

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO ALTER THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, 1999 TO ENABLE THE PRESIDENT AND STATE GOVERNORS TO DESIGNATE AND ASSIGN PORTFOLIOS TO PERSONS NOMINATED AS MINISTERS OR COMMISSIONERS BEFORE CONFIRMATION BY THE SENATE OR STATE HOUSES OF ASSEMBLY AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Sen. T.A. ORJI*

[ ] Commencement

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

- |    |                                                                                |                   |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1  | 1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as               | Amendment of      |
| 2  | amended) (hereinafter referred to as “the Principal Act”) is hereby altered as | the Constitution  |
| 3  | set out below.                                                                 | of the Federal    |
| 4  | 2. Section 147 Subsection (1) of the Principal Act is amended by               | Republic of       |
| 5  | inserting the words “and designated” immediately after the word                | Nigeria 1999      |
| 6  | “established” in the second line of that subsection.                           | Amendment of      |
| 7  | 3. Section 147 is further amended in subsection (2) by inserting the           | Section 147(1) of |
| 8  | words “and designated” immediately after the word “nomination”.                | the Constitution  |
| 9  | 4. Section 147 of the Principal Act is again amended by adding a               | Amendment of      |
| 10 | proviso to subsection (2) to read as follows:                                  | Section 147(2) of |
| 11 | “Provided that the President shall assign portfolios and designation to the    | the Constitution  |
| 12 | names of persons nominated as ministers and forward same to the Senate for     |                   |
| 13 | confirmation within 60 days from the day he takes the oath of office as        |                   |
| 14 | President”.                                                                    |                   |
| 15 | 5. Section 192 Subsection (1) of the Principal Act is amended by               | Amendment of      |
| 16 | inserting the words “and designated” immediately after the word                | Section 192(1) of |
| 17 | “established” in the second line of that subsection.                           | the Constitution  |

Amendment of Section 192 (1) of the Constitution 1                    6. Section 192 is further amended in subsection (2) by inserting the  
2 words “and designation” immediately after the word “nomination”.

Amendment of Section 192 (1) of the Constitution 3                    7. Section 192 of the Principal Act is again amended by adding a  
4 proviso to subsection (2) to read as follows:  
5 “Provided that the Governor of a State shall assign portfolios and designation  
6 to the names of persons nominated as Commissioners and forward same to the  
7 House of Assembly of a State for confirmation within 60 days from the day he  
8 takes the oath of office as Governor”.

Citation 9                    8. This may be cited as the Constitution of the Federal Republic of  
10 Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) (Portfolio Designation) Bill, 2015.

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

This Bill seeks to alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to enable the President or Governor of a State to designate and assign portfolios to persons nominated as Ministers or Commissioners respectively, and set a time frame within which such nominations shall be forwarded to the Senate or a State House of Assembly for confirmation.