

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE RIGHTS OF NIGERIAN CITIZENS LIVING OUTSIDE NIGERIA TO VOTE IN CERTAIN ELECTIONS CONDUCTED IN NIGERIA AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Abbas Tajudeen

[] Commencement

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

- 1 1. The right of every citizen of Nigerian living outside Nigeria to Voting rights
2 vote in elections conducted in Nigeria is hereby guaranteed and protected: guaranteed
- 3 Provided that citizen is duly qualified to vote in that election under
- 4 applicable laws of Nigeria.
- 5 2. Elections to be conducted under this Act outside Nigeria shall Elections affect
- 6 include elections which the Commission, by law, is empowered to conduct,
- 7 3. The Commission shall, from time to time, organize voters' Registration of
8 registration for all citizens living outside Nigeria at places and with such voters
- 9 methods which it shall designate.
- 10 4. The provisions of this Act shall not invalidate the provisions of Provisions of
11 any other law including requirements with respect to elections in Nigeria but Act not to inv
12 shall only create room for the participation of citizens living outside of other laws
- 13 Nigeria in elections.
- 14 5.-(1) The Commission shall ensure that such elections under Conduct of
15 section 3 of this Act are organized in places outside Nigeria and in such a elections outs
16 manner so as to enable citizens living outside Nigeria to participate in such Nigeria
- 17 elections.
- 18 (2) Such election(s) shall be organized in such other locations
- 19 outside Nigeria within the same date(s) which the same election is taking
- 20 place within Nigeria.

Regulations

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6.-(1) The Commission may make and publish regulations for any such matters necessary for giving full effect to the provisions of this Act.

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(2) Regulations made under this Act shall not come into effect unless it is approved by a simple resolution of the National Assembly.

Interpretation

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7. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:
"citizen" has the meaning assigned to it under sections 25, 26 and 27 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999;
"Commission" means the Independent National Electoral Commission.

Citation

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8. This Bill may be cited as the Voting Rights of Nigerian Citizens Living Outside Nigeria Bill, 2020.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to provide for the rights of Nigerian citizens living outside Nigeria to participate in elections conducted in Nigeria.