

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NIGERIAN COMMUNICATIONS ACT (NO. 19) OF 2003 BY PROHIBITING SALES OF PRE-REGISTERED SIM CARDS; FALSELY OR ILLEGALLY REGISTERED SIM CARDS, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Peter Ohiozogh Akpatason

[] Commencement

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

1 1. The Nigerian Communications Act (No. 19) of 2015 Amendment of
2 (hereinafter referred to as the "Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Act No. 19., 2003
3 Act.

4 2.-(1) Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting Amendment of
5 immediately after the existing subsection (1) the following new subsections section 4
6 thus:

7 "(2) It shall be an offence under this Act for a person, individual or
8 corporate body to:

9 (a) sell, display for sale, market, distribute, trade in a pre-registered
10 SIM card except as prescribed by this Act or any regulation made under this
11 Act, or

12 (b) deliberately activate or register a SIM card with a false identity
13 or the identity of a different person, with the intention of selling, displaying
14 for sale, marketing, distribution, trading or any other purpose.

15 (3) The Commission shall have power to regulate, arrest and
16 prosecute any person, individual or corporate body, who contravenes the
17 provisions of subsection (2) of this section.

18 (4) A person, individual or corporate body, who contravenes the
19 provisions of subsection (2) of this Act commits an offence and shall be
20 liable on conviction:

1 (a) in case of an individual, to a fine of N 500,000 or a term of
2 imprisonment not less than 6 months or both; or

3 (b) in case of a corporate body, to a fine of not less than N5,000,000 or
4 a term of imprisonment of not less than 6 months for the approving officer."

5 (2) The existing subsection (2) of Section 4 of the Principal Act is
6 renumbered as subsection (4).

Citation

7 3. This Bill may be cited as the Nigeria Communications Act
8 (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Nigerian Communications Act No. 19 2003 by prohibiting sales of pre-registered SIM cards and falsely or illegally registered SIM cards.