

FREE ADVICE AND TREATMENT OF BREAST CANCER CENTRE BILL, 2016

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A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH FREE ADVICE AND TREATMENT OF BREAST CANCER CENTRE TO AMONG OTHER THINGS PROVIDE SPECIALIZED FREE MEDICAL ADVICE AND TREATMENT OF BREAST CANCER TO INDIGENT PATIENTS IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THE MENACE OF THE KILLER DISEASE IN NIGERIA AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Sergius Ogun

[] Commencement

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

- 1 1.-(1) There is established a Free Advice and Treatment of Breast
2 Cancer Centre (in this Bill referred to as "the Centre") which shall be a body
3 corporate with perpetual succession and common seal.
- 4 (2) The Centre shall be a hospital specialized in cancer related
5 disease with facilities for the training of personnel.
- 6 2.-(1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Centre shall give
7 Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer to citizens of Nigeria who fall
8 within the description mentioned in the First Schedule.
- 9 (2) The circumstances in connection with which Free Advice and
10 Treatment of Breast Cancer may be given may be varied by regulations
11 made under this Bill and the regulations may describe the circumstance to be
12 included or excluded by reference to the age and financial status of the
13 applicant.
- 14 3.-(1) There is established for the Centre the Governing Council (in
15 this Bill referred to as "the Council").
- 16 (2) The Council is vested with the power to make decisions and
17 formulate general policies for the guidance of the Centre.
- 18 (3) The supplementary provisions contained in the Schedule to this Schedule

Establishment of the Centre

Functions and Objectives of the Centre

Establishment of the Governing Council

1 Bill shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Council and the
2 other matters.

Composition and
tenure of Council
Members

3 4.-(1) The Council shall consist of:
4 (a) the Minister of Health as Chairman;
5 (b) a representative of the following Office and Ministry who shall
6 not be below the rank of Director:

7 (i) Office of the Vice President,

8 (ii) Ministry of Women Affairs,

9 (iii) Ministry of Finance;

10 (c) two Medical Doctors who are Consultants within the scope of the
11 Medical Practitioners Act and

12 (d) the Chief Medical Director of the Centre who shall serve as
13 Member and Secretary.

14 (2) Members of the Council other than the ex-officio shall hold office
15 for a period of 4 years and may be eligible, for re-appointment for another term
16 of 4 years

Allowances of
members of the
Council

17 5. Members of the Council may receive allowances as are applicable
18 to government agencies or stipulated by the Council in accordance with
19 applicable Federal Government Regulations

Powers of the
Centre

20 6.-(1) The Centre shall powers to:

21 (a) provide free advice and treatment of cancer related patients;

22 (b) provide diagnostic, curative and rehabilitative services to the
23 qualified patient;

24 (c) to provide facilities for the clinical training of personnel to handle
25 cancer related disease; and

26 (d) undertake such other incidental responsibilities relating to the
27 treatment of cancer related disease.

28 (2) For the purposes of the discharge of its functions and powers
29 provided in this Bill, the Centre may:

30 (a) arrange periodic conferences, seminars, study groups and like

1 activities in order to enlighten the people on the preventive measure and
2 advantage of early treatment of Centre;

3 (b) advise the Government of the Federation or of a State on all
4 matters relating to defects and diseases of the cancer and the prevention of
5 cancer;

6 (c) offer such assistance to other hospitals or units in various parts
7 of the Federation, as the Council may deem necessary;

8 (d) engage the services of Consultants or specialist on part time
9 service and determine such allowances to be paid for the service; and

10 (e) do anything in connection with or incidental to the functions
11 and powers conferred on it by this Bill.

12 7.-(1) There shall be for the Centre, a Chief Medical Director who
13 shall be a consultant within the scope of the Medical Practitioners Act and
14 shall be the administrative head of the center

Appointment of
Chief Medical
Director of the
Centre

15 (2) The Chief Medical Director shall be appointed by the President
16 on the recommendation of the Minister of Health.

17 (3) The Chief Medical Director shall hold office for a period of 4
18 years and may be reappointed for another term of 4 years.

19 (4) The Chief Medical Director shall be responsible to the Council

20 8.-(1) The Centre shall consist of:

21 (a) the Chief Medical Director; and

22 (b) such numbers of Deputy Directors that may be recommended
23 by the Council.

Structure of the
Centre

24 (2) The staff of the Centre other than those mentioned in the Bill
25 shall be employed according to procedure of employment as stipulated by
26 the Council.

27 (3) The staff of the Centre shall be entitled to benefits under the
28 Pension Reform Act.

No.2 2004

29 (4) Nothing in this bill shall prevent the employment of a person to
30 any office on temporary or permanent basis on terms which preclude the

1 grant of pension.

Engagement of
Consultants

2 9.-(1) The Chief Medical Director shall prepare and maintain panels
3 of Consultants willing to:

4 (a) diagnose J treat and give an opinion upon applications for the grant
5 of Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer under this Bill;

6 (b) give medical advice under the provisions of this Bill; and

7 (c) any other separate panels for different purposes and for different
8 categories of applicants.

9 (2) Any consultant or specialist shall be entitled to have his name on
10 the panels or any of them unless there is good reason for excluding him arising
11 out of his conduct when acting or assigned to act for persons receiving Free
12 Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer or his professional conduct generally.

13 (3) Where a consultant or specialist is aggrieved by any decision of
14 the Chief Medical Director excluding him whether permanently or temporarily
15 from the panels or any of them, he may appeal against the decision to the
16 Council who may confirm or quash the decision appealed against or may
17 substitute such decision as he thinks fit.

18 (4) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, any consultant or specialist
19 may at any time request the Chief Medical Director to remove his name from
20 the panels or any of them and the Director shall comply with such request.

21 (5) Subject to any regulations made under this Bill, the Chief Medical
22 Director shall pay to a consultant or specialist advising, reporting and treating,
23 or giving an opinion, upon applications for the grant of Free Advice and
24 Treatment of Breast Cancer under this Bill, such professional allowance as
25 may determine by the Council.

Application for
Free Advice and
Treatment of
Breast Cancer

26 10.-(1) Any person who whether in his own right or in a representative
27 capacity desires to be granted Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer
28 shall make application in that behalf to the Chief Medical Director.

29 (2) Application referred to in sub clause (1) shall be accompanied by a
30 statutory declaration verifying the facts stated in the application and such other

1 fee as may be prescribe.

2 (3) Where the person who desires to be granted Free Advice and
3 Treatment of Breast Cancer is an infant or a person of unsound mind, the
4 application shall be made on behalf of her by her guardian.

5 11. Where an application is made for Free Advice and Treatment
6 of Breast Cancer, the Chief Medical Director may:

Powers of the
Chief Medical
Director to make
inquiries

7 (a) make such inquiries as he thinks fit as to the means and
8 condition of the applicant and as to the merits of the application;

9 (b) require the applicant to furnish such information and such
10 documents as the Director may require for the purpose of considering the
11 application;

12 (c) require the applicant to appear personally;

13 (d) refer the application or any matter arising out of the application
14 to any consultant or specialist whose name is on the appropriate panel
15 maintained by the Centre to diagnose, advise, treat and make a report
16 thereon or to give any opinion thereon or on any question arising out of the
17 application;

18 (e) take or cause to be taken such steps as may be necessary to
19 conserve the interests of the applicant pending determination of his
20 application;

21 (f) defray expenses incidental to any of the foregoing matters out of
22 any funds in his control which are available for the purposes; and

23 (g) grant of Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer
24 Certificate.

25 12.-(1) The Chief Medical Director shall before approving an
26 application for Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer, refer the
27 application to the teams of panel consisting of not fewer than two
28 consultants or specialists whose names are on the appropriate panel
29 maintained by the Centre for advice.

Granting of
Certificate for
Free Advice and
Treatment of
Cancer

30 (2) The Centre may grant to an applicant a certificate stating that

1 the applicant is granted Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer under the
2 provisions of this Bill in connection with any conditions where the team of
3 consultants or specialist are of the opinion that the applicant has reasonable
4 grounds for making the application.

5 (3) The condition for the applicant to satisfy for the grant of approval
6 is:

7 (a) that the applicant is not possessed of or entitled to disposable
8 capital of a total value exceeding the amount set out in the First Schedule; and

9 (b) that the disposable income of the applicant does not exceed the
10 amount set out in the First Schedule.

11 (4) The Centre may refuse Free Advice and Treatment of Breast
12 Cancer, if it appears to be unreasonable that the applicant should receive it
13 having not satisfied the condition for grant as provided in this Bill.

14 (5) Notwithstanding any provision of this Bill or any regulations
15 made thereunder to the contrary, the Council may authorize the Chief Medical
16 Director to grant Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer Certificate to
17 any person in any circumstance where the Council is of the opinion that it is in
18 the public interest that Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer be granted
19 to the person.

Contribution from
Beneficiaries

20 13.-(1) Where the Chief Medical Director is satisfied that:

21 (a) an applicant for Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer is
22 possessed of or entitled to disposable capital of a total value of more than the
23 amount set out in the Second Schedule; and

24 (b) the disposable income of the applicant exceeds the amount set out
25 in the First Schedule, the Chief Medical Director may require the applicant to
26 make a contribution in one sum or by installments in respect of sums payable
27 on her account in respect of the treatment of breast cancer in which a Free
28 Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer certificate is granted to the applicant.

29 (2) If the total contribution made by a person in respect of the
30 treatment of breast cancer is more than the net liability of the Chief Medical

1 Director on her account, the excess shall be repaid to her.

2 14.-(1) The Chief Medical Director may, at any time, and whether
3 or not application has been made for the purpose, cancel any Free Advice
4 and Treatment of Breast Cancer certificate and subject to sub clause

Cancellation of
Certificate

5 (2) the person to whom the certificate was granted shall, as from the
6 date of the cancellation, cease to be a Beneficiary.

7 (3) Where the Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer
8 certificate so cancelled has been filed in the registry of any Hospital, the
9 Chief Medical Director shall file in that hospital, a notification of the
10 cancellation, and, as from the date of filing of such notification, the person to
11 whom the Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer certificate was
12 granted shall cease to be a Beneficiary.

13 (4) The Chief Medical Director shall take such steps as seem to him
14 reasonable or necessary to inform the person to whom a Free Advice and
15 Treatment of Breast Cancer certificate has been granted of the cancellation
16 of any such certificate.

17 15.-(1) Where a Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer
18 certificate is granted, the Chief Medical Director may act for the beneficiary
19 or may assign a consultant or specialists to be selected by the beneficiary, if
20 she so desires and in such case shall endorse on the Free Advice and
21 Treatment of Breast Cancer certificate the name of the consultant or
22 specialist so assigned.

Enforcement and
filing of Certificate

23 (2) In any case where a consultant or specialist is assigned to act
24 after such certificate is filed in the hospital registry or in any case where a
25 new assignment is made in lieu of a consultant or specialist assigned
26 previously, the Director shall not be required to endorse on the certificate the
27 name of the consultant or specialist so assigned, or newly assigned, as the
28 case may be, but may, instead, give notice of such assignment or new
29 assignment by letter to the proper officer of the hospital registry in which the
30 beneficiary is to be treated.

1 (3) Where any Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer certificate
2 is so filed, the beneficiary:

3 (a) shall not be liable in respect of any treatment to which the
4 certificate relates for medical treatment or for such charges payable for any
5 other services in relation to the treatment;

6 (b) shall be entitled to medical advice free of charge so long as it is
7 within the ailment to which the certificate relates; and

8 (c) shall not, except where express provision is made in this Bill, be
9 liable for costs to any other party in any treatment to which the certificate
10 relates.

11 (4) Subject to the provisions of Clauses 13 and 16, no person who,
12 pursuant to any reference under this Bill, carry out any diagnosis, give advice,
13 makes report, gives any opinion or who pursuant to any assignment under this
14 Bill carry out any treatment, shall take or agree to take or seek from a
15 beneficiary any fee, profit or reward pecuniary or otherwise in respect thereof.

Deposit in respect
of out-of-pocket
expenses

16 16.-(1) The Chief Medical Director may require any applicant for
17 Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer or any person to whom a Free
18 Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer certificate has been granted and who is
19 not liable to make a contribution to deposit with him such amounts at such
20 times as the he may think fit to be used in or towards meeting out-of-pocket
21 expenses not including office expenses incurred in connection with the
22 application or with any treatment to which the application or the Free Advice
23 and Treatment of Breast Cancer certificate relates.

24 (2) Any amounts so deposited shall be used only for the payment of
25 such out-of-pocket expenses and any part of any such amount not so expended
26 shall be refunded.

27 (3) In any case where the Chief Medical Director is satisfied that the
28 making of a deposit under sub clause (1) would occasion hardship, he may, out
29 of any funds in his control which are available for the purpose, from time to
30 time, meet any out-of-pocket expenses not including office expenses or make

1 such advances to meet such out-of-pocket expenses as he may consider
2 necessary.

3 (4) Any advance so made shall be used only for payment of such
4 out-of-pocket expenses and any part of such amount not so expended shall
5 be refunded.

6 17.-(1) Where it appears to the Centre Management that a Free
7 Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer certificate has been obtained by
8 fraud or misrepresentation, the management may order the beneficiary to
9 pay the costs of her treatment.

Centre may order
payment of cost
by the Secretary

10 (2) In sub clause (1), a reference to a "beneficiary" includes, in any
11 case where the Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer certificate has
12 been cancelled before the making of the order, the person who immediately
13 before the cancellation was the beneficiary.

14 18.-(1) A beneficiary shall not without the leave of the Chief
15 Medical Director discharge any consultant or specialist assigned to act for
16 her under this Bill.

Discontinue of
services without
leave

17 (2) Any consultant or specialist assigned to act for a beneficiary
18 shall not discontinue the service without the leave of the Chief Medical
19 Director; except that any consultant or specialist may be represented by any
20 other consultant or specialist.

21 19.-(1) Where a Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer
22 certificate has been filed in the Centre registry and the treatments to which
23 the certificate relates have been concluded to the best of ability of the Centre,
24 and the beneficiary desires to go elsewhere for further and better treatment,
25 she shall not be entitled to undertake such further treatment as a beneficiary
26 unless she files an application to the Chief Medical Director and same has
27 been granted after being satisfied that the beneficiary has a good case to
28 deserve the reference.

Request for
Referral of
Beneficiary

29 (2) If any beneficiary undertakes such further treatment in the
30 nature of a reference to a better hospital without having applied to the Chief

1 Medical Director as in sub clause (1), she shall be deemed not to be a
2 beneficiary.

False Statements

3 **20.** If any person seeking or receiving Free Advice and Treatment of
4 Breast Cancer or advice in furnishing any information in her application
5 knowingly makes any false statement or false representation, she shall be
6 guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding
7 N50, 000 (Fifty Thousand Naira) or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6
8 months or to both.

Establishment of
Funds to the
Centre

9 **21.**-(1) The Centre shall establish and maintain a fund which shall be
10 applied towards the promotion of the objectives specified in this Bill.

11 (2) At the beginning of every budget year, the Federal Government
12 shall approve a budget for the Centre.

13 (3) There shall be paid and credited to the Fund established for the
14 Centre:

- 15 (a) sums appropriated from the Federal budget for the fiscal year;
16 (b) gifts and donations and contributions from National and
17 International Institutions, philanthropic persons and organisations; and
18 (c) fees charged for service rendered by the Centre

Funds of the
Centre

19 **22.** The Centre shall manage its funds in accordance with rules made
20 by the Council, and without prejudice to the power to make rules under this
21 Bill, the rules shall contain provisions specifying:

- 22 (a) the manner in which assets or funds of the Centre are to be held;
23 and
24 (b) the keeping of proper accounts and records for the purpose of the
25 fund in such manner as may be safe and effective.

Application of
funds of the
Centre

26 **23.** The Centre shall apply its fund to the cost of administration of the
27 Centre, including but not limited to, payment of salaries, medical drugs and
28 equipment's, gratuities, allowances, fees and the payment of other contract,
29 consultancies and purchases made for the benefit of the Centre.

1 24. The Centre shall, not later than 31st of August each year, Estimate of income
2 present to the Council for approval an estimate of the expenditure and and expenditure
3 incomes of the Centre for the next fiscal year. of the Centre

4 25. The Centre shall not later than 30th September each year or Annual budget
5 other date stipulated by law or administrative policy, submit to the Ministry of the Centre
6 of Health an estimate of the expenditure and incomes of the Centre approved
7 by the Council for the next fiscal year for incorporation in the budget of the
8 Federation.

9 26.-(1) The Centre may accept gifts and bequests upon such terms Power to accept
10 that do not compromise its capability to fulfill its objectives. gifts and borrow

11 (2) The Centre may, with approval in writing of the Council and
12 subject to other guidelines and policies of the Federal Government, borrow
13 such money needed for the exercise of its functions provided that such
14 borrowing shall be made on terms that do not compromise the independence
15 and competence of the Centre.

16 27.-(1) The Minister of Health may make regulations not Power of Minister
17 inconsistent with this Bill prescribing all matters except those that are to make
18 inconsistent with the rules regulating the practice of Medicine in Nigeria Regulations
19 which by this Bill are required or permitted to be prescribed or which are
20 necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to
21 this Bill.

22 (2) Without prejudice to the generality of sub clause (1), the
23 regulations may be on:

24 (a) all matters relating to fees, charges and costs in relation to
25 advice and treatment given to a beneficiary;

26 (b) remit or provide for the remission of any fees or charges in any
27 such advice and treatment;

28 (c) provision as to the cases in which a person may be refused Free
29 Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer by reason of her conduct when
30 seeking or receiving Free Advice/Treatment of Breast Cancer;

1 (d) any provision necessary to meet the special circumstances where:

2 (i) a person seeks Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer in a
3 matter of special urgency;

4 (ii) a person begins to receive Free Advice and Treatment of Breast
5 Cancer after having consulted a consultant or specialist in the ordinary way
6 with respect to the same ailment, or ceases to receive Free Advice and
7 Treatment of Breast Cancer before the ailment in question is finally healed; and

8 (iii) there is any relevant change of circumstances while a person is
9 receiving Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer; and

10 (e) prescribe any forms to be used under this Law.

11 (3) The regulations may apply generally to all matters relating to
12 breast cancer, whether relating to advice or treatment.

13 (4) All regulations made under this Bill shall be presented to National
14 Assembly as soon as possible after publication in the Gazette.

Procedures for
suit against the
Centre and Service
of summon

15 **28.-(1)** No suit shall commence against the Centre before the
16 expiration of a period of one month after written notice of intention to
17 commence the suit shall have been served upon the Centre by the party
18 intending to sue the Centre.

19 (2) Any summons, notices, process or other document required or
20 authorized to be served on the Centre under the provisions of this Bill, or any
21 law, shall be served by delivering the same to the Chief Medical Director of the
22 Centre, or by sending it by registered mail to the Chief Medical Director at the
23 principal office of the Centre.

Indemnity of
members, etc.

24 **29.-(1)** Every member of the Council, agent or employee of the
25 Centre, shall be indemnified from the Fund of the Centre against any liability
26 incurred by him or her in defending any proceeding, if such proceeding is
27 brought against him or her in his or her capacity as such member, agent or
28 employee.

Cap. L5 LFN,
2004

29 (2) For the purpose of its administrative and business activities, the
30 provisions of the Public Officer Protection Act shall apply with such

1 modification as necessary to promote the effective realization of the
2 objectives of the Centre.

3 (3) Subject to provisions of this Bill, the Council shall have powers
4 to issue subsidiary rules relating to " legal liabilities and indemnities of
5 officials and staff of the Centre.

6 30. In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires:

Interpretation

7 "Beneficiary" means a person who has been granted a certificate stating that
8 she is granted Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer under this Bill ;

9 "Chief Medical Director" means the administrative head of the Centre
10 appointed pursuant to the provisions of this Bill;

11 "Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer" means Free Advice and
12 Treatment of Breast Cancer granted under this Bill.

13 31. This Bill may be cited as Free Advice and Treatment of Breast
14 Cancer Bill, 2016.

Citation

15 SCHEDULES

16 FIRST SCHEDULE

17 REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO MEANS OF AN APPLICANT FOR FREE 18 ADVICE AND TREATMENT OF BREAST CANCER

19 1. For the purposes of Clause 12 (2) of this Bill:

20 (a) the amount of disposable capital is N100, 000; and

21 (b) the amount of disposable income is N120,000 per annum.

22 2. For the purposes of Clause 13 (1) of this Bill:

23 (a) the amount of disposable capital is N50,000; and

24 (b) the amount of disposable income is N 50,000 per annum.

25 3. The contribution payable to the Director by any person under
26 section 13 (1) of the Law in respect of any advice/treatment may include:

27 (a) a contribution in respect of property not greater than the amount
28 (if any) by which his disposable capital exceeds W 50,000; and

29 (b) a contribution in respect of income not greater than half the

1 amount (if any) by which his disposable income exceeds N50,000 per annum.

2 4. For the purposes of the Bill:

3 "disposable capital" means the property which an applicant for Free advice and
4 treatment of breast cancer is possessed of or to which she is entitled to
5 excluding:

6 (a) the wearing apparel of the applicant;

7 (b) the tools of trade of the applicant;

8 (c) household furniture used by the applicant in her house;

9 (d) a dwelling-house owned and exclusively used by the applicant and
10 her family as their home assessed at an annual value of not more than N120,000
11 or a Housing flat owned and exclusively used by the applicant and her family as
12 their home;

13 (e) savings of the applicant of up to N300,000, if she is of the age of 60
14 years and above; and

15 (f) moneys standing to the credit of the applicant's account in the
16 pension Fund;

17 "disposable income" means the income of the applicant together with the
18 income (if any) of the spouse of the applicant, during the period of 12 months
19 immediately preceding the date of the application, after deducting therefrom:

20 (a) an amount equal to N50,000 per annum for each person totally or
21 partially dependent on the applicant or spouse;

22 (b) an amount equal to N80,000 per annum for the applicant;

23 (c) an amount not exceeding N120,000 per annum for rent; and

24 (d) an amount equal to the applicant's contribution to the Pension
25 Fund.

26 5. For the purposes of paragraphs 1 and 2, the Chief Medical Director
27 may, in any case where an applicant for Free advice/treatment of breast cancer
28 is living separate and apart from her spouse and where it appears to the Chief
29 Medical Director in his absolute discretion to be reasonable to do so to relieve
30 hardship, disregard the income of the spouse.

1 6-(1) For the purposes of paragraphs 1 and 2, and without
2 prejudice to any exclusion or deduction provided under paragraph 4, the
3 Chief Medical Director may proceed in accordance with sub-paragraph (2)
4 in any case where:

5 (a) an applicant for Free advice/treatment of breast cancer has
6 suffered from sudden physical or mental disability which permanently and
7 severely restricts his capacity to earn an income; and

8 (b) it appears to the Chief Medical Director in his absolute
9 discretion to be reasonable to do so to relieve hardship.

10 (2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), the Chief Medical
11 Director may:

12 (a) in determining the disposable capital of the applicant, exclude
13 savings of the applicant of up to N80,000; and

14 (b) in determining the disposable income of the applicant, deduct a
15 further amount equal to:

16 (i) N50,000, in the case of an applicant who has also suffered a
17 sudden loss of income and requires Free advice/treatment of breast cancer as
18 a matter of urgency; or

19 (ii) N100,000, in any other case.

20 7-(1) Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 4, the Director may
21 proceed in accordance with sub-paragraph (2) in any case where:

22 (a) an applicant for Free advice/treatment of breast cancer has
23 suffered a sudden loss of income and requires Free advice/treatment of
24 breast cancer as a matter of urgency; and

25 (b) it appears to the Director in his absolute discretion to be
26 reasonable to do so to relieve hardship.

27 (2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), the Chief Medical
28 Director may:

29 (a) regard the amount of disposable income set out in paragraph 1

30 (b) to be N100,000 during the period of 6 months immediately preceding the

- 1 date of the application; and
- 2 (b) regard "disposable income" to mean the income of an applicant
- 3 together with the income (if any) of the spouse of the applicant, during the
- 4 period of 6 months immediately preceding the date of the application, after
- 5 deducting therefrom:
- 6 (i) an amount equal to N50,000 for each person totally or partially
- 7 dependent on the applicant or the spouse;
- 8 (ii) an amount equal to N80,000 for the applicant;
- 9 (iii) an amount not exceeding N10,000 for rent; and
- 10 (iv) an amount equal to the applicant's contribution to the Pension
- 11 Fund.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish Free Advice and Treatment of Breast Cancer Centre to among other things provide specialized free medical advice and treatment of breast cancer to indigent patients in order to address the menace of the killer disease in Nigeria.