriv and Yonov; Senate Local and Foreign Debts on the ₦100.5bn Yobe promissory note, which the House approved on 28 Oct.
17–19 Nov	House committees report on the OSGF circular, fake food and drinks, Odi erosion, Eko Bridge, POS agents and Anambra erosion; Senate committees on Ayetoro.
24–26 Nov	House committees report on EV and CNG imports, research findings, road concessions and toll gates, Biology, and phone device checks.
By Christmas	The Senate expects to complete the state police constitutional amendment, now approved by the required two-thirds of state assemblies.

By the Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC)