

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. Amendment of
Notaries Public
Act, Cap. N141,
LFN, 2004

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 N500,000
 20 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.