

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NIGERIAN NATIONAL MERIT AWARDS ACT TO PROVIDE FOR AWARDS TO DESERVING STATES AND COMPANIES IN NIGERIA

Sponsored by Hon. Asabe Vilita Bashir

[] Commencement

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

1 1. The Nigerian National Merit Award (hereinafter referred to as
2 the "Principal Act") is amended as set out below. Amendment of
the Principal Act

3 2. Section 1 (1) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting the
4 entire subsection and re-enacting a new subsection (1) as follows. Amendment of
Section 1(1)

5 (1) There is hereby established a Nigerian National Merit Award in
6 this Act referred to as ("the Award") to be given to-

7 (a) deserving citizens of Nigeria for intellectual and academic
8 attainments that contribute to national endeavours in science, technology,
9 medicine, the humanities, arts and culture and any other field of human
10 endeavour whatsoever;

11 (b) deserving states of Nigeria for their performance in the areas of
12 political and economic development, education, healthcare, promotion of
13 science and technology, agriculture, infrastructural development,
14 maintenance of peace and order, sanitation and any other areas whatsoever;

15 (c) deserving companies registered in Nigeria for their
16 contributions towards the development of their host communities and any
17 areas whatsoever.

18 3. Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended by enacting a Amendment of
Section 1
19 subsection (3) as follows:

20 "1 (3) National Merit Award to States and Companies shall be-

1 (a) In the case of states, an award for Best Performance in the different
2 areas for the year (s) under review;

3 (b) In the case of companies, an award for Best Contribution to
4 development of host communities or any other areas for the year(s) under
5 review.

Amendment of
Section 6(1)

6 4. Section 6 (1) of the Principal Act is amended by adding “coma”
7 and the phrase 'state or company' just after the word 'person' as follows-

8 (6)(1) The nomination for consideration of a person, state or company
9 by the Board for an award may be made by any citizen of Nigeria to the Board
10 and any person may by himself, where not sponsored by another person, apply
11 to the Board for this purpose.

Amendment of
Section 8

12 5. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by adding “coma” and
13 the phrase 'states and companies' just after anywhere the word person or
14 persons appeared in that section.

Citation

15 6. This Bill may be cited as the Nigerian National Merit Awards Act
16 (Amendment) Bill, 2017.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Nigerian National Merit Awards Act to provide for awards to deserving states and companies in Nigeria for the performance and contributions.