

FEDERAL ROADS AND HIGH WAYS FORESTS GUARD

(ESTABLISHMENT) BILL, 2020

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A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO REGULATE AND PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
FEDERAL ROADS AND HIGH WAYS FORESTS GUARD, WHICH SHALL BE
CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO DETECT
AND PREVENT CRIME, BANDITRY, KIDNAPPING, TERRORISM AND
VIOLENCE; APPREHEND OFFENDERS, PRESERVE LAW AND ORDER; AND
PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY STRICTLY WITHIN ALL FORESTS LYING 100
METERS ADJACENT TO ALL FEDERAL ROADS AND HIGH WAYS IN NIGERIA,
AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Usman Danjuma Shiddi

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of

I | Commencement

Nigeria as follows:

PART I - CONSTITUTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE FEDERAL FORESTS GUARD

1. There shall be established for Nigeria a Federal Forests Guard to
be known as the Federal Roads and High Ways Forests Guard (in this Bill
referred to as the "Federal Forests Guard").

Establishment
of Federal Forests
Guard

2. The Federal Forests Guard shall be employed for the detection
and prevention of crime, banditry, kidnapping, terrorism; violence; the
apprehension of offenders, the preservation of law and order, the protection
of life and property strictly within the territorial jurisdiction of the Federal
Forests Guard which is, 100 meters adjacent to all Federal Roads and High
Ways in Nigeria.

General duties
of the Federal
Forests Guard

3. There shall be a Controller-General of Federal Roads and High
Ways Forests Guard; Six Deputies Controller-General; such number of
Controllers and their deputies as shall reflect only the number of all
component states of the Federation; and such number of Captains as shall

Constitution of
the Federal Forests
Guard

1 reflect only the number of all Local Government Areas in Nigeria.

2 (1) The Controller-General of Federal Forests Guard; the Deputies
3 Controller-General; the Controllers and the Deputy Controllers shall be
4 nominated in the first place by the Minister of Interior who shall within three
5 working days following the nomination, forward nominees to the council; and
6 shall within seven working days upon receipt of names of the nominees by the
7 council, cause the persons whose names have been so forwarded to the
8 Council, to appear before the council for screening and confirmation by the
9 Council-

10 Provided that in nominating the six deputies Controller-General,
11 regard must be had to the principle of Federal Character in ensuring that each of
12 the six geo-political zones is duly represented amongst the six deputies
13 Controller-General:

14 Provided also that a Controller and his deputy to be appointed in
15 charge of a State shall have been indigenes of that State for accurate familiarity
16 with the territorial jurisdiction and for effective security mechanism.

17 (2) The Minister shall upon confirmation of a nominee by a majority
18 non-voice vote by members of the Council, appoint such nominee to the post or
19 rank in which he is to assume duty:

20 Provided that the post or rank in which an officer is to assume duty
21 shall have been tied to his name as at the time the Minister was forwarding the
22 name to the Council for screening and for confirmation.

23 (3) It shall be the duty of a Controller of Federal Forests Guard to
24 appoint all the Captains in a State who shall be heads in the respective territorial
25 jurisdiction situated in each local Government Area of a State:

26 Provided that a Captain of Federal Forests Guard shall not be
27 appointed to be the head of Federal Forests Guard in a Local Government Area
28 of which he is not an indigene.

29 (4) A Controller of Federal Forests Guard shall within fourteen
30 working days following his appointment of Captains of Federal Forests Guard,

1 cause names of the persons so appointed to be forwarded to the Controller-
2 General for record purposes. No person shall be appointed as Captain who is
3 not in the employ of the Federal Forests Guard.

4 (5) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section,
5 proper regard shall be had to competence and relative knowledge of security
6 matters in consideration of the persons to be nominated and appointed to the
7 post of Controller-General of Federal Forests Guard, down to the rank of
8 Captain of Federal Forests Guard.

9 4. The Federal Forests Guard shall be under the command of the
10 Controller-General; and contingents of the Federal Forests Guard stationed
11 in a State shall, subject to the authority of the Controller-General, be under
12 the command of the Controller of that State.

Command of
the Federal Forests
Guard

13 5. There shall be for the Federal Forests Guard, a Controller-
14 General who shall be appointed by the Minister in accordance with the
15 provisions of Section 5 of this Bill.

Duties of the -
Controller-General
of Federal Forests
Guard

16 (1) The Controller-General shall hold Office-

17 (a) for a term of three years in the first instance and may be re-
18 appointed for a further term of three years and no more;

19 (b) on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of
20 appointment.

21 (2) The Controller-General shall be the Chief Executive and
22 Accounting Officer of the Federal Forests Guard:

23 (a) shall be responsible for postings and transfers of the Deputies
24 Controller-General who unlike the Controllers, may be posted or transferred
25 outside of their indigenous geo-political zones in their course of duty;

26 (b) May exercise power to recommend disciplinary action or
27 removal against a Deputy Controller-General or a Controller to the Council
28 through the Minister;

29 (c) Shall subject to the directives of the Minister, be in charge of the
30 operational control of the Federal Forests Guard;

1 (d) Shall subject to the directives of the Minister, be charged with the
2 command of the Federal Forests Guard;

3 (e) May perform such other functions as may be specified by a
4 regulation made pursuant to the powers conferred on the Council under this
5 Bill.

Duties of the
Deputy Controller-
General of Federal
Forests Guard

6 6. A Deputy Controller-General is the second in command and shall
7 act for the Controller-General in the Controller-General's absence.

8 (1) All matters of importance dealt with by the Deputy Controller-
9 General during the absence of the Controller-General shall be reported to the
10 Controller-General on his return for record purposes only.

11 (2) The zonal command of the Federal Forests Guard shall, subject to
12 the direction and overall command of the Federal Forests Guard, be under the
13 superintendence and co-ordination of a Deputy Controller-General:

14 (a) He may perform such other functions as may be specified by a
15 regulation made pursuant to the powers conferred on the Council under this
16 Bill.

Duties of the
Controller of
Federal Forests
Guard

17 7. A State command of the Federal Forests Guard shall be under the
18 command and superintendence of a Controller.

19 (1) A controller or Deputy Controller shall not be appointed nor
20 transferred to head a State command other than his own indigenous State.

21 (2) The Federal Forests Guard shall have a State Command in each
22 State of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja; and-

23 (a) the State Command shall, subject to the direction and overall
24 command of the Federal Forests Guard and the Zonal Command, be
25 responsible for carrying out the functions of the Federal Forests Guard in a
26 State and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja;

27 (b) it shall be the duty of a Controller of Federal Forests Guard to
28 appoint all the Captains in each local Government Area of a State; and

29 (c) he may perform such other functions as may be specified by a

1 regulation made pursuant to the powers conferred on the Council under this
2 Bill.

3 8. The Federal Forests Guard shall have a Local Government
4 Command in each of the Local Government Areas and the Area Councils in
5 the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, recognized by the 1999 Constitution;
6 and shall be headed by a Captain of Federal Forests Guard.

Duties of Captain
of Federal Forests
Guard

7 (1) The Local Government Area Command shall, subject to the
8 direction and overall command of the Federal Forests Guard, the Zonal
9 Command and the State Command, be responsible for carrying out the
10 functions of the Federal Forests Guard in a Local Government Area.

11 Provided that notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this bill,
12 there must not be established a Federal Forests Guard in a Local
13 Government Area in Nigeria where there exists no Federal Roads or
14 Highways.

15 (2) The Captain may perform such other functions as may be
16 specified by a regulation made pursuant to the powers conferred on the
17 Council under this Bill.

18 9.-(1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the
19 Federal Roads and High Ways Forests Guard Council (in the Bill referred to
20 as "the Council") which shall consist of-

Establishment
of Federal Roads
and High Ways
Forests Guard
Council

21 (a) the Minister who shall be the Chairman;

22 (b) the Permanent Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Interior,
23 who shall be the Secretary;

24 (c) the Controller-General of Federal Forests Guard;

25 (d) the six Deputies Controller General of Federal Forests Guard;

26 (e) a member of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) not below the
27 rank of a Senior Advocate of Nigeria to be appointed by National President
28 of the Nigerian Bar Association;

29 (f) an Independent Security Expert who is not in the employ of the

1 Federal, State or Local Governments of Nigeria to be appointed by the
2 Minister;

3 (g) a serving or retired member of the Nigeria Police not below the
4 rank of Assistant Commissioner of Police, to be appointed by the Chairman
5 Police Service Commission;

6 (h) a ranking member of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) to be
7 appointed by the National President of the Nigeria Labour Congress;

8 (i) a retired female civil servant from the Federal Ministry of Women
9 Affairs not below the rank of a director to be appointed by the Minister for
10 Women Affairs; and

11 (j) the Chairman National Salaries, Wages and Incomes Commission.

12 (2) The functions of the Council shall include-

13 (a) supervising the organization and general administration of the
14 Federal Forests Guard and all other matters relating thereto (not being matters
15 relating to the operational control of the Federal Forests Guard);

16 (b) confirming in accordance with the provisions of this Bill, names
17 of the nominees sent by the Minister to the Council;

18 (c) the exercise of disciplinary measures or actions against Federal
19 Forests Guard Officer in accordance with the provisions of this Bill or of a
20 regulation made pursuant to the powers conferred on the Council under this
21 Bill;

22 (d) the formulation of regulation for the administration and welfare of
23 the Federal Forests Guard-

24 Provided that for any regulation to assume force of law under this Bill,
25 such regulation shall have been passed by a two-third majority vote (voice vote
26 not allowed) of all members of the Council voting in approval of the regulation.

27 (e) Formulating policies of the terms and conditions of service
28 (including remuneration, allowances and other benefits) of Federal Forests
29 Guard Officers-

30 Provided that the regular salaries of any Federal Forest Guard Officer

1 shall not be below N120,000.00 at all times;

2 (f) organizing basic training; development and refresher courses
3 for officers of the Federal Forests Guard-

4 Provided that in all basic operational trainings, the Nigerian
5 Military or the State Security Service (DSS) shall be engaged to handle it and
6 shall be conducted within Nigeria.

7 (g) subject to sub-section 2(d) of this section; power to appoint or
8 engage a Committee of experts for the purpose of making regulation in
9 accordance with the provisions of this Bill;

10 (h) performing such other functions that are direct or incidental to
11 the exercise of powers conferred on it under this Bill;

12 (i) for the purpose of meetings by the Council, one half of all its
13 members shall form a quorum.

14 (3) Notwithstanding any other provisions in this Bill to the
15 contrary, the Council in exercising the powers conferred on it under this Bill
16 to make regulations, must not make any regulation whose letters; intents or
17 purposes run counter to any of the provisions of this Bill or its intendment.

18 10. The Controller-General may, with the consent of the Minister,
19 by writing under his hand, delegate any of his powers under this Bill to a
20 Deputy Controller-General so that the delegated powers may be exercised
21 by the delegate with respect to the matters or class of matters specified or
22 defined in the instrument of delegation.

Delegation by
Controller-General

23 PART II - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

24 11. On the appointment or promotion of any Officer of the Federal
25 Forests Guard to the rank of Controller-General down to the rank of Captain,
26 the provisions of the Oaths Act shall apply; and such officer shall forthwith
27 take and subscribe to the official Oath and the Oath of allegiance.

Oaths for Officers

28 12. The Provisions of Section 7 (1) of this Bill shall apply to-

Enlistment and
Service

29 (1) every officer of Federal Forests Guard appointed or promoted
30 to the rank of Controller-General down to the rank of Controller and where

1 the officer has been re-appointed for a further three years, he shall thereafter
2 retire from the service whether or not his statutory years of service have been
3 exhausted.

4 (2) The minimum education qualification for eligibility for
5 enlistment of any officer into the Federal Forests Guard shall be Higher
6 National Diploma (HND).

7 13. The Statutory years of service in the Federal Forests Guard under
8 this Bill, shall be 35 years of service or 60 years of age, whichever one is first
9 attained.

10 PART III

Powers of Federal
Forests Guard
Officers

11 14. The powers of Federal Forests Guard Officers shall be restricted
12 to the detection and prevention of crime, banditry, kidnapping, terrorism and
13 violence; the apprehension of offenders, preservation of law and order; and the
14 protection of life and property strictly within the territorial jurisdiction of the
15 Federal Forests Guard which is -100meters adjacent to all Federal Roads and
16 High Ways in Nigeria; and shall not include power to conduct prosecution of
17 suspects or offenders-

18 Provided that the Federal Forests Guard is by this Bill, empowered to
19 hand over suspects or offenders either to the Nigeria Police or to the Nigeria
20 Security and Civil Defence Corps for prosecution of the suspects, or offenders.

Power to arrest
without warrant

21 15. It shall be lawful for any officer of the Federal Forests Guard and
22 any person whom he may call to his assistance, to arrest without warrant in the
23 following cases-

24 (1) any person whom he finds committing any crime or offence, or
25 whom he reasonably suspects of having committed or of being about to commit
26 any crime or offence or breach of the peace within the territorial jurisdiction;

27 (2) any person whom any other person charges with having
28 committed any crime or offence; or of being about to commit any crime or
29 offence, if such other person is willing to accompany the officer(s) to the police
30 station or to the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Station and to enter

1 into a recognizance to prosecute such crime or offence.

2 16. Any warrant lawfully issued by a court for apprehending any
3 person indicted for committing any crime or offence may be executed by
4 any officer of the Federal Forests Guard at any time notwithstanding that the
5 warrant is not shown to the suspect at the time of arrest, but the warrant shall
6 within 12 hours of the suspects' apprehension, be shown to him whether or
7 not he demanded it.

Power to arrest
having warrant
in possession

8 17. Any warrant lawfully issued by a court for apprehending any
9 person indicted for committing any crime or offence may be executed by
10 any officer of the Federal Forests Guard at any time notwithstanding that the
11 officer is not having possession of the warrant at the time of arrest; but the
12 warrant shall within 24 hours of the suspects' apprehension, be shown to him
13 whether or not he demanded it-

Power to arrest
having obtained
warrant but not
having warrant
in possession

14 Provided that a breach of the provisions of sections 18 and 19
15 above, shall entitle the apprehended suspect to the award of damages as shall
16 be considered appropriate in the circumstance by a court.

17 18. Any summons lawfully issued by a court shall be served by an
18 officer of the court or any officer of the Federal Forests Guard at any time
19 between the hours of 6:00am in the morning and 7:00pm in the evening.

Summons

20 19. It shall be lawful for an officer of the Federal Forests Guard
21 upon having reasonable suspicion that a person has committed crime or
22 offence; or is about to commit crime or offence, to stop and search the
23 person; or upon having reasonable suspicion that some material property
24 used in committing crime or offence, or about being used to commit crime or
25 offence is inside any house, enclosure, building or other premises; to enter
26 into such premises and carry out a search therein; and seize and secure any
27 such property he may believe to have been procured for the purpose of
28 committing a crime or offence.

Power to search

29 (1) In every case in which a material property is seized in
30 pursuance of this section; the person from whom the property was taken; or

1 the person on whose premises the property was at the time of seizure, may be
 2 summoned or arrested and be handed over to the Police or to the Nigerian
 3 Security and Civil Defence Corps for prosecution in Court.

Power not to
 detain person but
 to detain property

4 20. It shall not be lawful for any person arrested in pursuance of
 5 Sections 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 of this Bill to be denied his right to freedom of
 6 movement beyond the consequential restrictions to be incurred in the course of
 7 handing him over to the prosecutorial authorities; but property recovered in
 8 pursuance of section 21 of this Bill may be detained.

9 PART IV

Materials property
 recovered by the
 Federal Forests
 Guard, Court
 may make orders

10 21. A court may upon the application by an officer of the Federal
 11 Forests Guard or by a claimant of the property seized in pursuance of sections
 12 21 and 22 of this Bill, make such orders it considers appropriate and just in the
 13 circumstance.

14 PART V - SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Power to carry
 arms and
 ammunitions

15 22. The Federal Forests Guard shall be armed and equipped; and its
 16 officers shall be issued with appropriate firearms and ammunition and such
 17 other weapons of offence or defence as shall be provided on the directive of the
 18 President of the Federal Republic.

Specialized
 training within
 Nigeria

19 23. A specialized training or course within Nigeria shall be organized
 20 by the Minister acting with the approval of the Council for officers of the
 21 Federal Forests Guard before deployment to duty posts; and either the Nigeria
 22 Military or the State Security Service (Department of State Service) shall be
 23 engaged for the conduct of the training which shall last for such period of time
 24 as may be provided by a regulation made pursuant to this Bill.

Federal Forests
 Guard Reward
 Fund

25 24.-(1) There shall be established a fund to be called "the Federal
 26 Forests Guard Reward Fund" (in this section referred to as "the fund") into
 27 which shall be paid the following-

28 (a) all pay forfeited by order of a superior officer from the rank of
 29 Controller General down to the rank of Controller on Officers of the Federal
 30 Forests Guard for offences against discipline;

(b) all fines levied as damages against persons and institutions in connection with cases and suits involving the Federal Forests Guard; but not its officers in their private capacity;

(c) all sums ordered to be paid into the Fund by special exercise of discretion by the Minister or the President of the Federal Republic;

(d) all monetary gifts, donations and free will assistances from spirited individuals, institutions and charitable organisations.

(2) Subject to the provisions of a regulation made in pursuance of this Bill with specific regard to the measure and manner of disbursements from the fund, the fund shall be discretely applied by the Controller General for-

(a) making ex gratia payments for medical treatments and expenses for officers who sustain bodily or mental injuries or incapacitation during combative engagements with criminal elements in the course of their duty;

(b) making ex gratia payments towards the funeral expenses of officers who die in the service of the Federal Forests Guard;

(c) payments of ex gratia compassionate gratuities to widows, widowers or children of deceased officers of Federal Forests Guard; and

(d) rewarding officers for extra ordinary or specially outstanding services.

27. The Federal Forests Guard Officer shall not engage in any private or public business which is inconsistent with the terms and conditions of his employment; or with the general interest of the Federal Forests Guard.

PART VI - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

28. The pay of any officer shall not be wholly withheld upon any civil process; but for such debt or liability when constituted by order of a court, his pay may be withheld to an extent not exceeding one half of any monthly payment thereof; and when an order for payment of such debt or

Pay of Officers
not to be
withheld for
debt

1 satisfaction of such liability is made, the court making the order shall give due
2 notice therefore to the superior officer in charge of the State to which the
3 judgment debtor belongs, and thereupon the amount ordered shall be stopped
4 out of the judgment debtor's pay until the amount of the order or judgment debt
5 is made good-

6 Provided that no amount shall be withheld on an order or judgment
7 given by a court below the rank of a Magistrates'/District Court or below the
8 rank of Area Court.

29. An Officer of the Federal Forests Guard may at any time not less than one year following his employment, give to the Captain or to any superior officer in charge of his jurisdiction notice in writing to the effect that he desires to resign his appointment/employment on a date (not being less than 28 days later than the date on which the notice is given) mentioned in the notice.

(1) On receipt of a notice under this section; the officer to whom the notice is addressed shall make proper documentation of the notice and ensure that the original copy of the notice is forwarded to the office of the Controller-General for recorded purposes; and the appointment/employment of the officer shall be deemed to have determined on the date for resignation mentioned in the notice.

PART VII

21 30.-(1) Any Officer of the Federal Forests Guard who-

22 (a) aides and abets another Federal Forests Guard Officer to derogate

23 from duty;

24 (b) strikes or offers any violence to his superior officer such officer

25 being in the execution of his duty;

26 (c) begins, raises, abets, countenances, or excites civil or violent

27 disturbance;

28 (d) coming to the knowledge of any crime, kidnapping, violence,

29 terrorism, insurrection or the like, does not without delay give information

30 thereof to his superior officer;

(e) deserts or aids or abets the desertion of any officer from the Federal Forests Guard without passing through due process;

(f) on enlistment falsely states that he has not been convicted or imprisoned for a criminal offence or that he was not in a subsisting employment by the Government of the Federation or Government of any State or Government of a local Government Authority, commits an offence under the Bill.

(2) Any Officer of the Federal Forests Guard who is found guilty of any or more than one of the offences listed under sub-section 1 of this section shall upon conviction, be liable to a term of imprisonment not less than eight years but not exceeding fifteen years and it shall be without option of fine.

(3) It shall be an offence under this Bill for any person-

(a) to, except on the cogent and verifiable grounds of self-defence in the face of a life-threatening circumstance, assault an officer of the Federal Forest Guard on duty;

(b) to except on grounds of incapacitation occasioned by ill-health; bodily or mental injury, refuse when called upon to aid and assist an Officer who is, while in the execution of his duty, assaulted or resisted or in danger of being assaulted or resisted or in danger of being assaulted or resisted, and such person refuses or neglects to aid and assist accordingly;

(c) to aid and abet an officer of the Federal Forests Guard to derogate from duty.

(4) Any person found guilty of any or more of the offences listed under sub-section 4 of this section shall upon conviction, be liable to not less than three years but not more than five years imprisonment and it may be, with option of N500,000.00 fine.

31. Nothing in this Bill shall be construed to exempt any officer of the Federal Forests Guard from being proceeded against by the ordinary course of law when accused of any offence punishable under any other Act or law.

Ordinary course
of law not to be
interfered with

Person acquitted
by court not
punishable on same
charge or offence
under this Bill

1 32.-(1) No person who has been acquitted by a court, of any crime or
2 offence shall be tried on the same charge or suffer any punishment on account
3 thereof under this Bill.

4 (2) If any officer of the Federal Forests Guard has been convicted by a
5 court of any crime or offence, he shall not be liable to be punished for the same
6 offence under this Bill, otherwise than by reduction in rank or grade or by
7 dismissal from the Federal Forests Guard.

8 PART VIII - ANCILLARY PROVISIONS

Special Provision
for funding

9 33. There shall be special funding of the Federal Forests Guard
10 through a separate budgeting and annual financial appropriation by the
11 National Assembly, independent of the annual budgets allocated to the Federal
12 Ministry of Interior.

Equipment
and Uniform

13 34.-(1) The Controller General shall provide for use by Officers of the
14 Federal Forests Guard, such booths, batons, kits and the like as he considers
15 necessary for the proper carrying out of their duties and shall in consultation
16 with the Council, determine the colour and type of the clothing and uniform of
17 the Federal Forests Guard and make provisions thereto.

18 (2) Any expenses incurred by the Controller General under this
19 section shall be defrayed out of the moneys provided by the Federal
20 Government.

Offices and
Stations

21 35. There shall be provided National, Zonal, States and Local
22 Governments Offices for the Federal Forests Guard and such other operational
23 Stations, along Federal Roads and High Ways in Nigeria as may be considered
24 necessary by the Council for the smooth and effective discharge of the duty by
25 the Federal Forests Guard and its Officers.

Discipline

26 36. A disciplinary procedure or action may subject to the provisions
27 of this Bill, administratively proceed against any officer in accordance with the
28 provisions of a regulation made pursuant to the powers conferred under this
29 Bill for purposes of discipline-

30 Provided that the provisions of such regulation and the decisions of

1 any disciplinary panel or committee instituted in that regard, shall not
2 contravene the provisions of this Bill; and shall be subject to the judicial
3 powers of the Industrial Court.

4 37. In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires-

Interpretation

5 "Controller-General", "Deputy Controller-General", "Controller", "Deputy
6 Controller"; and "Captain" means respectively the Controller-General of
7 Federal Roads and High Ways Forests Guard; Deputy Controller-General of
8 Federal Roads and High Ways Forests Guard; Controller of Federal Roads
9 and High Ways Forests Guard; Deputy Controller of Federal Roads and
10 High Ways Forest Guard; and Captain of Federal Roads and High Ways
11 Forests Guard;

12 "Minister" means a Minister of the Federal Republic appointed by the
13 President and confirmed by the Senate who is the Nigerian Minister of
14 Interior;

15 "Federal Roads and High Ways" means such roads and high ways within
16 Nigeria that have been designated as federal roads and high ways; and shall
17 include Federal Railways;

18 "Forests" means for the purpose of this Bill, such areas of land whether or
19 not covered by vegetation and trees, that lie 100 meters adjacent to all
20 federal roads, high ways and Railways in Nigeria;

21 "Provided that this interpretation shall not extend to any purposes for animal
22 husbandry or ranching".

23 "Federal Forests Guard" means Federal Roads and High Ways Forests
24 Guard;

25 "Federal Forests Guard Officer" means any member or person appointed or
26 employed to work for or under the Federal Roads and High Ways Forests
27 Guard;

28 "Council" means Federal Roads and High Ways Forests Guard Council;

29 "Court" means any court established by any law in force in Nigeria;

30 "Property and material" means for the purpose of this Bill, physical items or

Short title

- 1 material whether in solid, liquid or gaseous state and shall include arms and
2 ammunition.
3 * 38. This Bill may be cited as the Federal Roads and High Ways
4 Forests Guard Bill, 2020.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM.

This Bill seeks to regulate and provide for the establishment of Federal Roads and Highways Forests Guard, which shall be charged with the responsibility among other things, to detect and prevent crime, banditry, kidnappng, terrorism and violence; apprehend offenders, preserve law and order; and protect life and property strictly within all forests lying 100 meters adjacent to all Federal Roads and Highways in Nigeria.