



1 least 5 clear days within which the person is expected to appear.

2 *Schedule.*

Power to issue  
warrant to compel  
attendance

3 4.-(1) Where a person whom a summons under clause 3 of this Bill is  
4 directed, does not attend as scheduled, the President or the Speaker of the  
5 Legislative House may, upon being satisfied that the summons was duly  
6 served, issue a warrant to a police officer or Sergeant-At-Arms, to apprehend  
7 the person and bring him before the issuing authority.

8 (2) The President or the Speaker may by endorsement on the warrant  
9 direct that the person named on the warrant be released after the arrest, on  
10 entering into recognizance before the issuing authority.

Witness may be  
examined on oath

11 5. A Legislative House or a Committee may examine a witness on  
12 oath which the Clerk is authorized to administer.

Privilege of a  
witness. CAP. E14

13 6. A person summoned before a Legislative House or a Committee to  
14 testify, give an account, produce any document or record shall be entitled to,  
15 where necessary, privileges on-

16 (a) communication related to unpublished official record of Armed  
17 Forces;

18 (b) any evidence protected by the Evidence Act; and

19 (c) any evidence protected by any law regulating the affairs of a  
20 profession.

False evidence  
Caps. C38 and  
P3 LPN, 2004

21 7. A person who gives false evidence before a Legislative House or a  
22 Committee while answering question, put to the person, shall be liable on  
23 conviction under the Criminal or Penal Codes.

Obstruction of  
members of the  
legislative house

24 8.-(1) A Member of a Legislative House shall not be obstructed or  
25 hindered from gaining entrance into the legislative chambers.

26 (2) A person who-

27 (a) hinders the movement of a Member of a Legislative House into the  
28 chambers or precincts of a Legislative House;

29 (b) interferes or disobey the order given by an officer of a Legislative  
30 House in performing his official functions;

1 (c) creates any disturbance which interrupts or is likely to interrupt  
2 the proceedings of a Legislative House; or

3 (d) sits or votes in a Legislative House while the person is not a  
4 member of a Legislative House,  
5 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding  
6 N100,000.00 or 6 months imprisonment or both.

7 9. An answer by a person to a question put by a Committee of a  
8 Legislative House shall not, except in the case of criminal proceedings for  
9 the offence of perjury in the or an offence against this Bill, be in any  
10 proceedings, civil or criminal, admissible in evidence against him.

Answers in  
committee not to  
be admissible in  
proceedings

11 10. An officer of a Legislative House may, with or without an order  
12 from a Court and warrant of arrest, as provided in the schedule to this Bill,  
13 arrest any person-

Power of arrest

14 (a) who commits an offence contrary to the provision of this Bill; or  
15 (b) within the chamber or its precincts whom he reasonably  
16 suspects of having committed an offence contrary to the provision of this  
17 Bill.

18 11. The President or the Speaker of a Legislative House may, at  
19 any time, order for the ejection of a stranger or any other person from the  
20 chamber or its precincts.

Ejection of a person  
from chamber or  
its precincts

21 12. A person who-

22 (a) offers a member or officer, of a Legislative House, any bribe,  
23 fee, compensation, reward or benefit of any kind in order to influence him in  
24 his conduct in respect of promotion of or opposition to any Bill, resolution,  
25 or report submitted or intended to be submitted to the Legislative House; or

Influencing  
members

26 (b) threatens to make use of force, violence, restraint or inflict any  
27 injury or damage against a Member or officer of a Legislative House in order  
28 to compel such Member to declare himself in favour of or against any matter  
29 pending or being expected,

30 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of

- 1 N500,000.00 or 2 years imprisonment or both.
- Acceptance of  
bribe 2 **13.** A Member of a Legislative House who accepts or agrees to accept  
3 bribe or attempt to obtain for himself or for other person any bribe, fee,  
4 compensation, reward or benefit of any kind for speaking or refraining from  
5 speaking, voting or refraining from voting, or influencing any report submitted  
6 or intended to be submitted to the Legislative House, commits an offence and  
7 shall be liable on conviction to a fine of N500, 000.00 or 2 years imprisonment  
8 or both.
- Contempt of a  
legislative house 9 **14.** A person who-  
10 (a) publishes a report of a Committee before it is laid to the Legislative  
11 House in plenary session;  
12 (b) assaults or obstructs a Members of a Legislative House within the  
13 chamber or its precincts;  
14 (c) assaults or obstructs a Member of a Legislative House while in  
15 execution of his duties;  
16 (d) fails to answer the question put to him in the proceedings of the  
17 Legislative House; or  
18 (e) refuses to abide by laid down procedure of a particular proceeding  
19 of a Legislative House, or its Committee,  
20 commits contempt of the Legislative House.  
21 (2) Where a Member is guilty of contempt of Legislative House, the  
22 House may by resolution reprimand such member or suspend him from service  
23 of the House, without pay, for such period as may be determined by the House,  
24 but not to the end of a legislative session.  
25 (3) Where a person is found guilty of contempt of Legislative House,  
26 the person shall be liable to a fine of N500,000.00 or 2 years imprisonment or  
27 both.
- Restriction on  
suspended  
member 28 **15.** A suspended Member of a Legislative House, pursuant to clause  
29 14 (2) of this Bill, shall not enter or remain within the chamber or its precincts  
30 while the suspension remains in force.

1                   16. No evidence relating to any of the following matters, that is to  
2 say-

Restriction on  
evidence as to  
certain matters

3                   (a) debates or other proceedings in a Legislative House;

4                   (b) the contents of the minutes of evidence taken or any documents  
5 laid before a Committee of a Legislative House or any proceedings or  
6 examinations held before any such Committee, by any Member or officer of  
7 the House or any shorthand-writer employed to take minutes of any such  
8 evidence or proceedings or, in respect of any of the matters specified in  
9 paragraph (b) of this section, by any person who was a witness before the  
10 Committee shall be admissible in any proceedings before a court or person  
11 authorised by law to take evidence unless the court or such last-mentioned  
12 person is satisfied that permission has been given by the President or  
13 Speaker, as the case may be, of the House or the Chairman of the Committee  
14 (as the case may require) for such evidence to be given.

15                   17. A person who publishes any-

Prohibition of  
certain statements

16                   (a) statement which falsely or scandalously defames a Legislative  
17 House or any Committee;

18                   (b) writing reflecting on the character of the President or, Speaker,  
19 or Chairman of a Committee of a Legislative House in the conduct of his  
20 duty; or

21                   (c) writing containing a gross, willful or scandalous  
22 misrepresentation of the proceedings of the Legislative House,  
23 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of  
24 N2,000,000.00 or 12 months imprisonment or both.

25                   18. A person who falsely prints or cause to be printed a copy of  
26 any Act, Law, Committee report, or votes and proceedings of a Legislative  
27 House as purporting to have been printed by the approved printer or by the  
28 authority of the Legislative House, commits an offence and shall be liable on  
29 conviction to a fine of N2,000,000.00 or 12 months imprisonment or both.

Printing false  
copies of laws or  
proceedings

Protection of  
persons responsible  
for publications  
authorised by a  
legislative house

1                   19.-(1) Any person, being a defendant in any civil or criminal  
2 proceedings instituted for or on account of or in respect of the publication by  
3 such person or by his servant, by order or under the authority of a Legislative  
4 House any reports, papers, minutes, votes or proceedings, may, on giving to the  
5 plaintiff or prosecutor, as the case may be, twenty-four hours' written notice of  
6 his intention, bring-

7                   (a) before the court in which such civil or criminal proceedings are  
8 being held a certificate under the hand of the President or Speaker of a  
9 Legislative House stating that the reports, papers, minutes, votes or  
10 proceedings in respect of which such Civil or Criminal proceedings have been  
11 instituted were published by such person or his servant by order or under the  
12 authority of a Legislative House;

13                   (b) an affidavit verifying such certificate.

14                   (2) The court shall thereupon immediately stay such or criminal  
15 proceedings and the same and every process issued therein shall be deemed to  
16 be finally determined.

Powers of  
President, Speaker  
or Chairman to be  
supplementary to  
powers otherwise  
conferred

17                   20. The powers of the President, Speaker or Chairman, as the case  
18 may be, of a Legislative House or a Committee of a Legislative House  
19 conferred by this Bill shall be supplementary to any powers conferred on him  
20 by the constitution, or by Standing Orders.

Pre-action notice

21                   21. A person who has cause of action against a Legislative House  
22 shall serve 3 months written notice to the office of the Clerk of the Legislative  
23 House disclosing the cause of action and relief sought.

Notification of  
arrest of members  
of legislative house

24                   22. Where a Member of a Legislative House is arrested or detained  
25 upon warrant or order of court or sentenced by court, the court shall,  
26 immediately, notify the President or Speaker of the Legislative House.

Civil process not  
to be served in  
chamber or  
precincts

27                   23. Notwithstanding the provision of any law-

28                   (a) Court processes or orders shall not be served or executed in the  
29 chamber or precincts of a Legislative House; and

30                   (b) a Member of a Legislative House shall not be arrested in the



SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

FORMS OF SUMMONS AND WARRANT OF ARREST

(Clauses 2 and 3)

FORM NO.1

SUMMONS

SUMMONS NO: .....

IN THE LEGISLATIVE HOUSE OF: .....

YOU ARE SUMMONED to appear before the .....

(State the Legislative House) for the following reason:.....

(List reason for Summons; e.g. information or complaint, tender evidence)

YOU ARE ORDERED TO REPORT on..... 20..... at..... a.m./p.m.

LOCATE DAT: .....

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AS ORDERED, A WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST

Date:.....

Issuing Authority

CERTIFICATE OF PERSONAL SERVICE

I swear that I personally served this summons as follows:

Date Received:..... Date Served:..... Time Served: .....

Person Served: .....

Location where served: .....

Person Serving summons

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE BY MAILING

I certify that a copy of this document was sent to .....

Through.....(State the name of the courier).

Date:.....

Person Serving Summons

SECOND SCHEDULE

(Clause 4)

FORM NO.2

WARRANT OF ARREST

To:..... (Arresting Officer)

Complaint has been made on ....., 20..... that .....

..... (defendant) on....., 20 .....

..... did.....:.....

.....

.....

And the defendant was summoned to appear before the .....

.....

Legislative House) sitting at ..... on ....., 20 .....

at..... a.m./p.m. to answer to the summons.

The defendant was duly served with the summons, but failed to appear.

You are commanded to arrest and bring the defendant before the .....

(State the Legislative House) sitting at.....

.....

To answer the said complaint.

Date:.....

Arresting Officer

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to repeal Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act, Cap. L12 LFN, 2004, and enact legislative powers and privileges act 2014 in order to give the legislature the desired powers and immunity to be able to carry out its legislative responsibility.