

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARMED FORCES ACT CAP. A20 LAWS OF THE  
FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO PROVIDE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE  
PRINCIPLE OF FEDERAL CHARACTER IN THE APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE  
CHIEFS AND RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Hon. Awaji-Inombek D. Abiante*

[ ] Commencement

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

- 1           1. The Armed Forces Act Cap. A20 Laws of the Federation of  
2 Nigeria, 2004 (in this Bill referred to as the "Principal Act") is amended as  
3 set out in this Bill. Amendment of  
the Principal Act
- 4           2. Section 18 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting a new Amendment of  
Section 18  
5 Sub-section 5 as follows:  
6           "5. Without prejudice to the power of the President under this Act,  
7 the President shall observe the principle of Federal Character as enshrined in  
8 the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 as amended, when  
9 appointing Service Chiefs that make up the Armed Forces of the Federal  
10 Republic of Nigeria.
- 11           3. This Bill may be cited as the Armed Forces Act (Amended) Bill, Citation  
12 2019.

### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Armed Forces Act Cap. A20 Laws of the  
Federation of Nigeria, 2004 by providing that the principle of Federal  
Character be observed in the appointment of Service Chiefs for the Armed  
Forces of Nigeria.