

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSE ACT CAP M7 LFN TO INCREASE AMOUNT PAID AS PENALTY AND FOR OTHER CONNECTED MATTERS THERETO

Sponsored by Hon. Dr. Chukwuemeka Ujam

[] Commencement

BE IT ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows

1 1. Matrimonial Causes Act CAP M7 LFN 2004 (in this Act
2 referred to as the principal Act is amended as set out below:

3 2. Section 31, third schedule of the principal Act is amended by
4 deleting the word five kobo and inserting the word one thousand five
5 hundred naira to read as follows:

Amendment of
Section 31, Third
Schedule of the
Principal Act

6 “On any occasion on which an employer makes a payment under this
7 schedule in respect of a defendant, the employer may retain for his own use
8 out of any balance of the defendant earning remaining after the making of
9 that payment the sum of One thousand Five hundred Naira or if on that
10 occasion the employer makes payment in pursuance of two or more
11 attachment of earning order relating to the defendant the sum of one
12 thousand five hundred naira in respect of each such payment.”

13 3. Section 32 (1) C, third Schedule of the Principal Act is amended
14 by deleting the word two hundred naira and inserting the word five thousand
15 naira to read as follows;

Amendment of
Section 32(1),
Third Schedule of
the Principal Act

16 “recklessly furnishes such a statement or notice that is false or misleading in
17 a material particular shall be guilty of an offence punishable on conviction
18 by a fine not exceeding five thousand naira”.

19 4. Section 33, Third Schedule of the Principal Act is amended by
20 deleting the word, Two hundred naira and inserting the word five thousand

Amendment of
Section 33, Third
Schedule of the
Principal Act

1 naira to read as follows:

2 “Any person who dismisses an employee or injures him in his employment or
3 alters his position to his prejudice by reason of the circumstance that an
4 attachment of earning order has been made in relation to the employer or that
5 the person is required to make payment under such an order in relation to the
6 employer shall be guilty of an offence punishable on conviction by a fine not
7 exceeding five thousand naira”.

Short Title

8 5. This bill shall be cited as the Matrimonial Causes Act
9 (Amendment) Bill, 2015.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the provisions of section 31, 32(1)C and 33 of the third schedule by increasing the amount paid as penalty for the commission of an offence.