

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL HONOURS ACT, CAP. N 43, LAWS OF THE
FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 BY SUBJECTING THE NOMINATION FOR THE
AWARD OF NATIONAL HONOURS TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE AND
STIPULATING QUALIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE AWARD; AND FOR
RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Oker Jev E. Y.

[] Commencement

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

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| 1 | 1. The National Honours Act Cap. N 43. Laws of the Federation of | Amend of Cap. |
| 2 | Nigeria, 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as | N43. LFN 2004 |
| 3 | set out in this Bill. | |
| 4 | 2. Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended- | Amendment of |
| 5 | (a) in subsection (1) by inserting after subsection (1), new | Section 1 |
| 6 | subsections "(1A)-(1G)"- | |
| 7 | "(1A) Any nomination for the National honours award shall be | |
| 8 | made by the President and such nomination shall not have effect unless it is | |
| 9 | confirmed by the Senate. | |
| 10 | (1B) A person nominated for an award shall- | |
| 11 | (a) be a fit and proper person; and | |
| 12 | (b) demonstrate exceptional qualities, or be someone who has | |
| 13 | excelled in a particular field of endeavour; | |
| 14 | (c) have contributed positively to the development of the country. | |
| 15 | (1C) National award shall be conferred on deserving individuals at | |
| 16 | an interval of 5 years from the date of last award or thereafter. | |
| 17 | (1D) No serving public officer shall be given an award only by | |
| 18 | reason of the fact that he occupies such an office without compliance with | |

1 subsection (1B) of this section.

2 (1E) A person shall not be qualified for the award of National Honours
3 under this Act if he-

4 (a) has, within the preceding 5 years been tried and found guilty of
5 criminal offences or indicted by a panel for any act relating to misconduct,
6 dishonesty or fraud;

7 (b) is of unsound mind and has been so found by a court in Nigeria or
8 elsewhere;

9 (c) is certified undischarged bankrupt; or

10 (d) is found to have given a false declaration as to age, certificate or
11 entered into a false undertaking of any sort upon which the award was based or
12 given to him.

13 (1F) A person who has been awarded a National Honour shall lose and
14 be divested of benefit if at any time thereafter he is disqualified under
15 subsection (1B)-(1E) of this section.

16 (1G) The disqualification or divestment of honours mentioned in
17 subsection (1F) of this section shall be by the President upon a notice to the
18 National Assembly to that effect or a pronouncement of a court of record";

19 (b) in subsection 2 (F) by substituting for, "withdrawal"; and

20 (c) in subsection (6), by substituting for the subsection, a new
21 subsection "(6)"-

22 "(6) warrant made under this section does not authorize any provision
23 to be made that affect the dignity of a Chief."

Amendment of
Section 2

24 3. Section 2 (c) of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the
25 expression, "N100" in line 4, the expression, "N10,000".

26 SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

27 HONOURS WARRANT

Amendment of
article 7 of the
Honours Warrant

28 4. Article 7 of the Honours Warrant is amended-

29 (a) in sub-article (1), by inserting immediately after the word "order"
30 in line 3 the words "or was not qualified ab initio"; and

1 (b) in sub-article (2), by substituting for paragraph (b) a new
2 paragraph "(b)"-

3 "(b) the President shall notify the National Assembly of such
4 decision".

5 5. This Bill may be cited as the National Honours (Amendment) Citation
6 Bill, 2016.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the National Honours Act Cap. N 43, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 by subjecting the nomination for the award of National Honour to be confirmed by the Senate.

This Bill also seeks to provide for qualifications and grounds for which the awardees may be divested of the benefits of the award.