

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ALTER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA CAP. C23 LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA 2004 TO MAKE FREE, COMPULSORY AND BASIC EDUCATION A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT OF ALL CITIZENS UNDER CHAPTER IV AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Femi Gbajabamila

[] Commencement

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

1 1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria Cp, 23
2 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "The
3 Principal Act") is hereby altered as set out hereunder.

Alteration of the
Constitution

4 2. The Principal Act is hereby amended in section 18 by
5 substituting the entire sub-section 3 thereof with a new subsection 3 as
6 follows:

7 "Government shall strive to eradicate illiteracy in Nigeria"

8 3. The Principal Act is amended by creating a new section 45 as
9 follows:

10 "SECTION 45. FREE, COMPULSORY AND UNIVERSAL BASIC
11 EDUCATION

12 (1) Every citizen of Nigeria is entitled to free, compulsory and
13 universal basic education, and every government in Nigeria shall provide
14 free, compulsory and universal basic education to every child from primary
15 to junior secondary school.

16 (2) It shall be the duty of every parent to ensure that his child or
17 ward attends and completes his primary and junior secondary school
18 education by endeavoring to send the child to primary and junior secondary
19 schools.

1 (3) Every stakeholder in education shall ensure that every parent or
2 person who has the care and custody of a child performs the duty imposed on
3 him under section 45 of this Constitution.

Amendment
of Section 318

4 4. Section 318 of the Principal Act is amended in sub-section 1 by the
5 addition of a new definition paragraph immediately after the definition of the
6 word "authority" as follows:

7 "basic education" means free and compulsory education from
8 primary school to junior secondary school.

9 5. The Principal Act is hereby amended by renumbering the existing
10 sections 45 to 318 of the constitution as sections 46 to 319

Citation

11 6. This Bill may be cited as the Constitution of the Federal Republic
12 of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2019.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Bill seeks to alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria Cap. 23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 to include and place free, compulsory and universal basic education under chapter IV of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended).