

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE FLAG AND COATS OF ARMS ACT 48 OF 1960 TO PRESCRIBE FOR THE HOISTING OF OUR NATIONAL FLAG AND DISPLAY OF THE COAT OF ARMS IN OUR PUBLIC OFFICES AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND TO HALT THE HAPHAZARD DISPLAY OF PICTURES AND PORTRAITS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS IN PUBLIC OFFICES IN NIGERIA, AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Olufemi Fakeye

[] Commencement

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

1 **1.** The Flag and Coat of Arms Act No 48 of 1960 (in this Bill
2 referred to as the ("Principal Act")) is amended as follows:

Amendment of
the Principal Act

3 **2.** Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting a new
4 Section 4(b)(1)-(3):

Amendment of
Section 4 of the
Principal Act

5 (i) Section 4(b): Use of National Flag and Coats of Arms in Public
6 Offices and Educational Institutions;

7 (ii) Section 4(b)(1): All public offices and educational institutions
8 in Nigeria, including Ministries, Departments and Agencies of government
9 shall display the National Flag in their premises and the Coat of Arms of the
10 Federation in their reception areas;

11 (iii) Section 4(b)(2): No other picture or portrait of any public
12 official shall be displayed in public offices, educational institutions or any
13 government office as enumerated in section 4(b)(1) of this Bill;

14 (iv) Section 4(b)(3):- Heads of public offices and other educational
15 institutions shall be personally held liable for a breach of Section 4(b)(2) of
16 this Bill and punishable under Section 10 of the Principal Act.

Amendment of
Section 10 of the
Principal Act

1 **3.-(i)** Section 10 is hereby amended by deleting the subsisting section
2 10 and replacing it with a new one as follows:

3 Section 10: "Any person found guilty of an offence against this Act
4 shall be liable to a fine of two hundred thousand naira only (N200,000=00) and
5 in the case of a continuing offence to a fine of ten thousand naira (N10,000=00)
6 for everyday or part of a day during which the offence is continued after the day
7 on which such person is first convicted".

Citation

8 **4.** This Bill may be cited as the Flag and Coats of Arms Act
9 (Amendment) Bill, 2020.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to provide for the hoisting of our National Flags and displaying of the Coats of Arms in our public offices and educational institutions and to halt the haphazard practice of displaying pictures and portraits of public officials in public offices in Nigeria; in order to encourage the laudable nationalist sentiments of building strong institutions rather than strong men in our public service.