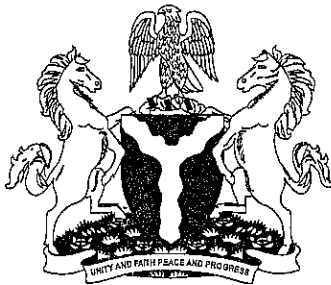


*Extraordinary*



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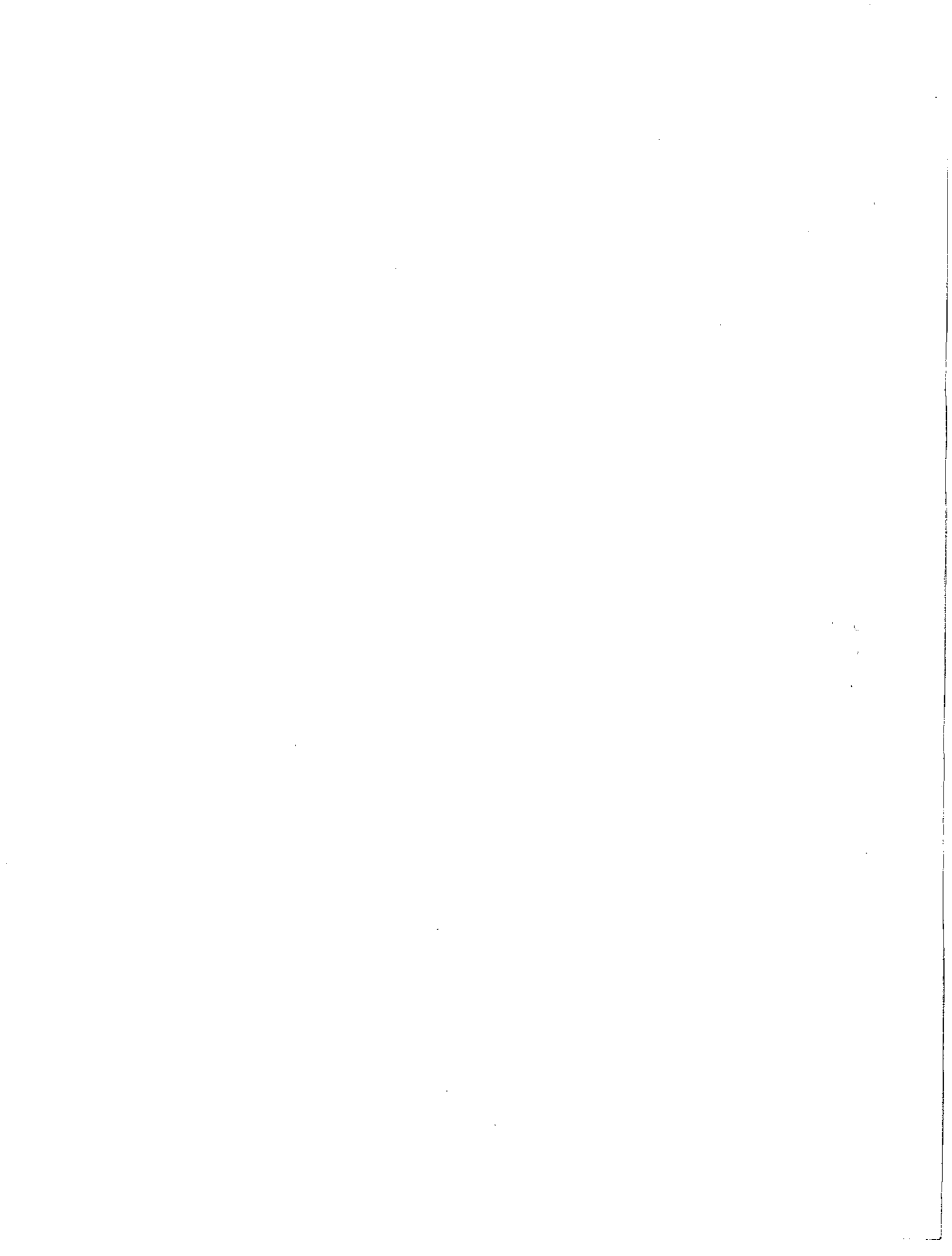
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WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN ELECTIONS SUPPORT BILL, 2018

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

*Clause:*

1. Presentation of Candidates for an Election
2. Elections into the National Assembly
3. Elections into the State Houses of Assembly
4. Elections into Area Councils of the FCT
5. Compliance
6. Report
7. Citation



# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO PRESCRIBE WOMEN QUOTAS FOR ELECTIONS INTO THE SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, STATE HOUSES OF ASSEMBLY AND AREA COUNCILS OF FCT TO SUPPORT AND ENHANCE WOMEN PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION IN CERTAIN ELECTIVE OFFICES AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Hon. Sadiq Ibrahim*

[ ] Commencement

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

1           1. All political parties who wish to present candidates for election  
2 into the Senate, House of Representatives, State Houses of Assembly and  
3 Area Council of the FCT shall ensure compliance with the provisions of this  
4 Bill.

Presentation of candidates for Election

5           2.-(1) In conducting primaries for National Assembly elections, all  
6 political parties shall comply with the provisions of this bill before  
7 submitting their lists of candidates to the Independent National Electoral  
8 Commission.

Elections into the National Assembly

9           (2) In general elections to the Senate, all political parties shall  
10 ensure that at least one candidate from the three senatorial zones of the State  
11 is a woman.

12           (3) In general elections to the House of Representatives, all  
13 political parties shall ensure that at least one-third of the total number of  
14 candidates from all the Federal constituencies of the State are women.

15           Provided that in complying with the provisions of sub Sections (2)  
16 and (3) of this Section, the nomination of women candidates shall be rotated  
17 amongst the various senatorial zones and federal constituencies of the  
18 respective state in a manner as may be prescribed by the Independent

1 National Electoral Commission.

Election into the  
State House of  
Assembly

2 3.-(1) In conducting primaries for State Houses of Assembly  
3 elections, all political parties shall comply with the provisions of this bill  
4 before submitting their lists of candidates to the Independent National  
5 Electoral Commission.

6 (2) In general elections for State Houses of Assembly, all political  
7 parties shall ensure that at least one-third of the total number of candidates from  
8 the State constituencies of the State are women.

9 Provided that in complying with the provisions of sub section (2) of  
10 this section, the nomination of women candidates shall be rotated amongst the  
11 various State constituencies in a manner as may be designated by the  
12 Independent National Electoral Commission.

Election into  
Area Councils  
of the FCT

13 4.-(1) In conducting primaries for Area Councils of the Federal  
14 Capital Territory elections, all political parties shall comply with the provisions  
15 of this bill before submitting their lists of candidates to the Independent  
16 National Electoral Commission.

17 (2) In elections for Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory, all  
18 political parties shall ensure that at least one-third of the total number of  
19 candidates from councillorship constituencies of the Area Council are women.

Compliance

20 5.-(1) The Independent National Electoral Commission shall  
21 designate constituencies from the existing constituencies for the purposes of  
22 compliance with the provisions of the Bill.

23 (2) The Independent National Electoral Commission shall ensure that  
24 in the aforementioned elections into the Senate, House of Representatives,  
25 State Houses of Assembly and Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory  
26 that the designated constituencies shall present women only candidates and  
27 this shall be without prejudice to women's eligibility to contest in other  
28 constituencies.

29 (3) The Independent National Electoral Commission shall not accept  
30 a list of candidates submitted by a political party that does not comply with the

1 provisions of this Bill.  
2 Independent National Electoral Commission, in compliance with Sub  
3 Section 1 of this Section shall provide guidelines for effective  
4 implementation of the provisions of this Bill provided that the guideline  
5 shall be published two (2) years before the generation elections and one (1)  
6 year before elections into the Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory

7 6. The Independent National Electoral Commission and the  
8 National Human Rights Commission shall prepare and submit to the  
9 President and the National Assembly not later than one year after every  
10 General Election, a report on the implementation status of this Bill, detailing  
11 the level of compliance.

Monitoring and  
Evaluation

12 7. This Bill may be cited as Women Participation in Elections  
13 Support Bill, 2018.

Citation

#### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to provide for women participation in Elections in accordance with the obligations incumbent upon Nigeria as a State Party and in an effort to implement certain provisions of the African Union's Charter on Human and Peoples Rights particularly Article 9 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa which obligates State Parties to take specific positive action to promote participative governance and the equal participation of women in the political life of their countries through affirmative action, enabling national legislation and other measures to ensure amongst other things, that women are represented equally at all levels with men in all electoral processes; this Bill seeks to prescribe women quotas for elections into the Senate, House of Representatives, State Houses of Assembly and Area Council Elections in FCT in order to support and enhance women participation and representation in certain elective offices.

