

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NIGERIAN COMMUNICATIONS ACT, CAP N11,
LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO PROVIDE FOR THE
INDEPENDENT MEANS AND PROCEDURE OF REMOVING ITS
COMMISSIONERS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Unyime Josiah Idem

[] Commencement

BE IT ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal

Republic of Nigeria as follows:

1 1. The Nigeria Communications Act, CAP N11 Laws of the
2 Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (herein after referred to as the "Principal Act")
3 is amended as set out in this Bill.

Amendment of
the Nigeria
Communications
Act, Cap. N11
LFN, 2004

4 2. Section 10 Subsection (3) of the Principal Act is amended by
5 adding new Subsection (3) to the provisions therein as a new clause to read
6 as follows-

Amendment of
Section 10

7 "10 (3). Upon Notice to the affected Commissioner by the
8 President of the intention to suspend or remove him, the President shall set
9 up a 5-Man Panel of independent professionals in the industry to review and
10 scrutinize the allegation upon which the Commissioner is being alleged and
11 the Panel shall give him a fair hearing in consideration of the allegation."

12 That the initial Subsection 3 is hereby amended and renumbered as
13 Subsection 4 and thereby amended as follows-

14 "The affected Commissioner under subsection (1) of this section
15 shall be given a reasonable opportunity to make written submissions in his
16 defense to the Panel within a time period specified in the notice and such
17 time period shall not be less than 14 days from the date of the notice".

18 That the initial Subsection 4 is hereby amended and renumbered as
19 Subsection 5 and thereby amended as follows-

1 "The affected Commissioner may, after or within the time period
2 specified in the notice, submit a written submission to the Panel and the Panel
3 shall thoroughly consider the submissions and make their independent
4 findings and recommendation to the President within 14 days of the receipt of
5 the submission."

Citation

6 3. This Bill may be cited as Nigerian Communication Act
7 (Amendment) Bill, 2021.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the provisions of the Nigeria Communication Act
Cap. N11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make provisions for
Independent and proper procedure for removing its Commissioners.