

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO MAKE REGULATION FOR RESPECTING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND THE NATIONAL PLEDGE; TO STANDARDIZE AND PROVIDE FOR UNIFORM COMPLIANCE DURING RECITATION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND NATIONAL PLEDGE; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Hon. Jimoh Abdulraheem Olajide*

[ ] Commencement

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

1            1.-(1) The provisions of this Act shall apply to all citizens of Application  
2 Nigeria.

3            (2) The provisions of this Act shall not apply to members of the  
4 Armed Forces, Nigeria Police Force or any other law enforcement agency.

5            2. Whenever the National Anthem is being recited or played in  
6 public place, all persons present, as a mark of respect, shall: Mandatory  
conduct during  
recitation of  
National Anthem

7            (a) Stand at attention, place their hands firmly beside them and  
8 with their faces slightly facing up while reciting the National Anthem;

9            (b) The requirements of the subsection 2(a) above shall be  
10 complied with from the first note of the National Anthem and so maintain  
11 the position until the last note.

12           3. Whenever the National Pledge is being made or played in public Mandatory  
13 place, all persons present, as a mark of respect, shall: conduct during  
recitation of  
National Anthem

14           (a) Stand at attention, place their right-hand palms over the left side  
15 of their chests and their faces slightly facing up while making the pledge;

16           (b) The requirements of the subsection 3(a) above shall be  
17 complied with from the first note of the National Pledge and so maintain the  
18 position until the last note.

Contempt and Penalty	1	4.-(1) Any person who knowingly neglected, failed or refused to
	2	comply with the provisions in sections 2 and 3 of this Act in any public place
	3	without good and sufficient reason shall be guilty of contempt against this Act.
	4	(2) For the purpose of this Section, all acts or omissions which tend to
	5	show lack of respect and reverence for the National Anthem or the National
	6	pledge is hereby prohibited.
Power to arrest	7	5.-(1) Any Police Officer may, without warrant, may arrest any
	8	person suspected to have committed an offence against this Act.
	9	(2) The Police Officer making the arrest shall ensure that the person
	10	arrested is taken to the nearest Police Station where his statement, name,
	11	address and other particulars are taken.
	12	(3) The suspect shall be released by the Police upon being satisfied that
	13	the suspect will duly answer any summons to be issued or other proceedings
	14	that may be taken against him.
Trial of suspect	15	6. Any person suspected to have contravened any provisions of this
	16	Act or committed contempt against this Act shall be prosecuted in any
	17	competent Court of Law in the State or the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja
	18	within which the contravention or contempt was committed respectively.
Penalty	19	7. Any person who contravenes any provisions of this Act or commits
	20	a contempt against this Act shall be liable on summary conviction to produce a
	21	national flag for any nearby public school or be engaged in any other form of
	22	community service and shall not exceed twenty hours of service.
Interpretation	23	8. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:
	24	"National Anthem" means the National Anthem of the Federal Republic of
	25	Nigeria;
	26	"National Pledge" means the National Pledge of Allegiance of the Federal
	27	Republic of Nigeria.
Short title	28	9. This Bill may be cited as the National Anthem and Pledge
	29	(Compliance, Etc.) Bill, 2019.

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to make regulation for respecting the National Anthem and the National Pledge; to standardize and provide for uniform compliance during recitation of the National Anthem and National Pledge.

