THE URGENT NEED TO CHECK THE RISING INCIDENCE OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE, INTOLERANCE AND ATTACKS ON POLITICAL LEADERS AND SUPPORTERS IN NIGERIA.

Sponsor: Senator Abdul Ningi

The Senate:

Disturbed by the alarming escalation in the frequency and spread of political violence across the country, characterised by attacks on political leaders, supporters and political gatherings, with grave implications for National Security, democratic participation and the peaceful conduct of the 2027 General Elections;

Notes with grave concern the reported attack on the motorcade of His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, on Friday, 13th November, 2026, shortly after he observed Jumu'ah prayers at the Shehu Shagari Central Mosque, Garki, Abuja, when the departing convoy was reportedly attacked with stones and other dangerous objects, resulting in damage to vehicles and injuries to security operatives;

Recalls the reported attack on Mr. Peter Obi and other political stakeholders during a political gathering in Benue, Edo State; the violent disruption of a political procession involving supporters of the Nigeria Democratic Congress (NDC) and the Obidient Movement in Asaba, Delta State, on 7th November, 2026, which reportedly resulted in one death and five injuries; and the reported attack on the convoy of the African Democratic Congress (ADC) presidential candidate, former Vice President, Atiku Abubakar in Sokoto State;

Observes that these incidents reflect a disturbing pattern of political intolerance, intimidation and violence capable of undermining public confidence in the electoral process and discouraging citizens from exercising their democratic rights;

Worried that failure to promptly investigate and prosecute perpetrators and sponsors of political violence could embolden further attacks, deepen political divisions and threaten the peaceful conduct of the 2027 General Elections;

Aware that Sections 39 and 40 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), guarantee freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association, including political association;

Convinced that democracy can only thrive where political differences are resolved through peaceful engagement and the contest of ideas rather than intimidation, violence and the suppression of opposing views.

Accordingly resolves to:

i. urge the Federal Government to direct the Inspector-General of Police and other relevant Security Agencies to strengthen security arrangements for political leaders, candidates, supporters and political gatherings nationwide, and establish effective early-warning and rapid-response mechanisms to prevent political violence ahead of the 2027 General Elections;

ii. urge on the relevant Security Agencies to conduct thorough, impartial and transparent investigations into the reported incidents in Abuja, Edo, Delta and Sokoto States, identify the perpetrators and sponsors, and ensure their prosecution in accordance with the law; and

iii. mandate its Committees on National Security and Intelligence; Police Affairs; and Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to engage the relevant institutions and report to the Senate within four (4) weeks on measures to prevent political violence and safeguard the 2027 General Elections.

I so move.