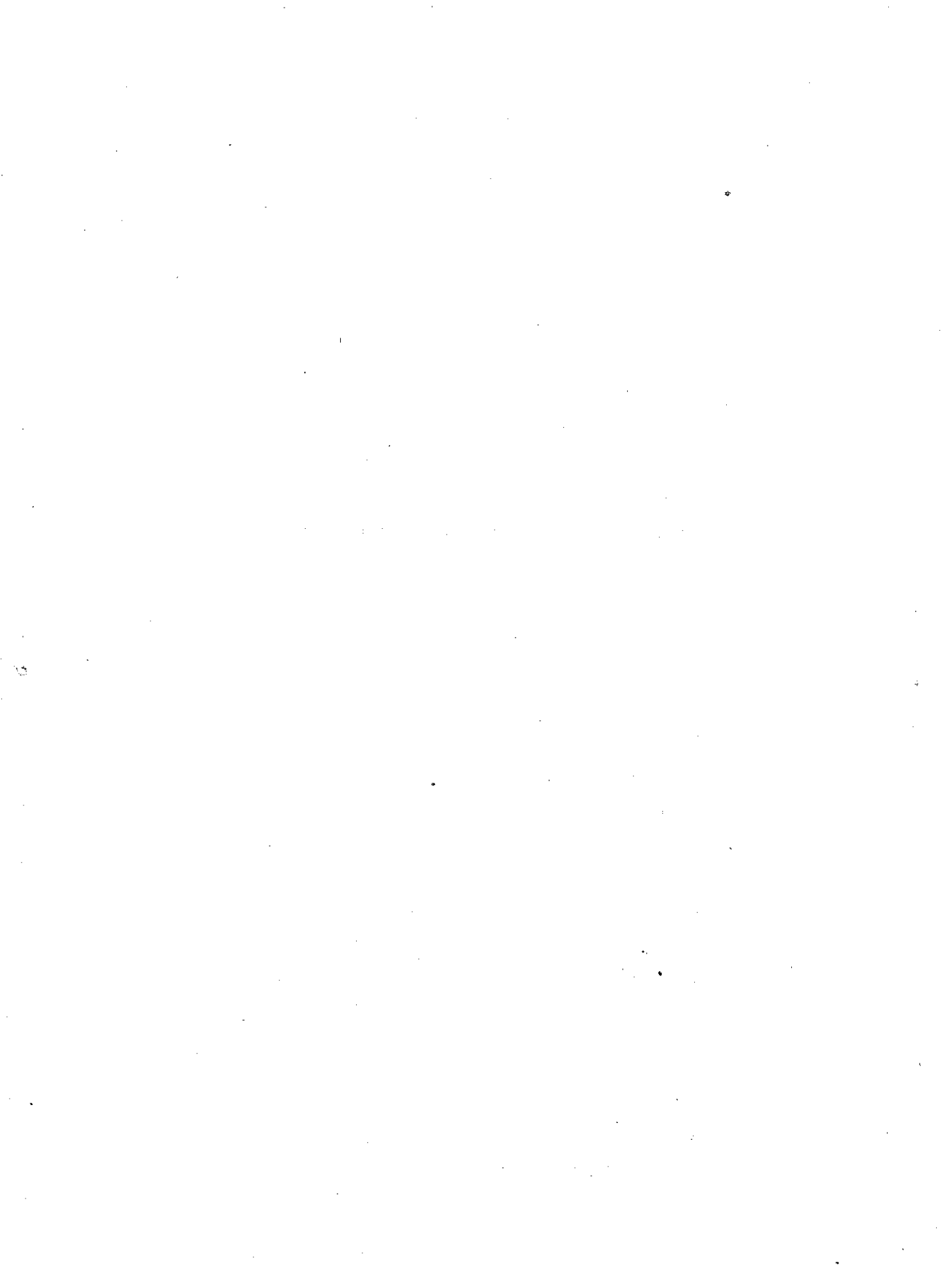


SOCIAL SAFETY NET SERVICE BILL, 2016

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

*Clause:*

1. Establishment of the Service
2. Objectives and functions of the Service
3. Appointment and qualification of the Head of the Service
4. Some social safety net programs
5. The Service to discontinue Social safety net programs
6. Some criteria for selecting beneficiaries of the social safety net programs
7. Some prerequisite for selection into one or more social safety net program
8. Citation



# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE SOCIAL SAFETY NET SERVICE TO PROVIDE FOR, REDUCTION OF HARDCORE POVERTY AMONG RURAL AND URBAN VULNERABLE GROUPS, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS AND MEASURES IN NIGERIA; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Senator Rilwan Akanbi*

[ ] Commencement

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

1           1.-(1) There is established the Social Safety Net Service (in this  
2 Bill referred to as "the Service). Establishment  
of the Service

3           (2) The Service shall be a department in the Federal Ministry of  
4 Budget and Planning and shall be created in all branches of the Ministry in  
5 the 36 States of the Federation.

6           (3) The Service shall create safety centers in the 36 States of the  
7 Federation and safety units in the 774 Local Government Areas in Nigeria.

8           2. The Service shall: Objectives and  
functions of the  
service

9           (a) draw up social safety net programs periodically to address  
10 chronic poverty in rural and urban areas and engage in schemes that will  
11 graduate poor people from poverty;

12           (b) develop good targeting mechanism that will enhance increased  
13 and level of benefits for the poor;

14           (c) provide effective coordination between the safety centers in the  
15 States and the Safety units in the local government areas to adequately target  
16 poorest areas and reach individuals better;

17           (d) have a monitoring and evaluation unit that will monitor and  
18 assess projects, programs, beneficiaries and graduates from the social safety

1 net program;

2 (e) have such number of units as are required to work with the Safety  
3 Centers in the States and Safety Units in the Local Government Areas for  
4 effective implementation of the functions and objectives of the Service;

5 (f) develop a blue print for effective and monthly, quarterly and yearly  
6 monitoring, evaluation and analysis of the social safety net programs to ensure  
7 that the poor not only receives minimum assistance but graduate from poverty;

8 (g) maintain a register of beneficiaries and a register of graduates  
9 from the social safety net programs;

10 (h) develop a sustainable development program to ensure that the  
11 graduates from poverty do not fall back into poverty;

12 (i) develop a matrix for poverty reduction by collaborating with  
13 Ministries, Departments and Agencies( MDAs) that have a platform for social  
14 safety net programs and encourage participation by MDAs that do not have  
15 such platforms;

16 (j) enter both public and private partnerships with donor agencies,  
17 multinational companies, organizations and public -spirited individuals to  
18 carry out social safety net programs:

19 Provided that such partnership will not undermine the integrity, sovereignty  
20 and interest of Nigeria;

21 (k) understudy, learn useful systems and practices from middle  
22 income Countries where the largest social safety net programs exist to develop  
23 quality social safety net programs with good coverage in Nigeria;

24 (l) train and retrain social safety net officers in new forms of social  
25 safety net programs and how best to achieve the objective of the Commission;

26 (m) develop a criteria for selecting beneficiaries that qualify to  
27 partake in a social safety net program;

28 (n) embark all forms of agricultural projects with both beneficiaries  
29 and experts as part of the project to develop food security for both beneficiaries  
30 and the nation; and

1 (o) do things that shall enable it carry out the objectives and  
2 functions under this Bill.

3 3. The Minister shall appoint a Head of the Service who shall:

Appointment and  
qualification of  
the Head of the  
Service

4 (a) not be below the rank of a director;

5 (b) be qualified as an expert in social welfare programs and has at  
6 least 15 years experience as a social welfare practitioner in a reputable non-  
7 governmental organization, the public service or private sector;

8 (c) is a person of proven integrity, is innovative and has pioneered  
9 successful social welfare programs for at list 10 years;

10 (d) have a master's degree in law, public health, development  
11 economics, or international economic development.

12 4. The social safety net programs of the Service includes:

Some social  
Safety net

13 (a) food transfers;

14 (b) cash transfers;

15 (c) credit schemes;

16 (d) conditional subsidy programs;

17 (e) rural maintenance programs;

18 (g) households where one or more of the children or dependent is  
19 terminally ill;

20 (f) education stipend programs;

21 (g) old age allowance;

22 (h) conditional disability and unconditional disability allowance;

23 (i) agricultural subsidy for marginal farmers,;

24 (j) unemployment housing programs and homeless shelters; and

25 5. The Service may discontinue one or more of the social safety  
26 net programs mentioned in section 4 of this Bill where it becomes irrelevant  
27 or does not meet the changing demands of the objectives and functions of the  
28 Service.

The service to  
discontinue  
social safety net  
programs

29 6. The Service shall deploy the following criteria to select  
30 beneficiaries of one or more of the social safety net program:

Some criteria for  
selecting  
beneficiaries of  
the social safety  
net programs

- 1 (a) households with monthly income of less than N5,000;  
 2 (b) day laborer or temporary worker with less than N3,000 per job;  
 3 (c) households that lack productive assets;  
 4 (d) family of low income professionals which includes fishing,  
 5 subsistent farmers, welders, blacksmiths, plumbers;  
 6 (e) households where the principal occupation of the head is day  
 7 labour;  
 8 (f) destitute woman headed family;  
 9 (h) household live in slums with no proper sewage, ventilation and  
 10 portable drinking water system; and  
 11 (l) such other criteria that the Service will deploy to select  
 12 beneficiaries from time-to time.

Some prerequisite  
 for selection into  
 one or more  
 social safety net  
 program

- 13 7. The prerequisite for selection of beneficiaries into the social safety  
 14 net program includes:  
 15 (a) the prospective beneficiary must be a permanent resident in the  
 16 area where the Safety Centre or Safety Unit is situated;  
 17 (b) the prospective beneficiary is not a beneficiary of any other  
 18 program organizes by a Non- Governmental Organization;  
 19 (c) where the prospective beneficiary is a young person of  
 20 reproductive age, he or she must have the physical and mental capacity to do  
 21 laborious work; and  
 22 (d) such other prerequisites that the Service may deploy to select  
 23 beneficiaries into one or more social safety net program.

Citation

- 24 8. This Bill may be cited as the Social Safety Net Service Bill, 2016.

#### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish the Social Safety Net Service to provide for, reduction of hardcore poverty among rural and urban vulnerable groups, sustainable development goals and implementation of social protection systems and measures in Nigeria.