PLAC
POLICY AND LEGAL ADVOCACY CENTRE

Follow us @placng

# Weekly Legislative Digest

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

Week of 17–19 November 2026 | 10th National Assembly · Fourth Session

## THE WEEK IN BRIEF

The Senate sent the state police amendment to the President, confirmed six NMDPRA executive directors and approved a ₦100.5 billion promissory note for Yobe State. The House passed four bills, three of them now through both chambers. Both chambers adjourned to Tuesday 24 November.

**₦100.5bn**
promissory note to reimburse Yobe State for the Damaturu cargo airport

**6**
NMDPRA executive directors confirmed by the Senate

**4**
bills passed by the House, three of them now through both chambers

**17**
bills read the first time in the House, six of them by the Speaker

## SPOTLIGHT

### State police amendment goes to the President for assent

On Wednesday 18 November, the Senate transmitted the Constitution (Sixth Alteration) Bill creating state police to the President for assent. On 4 November the Senate Leader said 30 State Houses of Assembly had approved it, above the 24 required.

The Senate also asked the Executive to send a National Policing Bill, to provide the overarching framework for subnational policing and forestall conflict between federal and state structures.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

The amendment awaits the President's assent. The National Policing Bill the Senate requested would come from the Executive as a separate bill.

## TOP STORIES


Senate confirms six NMDPRA executive directors
Page 2

Senate approves ₦100.5 billion note for Yobe's cargo airport
Page 2

BOFIA amendment passes both chambers
Page 3

House orders inquiry into NTI admissions cancellation
Page 5


## IN THIS ISSUE


Senate 2
House: bills passed and second readings 3
House: first readings and reports 4
House: motions; Procedure Watch 5
Bills on the Move; Looking Ahead 6

# Senate: Bills and Confirmations

The Senate sat on Tuesday and Wednesday and adjourned to Tuesday 24 November. It sent the state police amendment to the President (page 1), passed two bills and concurred with three House bills.

## Passed

Wednesday

- **National Research and Innovation Development Fund · SB. 1069.** A dedicated fund to promote, coordinate and support research and innovation.
- **National Postgraduate Medical College (Amendment) · SB. 1068.** Lets the College award PhDs in clinical medicine, dentistry, basic medical sciences, pharmacology and related disciplines.

Reports of the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFund (Sen. Dandutse Muntari Mohammed, Katsina South), listed on Tuesday and taken on Wednesday.

## Bills for concurrence

Wednesday

- **Passed:** National Library of Nigeria (Repeal and Enactment), HB. 89; Federal Medical Centres (Amendment); National Sugar Development Council (Amendment), HBs. 2022 and 2030.
- **Stepped down:** SSS Research and Development Bureau, HB. 2716, for further consideration.

## First readings

Tuesday

| | |
|---|---|
| Joint Doctrine and Warfare Centre | HB. 2741 |
| Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service | HB. 2817 |
| Nigeria French Language Village, Badagry | HB. 136 |

House bills, presented by the Senate Leader for concurrence.

## From the President

Tuesday

**Mental Health Bill, 2026.** Seeks to decriminalise attempted suicide. Referred to Rules and Business for scheduling for first and second reading.

## Confirmations and approvals

Tuesday

**NMDPRA executive directors confirmed,** on the report of the Petroleum Downstream and Gas committees (Sen. Suleiman Abdulrahman Kawu, Kano South):

**Abiodun A. Adeniji**, Finance and Accounts

**Ogbugo Kalu Ukoha**, Distribution Systems, Storage and Retailing Infrastructure

**Dr Mustapha Lamorde**, Health, Safety, Environment and Community

**Mobolaji Tajudeen Musa**, Hydrocarbon Processing Plants, Installation and Partnership and Transportation Infrastructure

**Ogechukwu Olufumilola Modie**, Economic Regulation and Strategic Planning

**Said Abutalib**, Corporate Services and Administration

**₦100.5 billion promissory note** to reimburse Yobe State for the Federal Government's takeover of the Muhammadu Buhari International Cargo Airport, Damaturu (Local and Foreign Debts Committee, Sen. Aliyu Magatakarda Wamakko).

## Resolutions

Tue · Wed

- **Political violence** (Tue). A one-week investigation ahead of the 2027 elections. Security agencies are to review protection at rallies, set up early warning and rapid response, and investigate attacks in Abuja, Benue, Delta and Sokoto to identify perpetrators and sponsors.
- **37 artisanal miners** (Wed). The Senate wants the Federal Government panel's report on their deaths in NSCDC custody in Niger State implemented, with sanctions for culpable officers and reform of the Corps. The Senate President will lead a condolence visit to the families.

# House: Bills and Second Readings

The House sat on Tuesday and Wednesday and adjourned to Tuesday 24 November. It passed four bills, three of them Senate bills now through both chambers, and read nine a second time.

## Passed

Wednesday

- **Nigeria Mines Ranger Service · SB. 253.** A service to prevent and combat illegal mining, artisanal mining and other crimes.
- **Banks and Other Financial Institutions (Amendment) · SB. 959.** Designation, registration and enhanced supervision of systemically important institutions. The Senate passed it on 10 November.
- **Federal Medical Centre, Igbere, Abia · SB. 723.** Read a second time and taken in Committee of the Whole on Tuesday.
- **National Senior Secondary Education Commission (Amendment) · HB. 2790.** Strengthens the administration and coordination of public senior secondary education. The Senate passed its own amendment (SB. 1075) on 11 November.

All four were considered on Tuesday, HB. 2790 on the report of Basic Education and Services (Hon. Mark B. Useni), and moved by the House Leader, Hon. Julius Ihonvbere. The three Senate bills have now passed both chambers; HB. 2790 goes to the Senate.

## Second readings

Tuesday

- **Nigerian Council for Social Work (Amendment) · HB. 2510** (Hon. Blessing Onuh). Better efficiency in the Council's operations. To Women Affairs.
- **Federal Medical Centre, Igbere · SB. 723.** From the Senate; to Committee of the Whole the same day, then passed on Wednesday.

## Second readings

Wednesday

- **Teaching hospitals at Kachia and Otukpo · SBs. 1058, 908.** Senate bills amending the University Teaching Hospitals Act for the Federal University of Applied Sciences Teaching Hospital, Kachia, Kaduna, and the Federal University of Health Sciences Teaching Hospital, Otukpo, Benue. To Committee of the Whole.
- **Constitution alteration · HB. 2528** (Hon. Salaman Idris). An additional local government area in Kogi State. To Constitution Review.
- **Council of Economic Education · HB. 2311** (Hon. Fuad Kayode Laguda). Also provides for a Director-General of the Nigerian School of Economics. To National Planning and Economic Development, and Education (Basic and Tertiary).
- **National Institute of Journalism and Media Studies, Ikeja · HB. 2532** (Hon. Kalejaiye Adeboye Paul). Training, research and certification in journalism. To Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values.
- **Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Registration Council · HB. 964** (Deputy Speaker Benjamin Okezie Kalu and eight others). Repeals and re-enacts the law regulating optometry and dispensing optics.
- **National Social Investment Programme Agency (Amendment) · HB. 2633** (Deputy Speaker Benjamin Okezie Kalu and six others). Repositions the agency for better performance.

# House: First Readings and Reports

Seventeen bills were read the first time, six of them amendments to the Agricultural Research Council Act presented by the Speaker. On Wednesday the House considered eight bills, which now await third reading.

## First readings — Tuesday

| | |
|---|---|
| Federal University Birnin Kebbi, from the Senate | SB. 224 |
| Skill Acquisition Units in Correctional Centres | HB. 2874 |
| Matrimonial Causes Act (Amendment) | HB. 2875 |
| Federal College of Education (Special), Daban Fulani | HB. 2877 |

HB. 2874: Hon. Peter Ifeanyi Uzokwe. HB. 2875: Hon. Dominic Okafor. HB. 2877: Hon. Usman Kallamu Maijama'a.

## Report laid — Tuesday

**National Research and Innovation Development Fund and National Council on Research and Innovation · HB. 2821.** Science and Technology (Hon. Zakariya Tijjani Zannah).

## First readings — Wednesday

| | |
|---|---|
| Agricultural Research Council (Amendment), six bills<br>HBs. 2876, 2884, 2885, 2887, 2888, 2889 | |
| International Arbitration Council of Nigeria | HB. 2878 |
| National Broadcasting Commission (Amendment) | HB. 2879 |
| Food, Drugs and Related Products (Registration) (Amendment) | HB. 2880 |
| Counterfeit and Fake Drugs and Unwholesome Processed Foods (Amendment) | HB. 2881 |
| Food and Drugs Act (Amendment) | HB. 2882 |
| Federal Medical Centres (Amendment) | HB. 2883 |
| Federal College of Education (Technical), Ajegunle | HB. 2886 |

The six Agricultural Research Council bills are the Speaker's, Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen. HB. 2878 and 2879: Hon. Billy Osawaru. HB. 2880 to 2882: Hon. Ademorin A. Kuye. HB. 2883: Hon. Zainab Gimba. HB. 2886: Hon. Isiaka Ibrahim Ayokunle.

## Reports considered — Wednesday

| | |
|---|---|
| Raw Materials Council (Amendment), Committee of the Whole | SB. 606 |
| Highland Crops and Vegetables Research Institute, Bokkos | HB. 1876 |
| Fisheries and Aquatic Studies Research Institute, Darki, Kano | HB. 1210 |
| Federal Orthopaedic Hospital, Ikot Moho | HB. 2767 |
| Federal College of Agriculture, Ebelle, Edo | HB. 1805 |
| Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture, Uba, Borno | HB. 1798 |
| Federal College of Land Resources Technology, Rabah | HB. 717 |
| Fewer board members for university teaching hospitals | HB. 2687 |

Reports of Agricultural Colleges and Institutions (Hon. Abiodun Isiaq Akinlade) on the five agricultural bills, Specialty Healthcare (Hon. Alex Egbona) on HB. 2767 and Health Institutions (Hon. Patrick Umoh) on HB. 2687. SB. 606 is to protect and develop local manufacturing and processing industries.

# House: Motions

The House took two motions on Wednesday: the cancellation of NTI admissions and a college bill revived from the previous Assembly.

## NTI admissions

Wednesday

**Hon. Saidu Musa Abdullahi**

The House ordered an inquiry into the Federal Ministry of Education's directive cancelling the 2026 NCE and degree admissions at the National Teachers' Institute, Kaduna. The Committees on Federal Colleges of Education and on Finance are to examine the legality of the directive and the statutory basis for deducting student fees into the Federation Account, and report within four weeks. The House called for a refund of all deductions made since March 2026.

## Revived college bill

Wednesday

**Hon. Francis Ejiroghene Waive**

Under Order Twelve, Rule 16(d) of the Standing Orders, the House recommitted the Federal College of Education (Technical), Ajegunle, Ogun State Bill to the Committee of the Whole for reconsideration. The previous Assembly passed it and sent it to the President, but neither assent nor refusal was communicated before that Assembly's tenure ended. Re-gazetted as HB. 2886, it was read the first time the same day.

BOTH CHAMBERS

## Procedure and Practice Watch

- **Three sittings in the House.** The House read the Senate's Federal Medical Centre, Igbere bill (SB. 723) the first time on 12 November, took its second reading and Committee of the Whole on 17 November and passed it on 18 November.
- **Two versions to reconcile.** The House passed its senior secondary education amendment (HB. 2790) a week after the Senate passed its own (SB. 1075). The Senate passed its research and innovation fund bill (SB. 1069) the day after a House committee laid its report on a similar bill (HB. 2821).
- **Concurrence at last.** The Senate concurred with the sugar council bill, on its order paper since 27 October, and with the Federal Medical Centres and National Library bills. It stepped down the SSS research bureau bill for further consideration.
- **A returned bill, round two.** The Raw Materials Council bill (SB. 606), returned by the President and re-passed by the Senate on 20 October, cleared Committee of the Whole two weeks after the House rescinded its decision on clauses 2 to 6.
- **Order Twelve again.** As with the Sickle Cell Disease bill on 4 November, Hon. Francis Waive used Order Twelve, Rule 16(d) to revive a bill from the previous Assembly without starting afresh.
- **The Speaker's bills.** The Speaker, Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen, presented six of Wednesday's 13 first readings, all amendments to the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act.
- **A bill waiting in the Senate.** The NTI motion notes that the House sent an amendment giving the Institute express authority to award NCEs and degrees (HB. 879) to the Senate for concurrence on 1 July 2025.

# Bills on the Move

Bills that moved this week and where they stand.

| BILL | THIS WEEK | STAGE, END OF WEEK |
|---|---|---|
| **Research and Innovation Fund; Postgraduate Medical College** · SBs. 1069, 1068 | Senate · third reading · Wed | Passed Senate |
| **National Library; FMC (Amendment); sugar council** · HB. 89; HBs. 2022, 2030 | Senate · concurrence · Wed | Passed both chambers |
| **SSS research bureau** · HB. 2716 | Senate · concurrence stepped down · Wed | Awaiting concurrence |
| **Constitution (Sixth Alteration): state police** | Senate · sent to the President · Wed | Awaiting assent |
| **Mines Ranger Service; BOFIA (Amendment); FMC Igbere** · SBs. 253, 959, 723 | House · considered Tue; third reading Wed | Passed both chambers |
| **Senior Secondary Education Commission (Amendment)** · HB. 2790 | House · third reading · Wed; the Senate passed its own bill on 11 Nov | Passed House |
| **Raw Materials Council; five agricultural institutions; Ikot Moho hospital; teaching hospital boards** · eight bills | House · Committee of the Whole · Wed | Awaiting third reading |
| **Teaching hospitals at Kachia and Otukpo** · SBs. 1058, 908 | House · second reading · Wed | Committee of the Whole |
| **Social Work Council, Kogi LGA, journalism institute and three more** · six HBs | House · second reading · Tue and Wed | In committee |
| **FCE (Technical), Ajegunle** · HB. 2886 | House · first reading; revived under Order Twelve · Wed | Committee of the Whole |

DATES TO WATCH

## Looking Ahead

| | |
|---|---|
| **24 Nov** | Both chambers resume. The Senate's one-week inquiry into political violence and the Aviation Committee's report on VIP airspace closures are due. |
| **24–26 Nov** | House committees on EV and CNG imports, research findings, toll gates, Biology and phone device checks. |
| **1–2 Dec** | Senate committees on the Nigeria–China air agreement; House committees on CBN pensions, kidney disease, MSMEs and the Benin–Okene highway. |
| **8–10 Dec** | Senate Communications Committee on airtime deductions; House committees on human trafficking, the Itakpe–Warri railway and the safety of judicial officers. |
| **16 Dec** | House committees on the NTI admissions cancellation. |
| **No date set** | Assent to the state police amendment; the $7.7 billion borrowing request, before committees in both chambers; first reading of the Mental Health Bill. |

**By the Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC)**