

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ALTER THE 1999 CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA (AS AMENDED) TO PROVIDE FOR VOTING RIGHTS FOR NIGERIAN CITIZENS LIVING IN THE DIASPORA; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Senator Nneji Athan Achonu

[] Commencement

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

1 1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as
2 amended), in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act" is amended as set out
3 in this Bill.

4 2. Section 77 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (2) by
5 deleting the phrase "residing in Nigeria at the time of the registration of
6 voters for purposes of election to a legislative house" so that the subsection
7 reads:

Amendment of
Section 77

8 "Every citizen of Nigeria, who has attained the age of eighteen years shall be
9 entitled to be registered as a voter for that election".

10 3. Section 117 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (2) by
11 deleting the phrase "residing in Nigeria at the time of the registration of
12 voters for purposes of election to a legislative house" so that the subsection
13 reads".

Amendment of
Section 117

14 "Every citizen of Nigeria, who has attained the age of eighteen years shall be
15 entitled to be registered as a voter for that election".

16 4. This Bill may be cited as the Constitution of the Federal
17 Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2015.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) to make provision for the exercise of the right to vote in elections in Nigeria by Nigerian citizens residing outside the country; and for related matters.