

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NOTARIES PUBLIC ACT AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Hon. Sergius Ogun*

[ ] Commencement

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

1           1. The Notaries Public Act, Cap. N141, Laws of the Federation of  
 2 Nigeria, 2004 (in this Bill referred to as the Principal Act) is hereby amended  
 3 as set out in this Bill. Enactment

4           2. Section 15 of the Act is amended by replacing the word "two"  
 5 with the word "seven" as follows: Amendment of  
Section 15

6           "Any notary public or other person who wilfully certifies or  
 7 propounds any false statement or document, or who fraudulently or with  
 8 intent to deceive conceals, withholds or perverts any fact or document  
 9 pertinent to the subject of a protest or other notarial act, is guilty of an  
 10 offence and liable on conviction, to imprisonment for a term of seven years."

11           3. Section 16 of the Act is amended by replacing "N100" with  
 12 "N500,000", replacing the phrase "four months" with "three years" and  
 13 inserting the phrase "or both" after the phrase "four months" as follows: Amendment of  
Section 16

14           "Any person who is suspended from practising as a notary or  
 15 whose name is not on the register as a notary who makes, does, exercises or  
 16 performs any act, matter or thing appertaining or belonging to the office,  
 17 function or practice of a notary public or who being suspended from  
 18 practising as a notary purports to act in any capacity as a notary public is  
 19 guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of  
 20 N500,000 or to imprisonment for a term of three years, or both.

Citation

- 1                   4. This Bill may be cited as the Notaries Public Act (Amendment)
- 2    Bill, 2021.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Notaries Public Act Cap N141, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to review upwards the penalty imposed for misfeasance and for other offences under the Act.