

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO ALTER SECTION 291(1) & (2) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, 1999 (AS ALTERED) AND FOR RELATED  
MATTERS

*Sponsored by Hon. Solomon E.O Adaelu*

[ ] Commencement

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

- 1           **1.** The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Cap C23,  
2       Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (hereinafter referred to as the  
3       “principal Act”) is altered as set out under this           Act.  
4           **2.** Section 291 subsection 1 of the principal Act is   altered   by  
5       inserting the words “The High Court” immediately after the words “The  
6       Court of Appeal”.  
7           **3.** Section 291 subsection 2 is hereby deleted.  
8           **4.** This Bill may be cited as the Constitution of the Federal   Citation  
9       Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016.

### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to alter section 291(1) and (2) of the Constitution of the  
Federal Republic of Nigeria [Alteration], among other things:

- (a) To eliminate or highly reduce the desperation, scramble,  
lobbying, unhealthy rivalry over elevation to the court of appeal essentially  
to avoid retirement at sixty-five years;
- (b) Retirement at age sixty-five years denies the litigating Nigeria  
public experienced, sober, and mature adjudication in terms of quality of  
judgements at the levels of courts of superior record,
- (c) To ensure stability at all levels of the courts of superior records.