

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ALTER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, 1999 TO PROVIDE FOR LIMITATIONS TO THE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AS GUARANTEED BY THE CONSTITUTION IN ORDER TO PROHIBIT HATE SPEECHES THAT HAVE THE CONSEQUENCES OF INCITING VIOLENCE AND CIVIL DISORDER AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Aminu Sani Jaji

[] Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria-

- 1 1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (in Alteration of the
- 2 this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is altered as set out in this Bill. Principal Act
- 3 2. Section 39 of the Principal Act is altered by inserting after the Alteration of
- 4 existing subsection (3), a new sub clause "(4)"- Section 39
- 5 "(4) The rights provided in sub-section (1), shall not extend to-
- 6 (a) propaganda for war;
- 7 (b) incitement of imminent violence; or
- 8 (c) advocacy of hatred that is based on race, ethnicity, gender or
- 9 religion, and;
- 10 (d) incitement to cause harm."
- 11 3. This Bill is cited as Constitution of the Federal Republic of Citation
- 12 Nigeria 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2017.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to provide for limitations to the freedom of expression as guaranteed by the Constitution in order to prohibit hate speeches that have the consequences of inciting violence and civil disorder.