

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT PUBLIC/CIVIL SERVANTS, THEIR CHILDREN AND  
WARDS FROM STUDYING ABROAD OTHER THAN FOR POST GRADUATE  
STUDIES AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by: Hon. Francis Charles Uduyok*

[ ] Commencement

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

- 1           1. -(i) From the commencement of this Act, a Nigerian Public/Civil
- 2            Servant or his or her child or ward shall not apply to a foreign primary,
- 3            secondary or tertiary institution for studies:
- 4            (a) Has obtained a first degree in Nigeria in any subject;
- 5            (b) The course applied for is not offered by any University in
- 6            Nigeria.
- 7            (ii) a Nigerian public/civil servant or his or her child or ward may
- 8            apply to a foreign university for a first degree only if he:
- 9            (a) Has obtained a first degree in Nigeria in any subject;
- 10           (b) The course applied for is not offered by any University in
- 11           Nigeria.
- 12           2. Notwithstanding the provisions of section (1) above, anyone
- 13           Exemption applying to a university abroad must have undergone the
- 14           compulsory one year National Youth Service Corp (NYSC), except.
- 15           (a) At the time of graduation, the applicant had passed the required
- 16           age for the NYSC.
- 17           3. Subject to the provisions of Section 1 above, the persons
- 18           considered in the section shall not be affected if before the commencement
- 19           of this act, the person his or her child or children were already admitted to
- 20           any primary, secondary or tertiary institution abroad.

Offence

1                   4. It shall be an offence punishable by this Act whenever there is a  
2 breach of Punishment for Breach the provisions of this Bill:

3                   (a) Subject to this section, a breach of the provisions of this act shall  
4 be punishable by 3 to 5 years imprisonment or an option of fine of the sum of  
5 N5,000,000.00 or both;

6                   (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Sub-Section I above, a person  
7 convicted of a breach of the provisions of this shall:

8                   (i) Be summarily dismissed from service without gratuity;

9                   (ii) Shall not be eligible for any employment, election or appointment  
10 whatsoever unless after 10 years of dismissal.

11                  5. Any person who after the commencement this Act sends his or her  
12 child or children or ward to any educational institution to abroad shall not be  
13 eligible for employment, election or appointment into any public office in  
14 Nigeria:

15                  (a) Any person who while having a child, children or ward in any  
16 educational institution abroad is elected or accepts any appointment or  
17 employment as a public/civil servant in Nigeria is guilty of an offence  
18 punishable by the provisions of section 4 of this Bill;

19                  (b) Any person who while having a child, children in university or  
20 universities abroad gets appointed into the public service, such person shall  
21 before accepting the offer of appointment, withdraw the child or children from  
22 the university or universities abroad.

Interpretation

23                  6. In this Bill:

24 "Abroad" means, any country outside Nigeria;

25 "Child or Children" means, a biological child or children; or a ward or relative  
26 sponsored by the Public/ Civil servant;

27 "First Degree" means, a degree or qualification equivalent to a first degree;

28 "Gratuity" means, any benefit due to the public servant;

29 "Public Servant" means, any person serving in government whether elected or  
30 appointed and their spouses;

1 "University" means, an institution that offers a certificate which is an  
2 equivalent of a degree;

3 "Civil Servant" means any person serving in any Government Ministry,  
4 Departments, Agencies or Parastatals and their spouses;

5 "Educational Institution" means and includes Creche, Primary, Secondary,  
6 Colleges and Universities. Interpretation.

7 7. This Bill may be cited as the Public Servants Foreign Education Citation  
8 Prohibition Bill, 2019.

#### EXPLANATION MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to Prohibit Public Officers and their Children and Wards  
from studying abroad.

This is also to Promote Patriotism to the country and patronage of Nigerian  
Educational Institutions.

