

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NIGERIAN PRESS COUNCIL ACT CAP. N128 LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Hon. Samuel Okon Ikon*

[ ] Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:

- |    |  |                        |
|----|--|------------------------|
| 1  | 1. The Nigerian Press Council Act Cap. N128 Laws of Federation                   | Amendment of           |
| 2  | of Nigeria, 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") in this Bill. | Cap. N128 LFN,<br>2004 |
| 3  | 2. Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting-                        | Amendment of           |
| 4  | (a) after the word, "is" in line 1, the word, "hereby"; and                      | Section 1              |
| 5  | (b) after the word, "establish" in line 1, the words, "a body to be              |                        |
| 6  | known as".   |                        |
| 7  | 3. Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended-                                    | Amendment of           |
| 8  | (a) in subsection (1), by deleting after the word, "and" in line 1, the          | Section 2              |
| 9  | words, "the following";  |                        |
| 10 | (b) in subsection (1) (d), by substituting for the word, "a" in line 1,          |                        |
| 11 | the words, "at least one;  |                        |
| 12 | (c) in subsection (1) (f)-   |                        |
| 13 | (i) by inserting after the word, "Ministry" in line, the words,                  |                        |
| 14 | "responsible for"; and   |                        |
| 15 | (ii) by deleting after the word "information" in line 1, the words,              |                        |
| 16 | "and national orientation";  |                        |
| 17 | (d) in subsection (2) (b), by substituting for the words, "not less              |                        |
| 18 | than" in line 1, the words, "at least"; and                                      |                        |
| 19 | (e) in subsection (4) by inserting after the word, "office" in line 2,           |                        |
| 20 | the words, "of members".   |                        |

- Amendment of Section 3 (a) 1 4. Section 3 (a) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting after the  
2 word, "press" in line 1, the words, "and the conduct of".
- Amendment of Section 4 (2) 3 5. Section 4 (2) of the Principal Act is amended-  
4 (a) in paragraph (c) by substituting for the word, "policy" in line 1, the  
5 word, "policies";  
6 (b) in paragraph (e) by inserting after the word, "and" in line 2, the  
7 word, "all; and  
8 (c) in paragraph (g) by substituting for the word, "discharge" in line 2,  
9 the word, "perform".
- Amendment of Section 5 10 6. Section 5 of the Principal Act is amended-  
11 (a) in subsection (1), by substituting for the word, "employee" in line  
12 1, the word, "staff"; and  
13 (b) in subsection (2), by substituting for the word, "employee" in line  
14 2, the word, "staff".
- Amendment of Section 6 15 7. Section 6 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the  
16 figure "23" in line 3, the figure, "17".
- Amendment of Section 7 17 8. Section 7 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting after the word,  
18 "including" in line 1, the words, "terms and condition as to".
- Amendment of Section 15 19 9. Section 15 of the Principal Act is amended-  
20 (a) by substituting for-  
21 (i) the word, "No" in line 1, the word, "any",  
22 (ii) the word, "shall" in line 1, the words, "who personally",  
23 (iii) the word, "duties" in line 1, the word, "functions";  
24 (b) by deleting after the word, "under" in line 2, the words, " or  
25 pursuant to"; and  
26 (c) by inserting after the word, "Act" in line 2, the words, "shall be  
27 indemnified by the Council".
- Amendment of Section 17 28 10. Section 17 of the Principal Act is amended-  
29 (a) in subsection (3)-  
30 (i) paragraph (a) by substituting for the expression, "N30,000" in line

1           1, the expression, "N2,000,000",

2                   (ii) paragraph (b), by substituting for the expression, "N2,000" in  
3           line 1, the expression, "N50,000";

4                   (b) in subsection (4)-

5                   (i) paragraph (a), by substituting for the expression, "N1,000" in  
6           line 1, the expression, "N10,000,000; and

7                   (ii) paragraph (b), by substituting for the expression, "N5,000" in  
8           line 1, the expression, "N100,000".

9                   11. Section 10 (1) (a) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting  
10           after the word, "Council" in line 1, the words, "so required".

Amendment of  
Section 10 (1) (a)

11                   12. Section 20 (1) of the Principal Act is amended-

Amendment of  
Section 20 (1)

12                   (a) in paragraph (a) by deleting after the word, "tribunal" in line 2,  
13           the words, "having power to impose imprisonment (whether or not such an  
14           offence in punishable with the imprisonment); and

15                   (b) in paragraph (c) by substituting for the words-

16                   (i) "pursuant to" in line 2, the word, "under" and

17                   (ii) "thinks" in line 4, the word, "deem".

18                   13. Section 21 of the Principal Act is amended-

Amendment of  
Section 21

19                   (a) in subsection (1) (b) by substituting for the words, "is guilty of"  
20           in line 3, the word, "commits";

21                   (b) in subsection (2) (b), by substituting for the words, "is guilty of"  
22           in line 2, the word, "commits"; and

23                   (c) in subsection (2) (b), by substituting for the word, "he is guilty  
24           of" in line 2, the word, "commits"; and

25                   (d) in subsection (5)-

26                   (i) by deleting after the word, "section" in line 1, the words, "of this  
27           Act",

28                   (ii) in paragraph (a), by deleting before the word, "he" in line 1, the  
29           words, "in High Court",

30                   (iii) in paragraph (a), by substituting for the expression, "N200" in

- 1 line 3, the expression, N1,000", and  
 2 (iv) by deleting paragraph (b), and renumbering the section  
 3 accordingly.
- Amendment of Section 22 (1) 4 14. Section 22 (1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after  
 5 the word, "properly" in line 1, the word, "providing".
- Amendment of Section 28 6 15. Section 28 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after  
 7 subsection (3), a new subsection "(4)"-  
 8 "(4) The Council may accept any gift of land, money or other property  
 9 as such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the gift, provided  
 10 not in consistence with the objective of this Act".
- Amendment of Section 23 (2) 11 16. Section 23 (2) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after  
 12 the word, "who" in line 1, the word, "willfully".
- Amendment of Section 34 13 17. Section 34 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting after the  
 14 word, "proved" in line 3, the words, "be presumed contents of the  
 15 documentation".
- Amendment of Section 36 (2) 16 18. Section 36 (2) of the Principal Act is amended by-  
 17 (a) inserting after the word, "returns" in lien 2, the words, "after 28  
 18 days of the notice"; and  
 19 (b) substituting for the words, "is guilty of" in line 2, the word,  
 20 "commits".
- Amendment of Section 37 21 19. Section 37 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting after the  
 22 word, "Act" in lien 1, the words, "unless the content otherwise requires".  
 23 20. The Bill may be cited as the Nigerian Press Council (Amendment)  
 24 Bill, 2017.

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Nigerian Press Council Act Cap. N128 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004.