### ELECTORAL ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

### **ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES**

#### Clause:

- 1. Amendment of the Electoral Act of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999
- 2. Substitution of section 4(3) of the principal Act
- 3. Amendment of Section 36 of the Principal Act
- 4. Amendment of Section 38 of the Principal Act
- 5. Amendment of Section 78 of the Principal Act
- 6. Insertion of section 87(9A) of section of the Principal Act

7. Citation

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# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ELECTORAL ACT NO. 16 OF 2010 TO STRENGTHEN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION TO PROPERLY THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT IN RELATION TO SUBSTITUTION OF CANDIDATES IN THE EVENT OF DEATH OR OTHERWISE AFTER CONDUCT OF PRIMARY ELECTIONS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

|  |    | ELECTIONS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS   |                                      |
|--|----|---|--------------------------------------|
|  |    | Sponsored by Senator Ubali Shitu  |                                      |
|  | -  | $\mathbf{I}$  | Commencement                         |
|  |    | ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of                     |                                      |
|  |    | Nigeria-  |                                      |
|  | 1  | 1. The Electoral Act No. 16 of 2010 (in 'this bill referred to as "the          | Amendment of                         |
|  | 2  | Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill.                             | the Electoral Act                    |
|  | 3  | 2. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting a new                 | Substitution of                      |
|  | 4  | subsection "(5)" -  | section 8(3) of<br>the Principal Act |
|  | 5  | "(5) A person who, being a member of a political party,                         |                                      |
|  | 6  | misrepresents himself as such in order to secure an appointment with the        | •                                    |
|  | 7  | Commission in any capacity, commits an offence and shall be liable on           |                                      |
|  | 8  | conviction to imprisonment for a term not below one year without                |                                      |
|  | 9  | option of fine."  |                                      |
|  | 10 | 3. Section 36 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting a new                | Amendment of Section 36 of the       |
|  | 11 | sub-section "(3)"-  | Principal Act                        |
|  | 12 | "(3) where a nominated candidate dies in the circumstances stated               |                                      |
|  | 13 | under sub-section (1) of this section, the next person, from the same political |                                      |
|  | 14 | party where the deceased emerged, with the highest number of legal votes in     |                                      |
|  | 15 | the primary election shall be submitted to the Commission to replace the        |                                      |
|  | 16 | deceased, and the Commission shall accept such replacement as if the            |                                      |
|  | 17 | deceased is alive.  |                                      |
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|------------------------------------|----|---|
| Amendment of                       | 1  | 4. Section 38 of the Principal Act is amended, by inserting a new                 |
| Section 38 of the Principal Act    | 2  | subsection "(2)"-   |
|                                    | 3  | "(2) Where there is a valid nomination by at least one political party,           |
|                                    | 4  | failure of a political party to validly nominate a candidate shall not constitute |
|                                    | 5  | ground for extension of time for nomination or postponement of election."         |
| Amendment of Section 78 of         | 6  | 5. Section 78(5) of the Principal Act is amended after the word                   |
| the Principal Act                  | 7  | "cancelled" by inserting the words "and the said Association shall, on account    |
|                                    | 8  | of such false or misleading information, commits an offence and shall be liable   |
|                                    | 9  | on conviction to a fine of N1,000,000 and the executives of the said              |
|                                    | 10 | Association shall be imprisoned for a period not exceeding 2 months.'             |
| Insertion of section 87(9A)        | 11 | 6. The Principal Act is amended, in section 87 by inserting a new sub-            |
| of section of the<br>Principal Act | 12 | section "(9A)" after the existing sub-section (9) -                               |
|                                    | 13 | "(9A) Where a primary election is conducted, and duly attended and                |
|                                    | 14 | certified by the Commission in compliance with this Act, and the result is        |
|                                    | 15 | subsequently changed or altered by a political party, the Commission shall        |
|                                    | 16 | have the power to overrule the alteration made by the political party and uphold  |
|                                    | 17 | such primaries."  |
| Citation                           | 18 | 7. This Bill is cited as the Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016.                |
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## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend The Electoral Act No. 16 of 2010 to strengthen Independent National Electoral Commission to properly the provisions of the Act in relation to substitution of candidates in the event of death or otherwise after conduct of primary elections.