

ARMED FORCES COMFORT FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

1. Amendment of Section 1
2. Amendment of Section 2
3. Amendment of Section 3
4. Short Title of the Bill

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARMED FORCES COMFORT FUND CHAPTER A21, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO EXPAND THE APPLICATION OF THE FUND TO VICTIMISATION RESULTING FROM INSTANCES OF CIVIL UNREST, MILITANCY, ARMED ROBBERY AND TO EXPAND THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND TO INCLUDE THE NIGERIAN VICTIM SUPPORT FUND AS AN ADDITIONAL SOURCE OF FUNDING AND TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLING FOR ORPHANS AND OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS OF DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Senator Shehu Sani

[] Commencement

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

1 1. The Armed Forces Comfort Fund, Chapter A21, Laws of the
 2 Federation of Nigeria 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is
 3 amended as set forth in this Bill. Amendment of
the Principal Act

4 2. Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting a new
 5 sub-section 1.(c) immediately after sub-section 1. (b) as follows: Amendment of
Section 1 of the
Principal Act

6 "1. (c) any further sums, educational scholarship or medical
 7 treatment that shall be provided from time to time from by the Management
 8 Team of the Nigerian Victim Support Fund established by the Office of the
 9 President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (The Presidency). Provided
 10 that such sums are in response to written application of the Chief of Staff
 11 (Nigerian Army), the Chief of Naval Staff or the Chief of Air Staff,
 12 whichever is appropriate".

13 3. Section 2 (a) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the
 14 new phrase "or suppressing civil unrest, or armed robbery" after the word Amendment of
Section 2 (a) of
the Principal Act

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| | 1 | "war" in line 2. |
| Amendment of Section 2 of the Principal Act | 2 | 4. Section 2 of the Principal Act is further amended by inserting a new |
| | 3 | sub-section 2 (f) immediately after sub-section 2(e) as follows: |
| | 4 | “2 (f) for award of educational scholarships, guidance counselling |
| | 5 | and psychological counselling for family members of the armed forces”. |
| Amendment of Section 3 of the Principal Act | 6 | 5. Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting the |
| | 7 | number "28" in line 2 with number "23" |
| Short Title | 8 | 6. This Bill may be cited as the Armed Forces Comfort Fund |
| | 9 | (Amendment) Bill, 2017. |

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Armed Forces Comfort Fund Chapter A21, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to expand the application of the fund to victimisation resulting from instances of civil unrest, militancy, armed robbery and to expand the purpose of the fund to include the Nigerian victim support fund as an additional source of funding and to provide access to education and psychological counselling for orphans and other family members of deceased members of the armed forces.