

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ALTER SECTION 232 (1) AND (2) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA 1999 TO CONFER ADDITIONAL ORIGINAL
JURISDICTION ON THE SUPREME COURT OF NIGERIA

Sponsored by Hon. Karimi S. Sunday

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

- 1 1. Section 232 Subsection (1)&(2) of the Constitution of the
2 Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (hereinafter referred to as "the
3 Constitution") is amended by deleting in entirety, the existing subsection (1)
4 and inserting therein the following new provisions immediately before the
5 existing subsection (2) thus:
6 "232(1) The Supreme Court shall, to the exclusion of any other
7 Court, have original jurisdiction in any dispute between:
8 (a) the Federation and a State or a Local Government Area;
9 (b) a State and another State or a Local Government Area;
10 (c) a Local Government Area and another Local Government Area;
11 (d) the National Assembly or any House of the National Assembly,
12 and the President of the Federation;
13 (e) the Senate and the House of Representatives;
14 (f) the National Assembly or any House of the National Assembly,
15 and a State or Local Government Area;
16 (g) a state House of Assembly and the Governor of the State;
17 (h) a State and any of the bodies listed under Section 153 as a
18 Federal Executive Bodies of this Constitution.
19 if and in so far as that dispute involves any question (whether of law or
20 fact)on which the existence or extent of a legal right depends.

Alteration of
Section 232 of
the Constitution

1 “232(2)B In addition to the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court
2 in Subsection 1 of this Section, the Attorney General of the Federation shall
3 whenever the occasion arises, approach the Supreme Court for the
4 determination of novel Constitutional questions, where it is likely that such
5 questions, if delayed, may cause breakdown of law and order in any part of the
6 Federation”.

Citation

7 2. This Bill may be cited as the Constitution (Alteration) Bill, 2016.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to alter Sections 232 of the Constitution to increase or expand the jurisdiction of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court to include all the disputes the resolution of which if delayed may trigger a Constitutional crisis which may lead to breakdown of law and order.