

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ALTER THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, 1999 (WITH THE ALTERATIONS) TO PROVIDE FOR DEFINITE AND CERTAIN PERIOD FOR THE REVIEW OF SENATORIAL DISTRICTS AND FEDERAL CONSTITUENCIES AND STATES' CONSTITUENCIES IN THE FEDERATION, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Paschal C. Obi

[] Commencement

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

1 1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (in
2 this Bill referred to as the ("Principal Act") is altered as set out in this Bill.

Alteration of
Constitution 1999

3 2. Periodical Review of Senatorial Districts and Federal
4 Constituencies: Section 73:

5 Section 73:

6 (1) The Independent National Electoral Commission shall review
7 the division of States and of the Federation into Senatorial Districts and
8 Federal Constituencies at intervals of not less than ten years, and may alter
9 the districts or constituencies in accordance with the provisions of this
10 section to such extent as it may consider desirable in the light of the review.

11 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the independent
12 National Electoral Commission may at any time carry out such a review and
13 alter the districts or constituencies in accordance with the provisions of this
14 section to such extent as it considers necessary, in consequence of any
15 amendment to section 3 of this Constitution or any provision replacing that
16 section or by reason of the holding of a Census of the population or pursuant
17 to an Act of the National Assembly.

18 Proposed Alterations to Section 73

1 Section 73 to read now as Section 73:

2 (1) "The Independent National Electoral Commission shall review
3 the division of States and of the Federation into Senatorial Districts and Federal
4 Constituencies at intervals of twelve years and shall alter the Districts or
5 Constituencies in accordance with the provisions of this section to such
6 extent as it shall consider desirable in the light of the review".

7 (2) "Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the Independent
8 National Electoral Commission, shall at any time carry out such a review and
9 alter the Districts or Constituencies in accordance with the provisions of this
10 section to such extent as it shall consider necessary and expedient in
11 consequence of any alteration to section 3 of this Constitution or any provision
12 replacing that section, or by reason of the holding of a census of the population
13 of the Federation of Nigeria, or pursuant to an Act of the National Assembly".

14 **3. Periodical Review of States' Constituencies:**

15 Section 114:

16 (1) "The Independent National Electoral Commission shall review
17 the division of every State into constituencies at intervals of not less than ten
18 years, and may alter such constituencies in accordance with the provisions of
19 this section to such extent as it may consider desirable in the light of the review.

20 (2) "The independent National Electoral Commission may at any
21 time carry out such a review and alter the constituencies in accordance with the
22 provisions of this section to such extent as it considers necessary and expedient
23 in consequence of any adjustment to the boundaries of the State or by reason of
24 the holding of a census of the population of Nigeria or in pursuance of an Act of
25 the National Assembly.

26 Proposed Alterations to Section 114:

27 Proposed Section 114 to now read as:

28 Section 114:

29 (1) "The Independent National Electoral Commission shall review
30 the division of every State of the Federation into Constituencies at intervals of

1 twelve years, and shall alter such constituencies in accordance with the
2 provisions of this section to such extent as it shall consider desirable in the
3 light of the review."

4 (2) "The Independent National Electoral Commission shall at any
5 time, carry out such a review, and alter the Constituencies in accordance
6 with the provisions of this Section to such extent as it shall consider
7 necessary and expedient in consequence of any adjustment to the
8 boundaries of the State or by reason of the holding of a Census of the
9 Population of Nigeria or in pursuance of an Act of the National Assembly."

10 4. This Bill may be cited as the Constitution of the Federal Citation
11 Republic of Nigeria, 1999, (Alteration) Bill, 2021.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to alter section 73 and Section 114 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to provide for definite and certain period for the periodical review of the Senatorial Districts and Federal Constituencies and States Constituencies.

