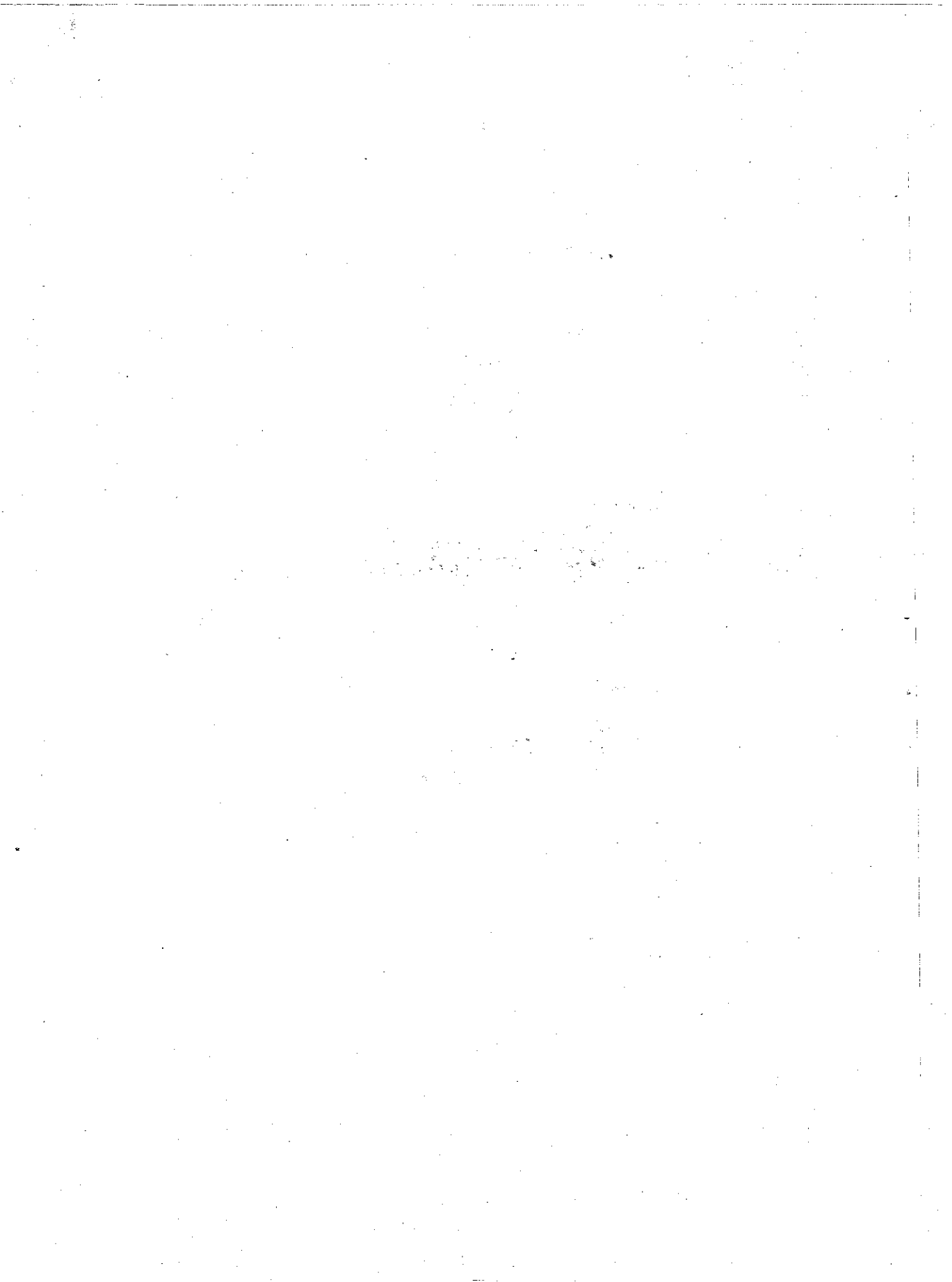


AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE HOARDING (PROHIBITION) BILL, 2015

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clause:

1. Prohibition of hoarding
2. Power to control possession of agricultural produce
3. Power to require licence for trading
4. Prohibition against withholding of sales
5. Power to enter, inspect, search, etc.
6. Provisions of the Bill not to apply in case of Government purchase, etc.
7. Power to exempt
8. Penalty
9. Power to make rules
10. Penalty
11. Interpretations
12. Citation



A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT HOARDING OF CERTAIN NONPERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE AND REGULATING THEIR SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION IN ORDER TO CONTROL THE MARKET PRICE OF THOSE PRODUCE FOR THE BENEFITS OF NIGERIANS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored Hon. Musa Sarkin Adar

[] Commencement

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

1 1.-(1) Hoarding agricultural nonperishable produce for the
2 purpose of hiking the market price of the produce by any person is
3 prohibited.

Prohibition of hoarding

4 (2) For the purpose of sub-clause (1) of this Clause, the Minister
5 may by Order in an official gazette, specify the quantity of the produce in
6 possession of a person that will be regarded as hoarding.

7 2.-(1) The Minister, may, by Order, direct that no family,
8 wholesaler or retailer shall keep agricultural produce in excess of the
9 quantity specified in such Order.

Power to control possession of agricultural produce

10 (2) If, on the date of issue of an Order under sub-clause (1) of this
11 Clause, in respect of any agricultural produce, any person has in his
12 possession any quantity of such agricultural produce in excess of the
13 quantity specified in such Order under sub-clause (1) of this clause, shall
14 report to the Minister or officer so designated who shall give appropriate
15 direction.

16 3. The Minister may, by Order, direct that no trader or class of
17 traders shall deal in any agricultural produce except in accordance with the
18 conditions attached to the licence as issued by the Minister.

Power to require licence for trading

Prohibition against withholding of sales	1 2 3	4. A trader shall not, unless as authorised to do so by the Minister, withhold from sale or refuse to sell to any person, any agricultural produce in quantities not contrary to the normal practices of the business.
Power to enter, inspect, search, etc.	4 5 6 7 8 9	5. Any officer, authorised by the Minister, may: (a) enter upon and inspect any premises used or believed to be used for the purchase, sale, transfer or storage for sale of any agricultural produce; and (b) enter upon and search any premises and seize any agricultural produce, together with the containers thereof, in respect of which he has reason to believe that contravention of this Bill has been committed.
Provisions of the Bill not to apply in case of Government purchase, etc.	10 11	6. The provisions of this Bill shall not apply to the purchase, storage or distribution, of any agricultural produce by or on behalf of the Government.
Power to exempt	12 13	7. The Minister may, subject to such conditions, by Order, exempt any person or class of persons from all or any of the provisions of this Bill.
Penalty	14 15 16	8. A person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Bill, shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding N100,000 or a term of imprisonment not below three months or both.
Power to make rules	17 18	9. The Minister may make rules for full implementation of the provisions of this Bill.
Interpretation	19 20 21 22	10. In this Bill: "Agricultural Produce" include sorghum, maize, millet, Rice, Cassava, Yam; "Minister" means the Minister in charge of agriculture; "Premises" includes tents, vessels, vehicles etc.
Citation	23 24	11. This Bill is cited as Agricultural Produce Hoarding [Prohibition] Bill, 2015.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to prohibit hoarding of certain nonperishable agricultural produce and regulating their supply and distribution in order to control the market price of those produce for the benefits of Nigerians.