

SYSTEM AND STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT

1. Referendum in Requests for Boundary Adjustment and Re-alignment

Bill No: SB 257

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ALTER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, 1999 TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF A REFERENDUM IN THE CASE OF REQUEST FOR BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT AND RE-ALIGNMENT; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS.

Sections	Provision of the Constitution	Provision of the Bill	Remarks
		ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria -	
		<p style="text-align: center;">Clause 1 Alteration of the Constitution</p> <p>The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (in this Bill referred to as “the Principal Act”) is altered as set out in this Bill.</p>	
8	<p>New States and boundary adjustment, etc.</p> <p>(1).....</p> <p>(2) An Act of the National Assembly for the purpose of boundary adjustment of any existing State shall only be passed if-</p> <p>(a) a request for the boundary adjustment, supported by two thirds majority of members (representing the area demanding and the area affected by the boundary adjustment) in each of the following, namely-</p> <p>(i) the Senate and the House of Representatives,</p> <p>(ii) the House of Assembly in respect of the area, and</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clause 2 Alteration of Section 8</p> <p>Section 8 is altered –</p> <p>91. in subsection (2) by, inserting new Subsection “(2C)”, “(2D)” and “(2E)” –</p> <p>“(2C) – a proposal for the boundary adjustment is thereafter approved in a referendum by at least two-thirds majority of the people of the local government areas where the demands for the boundary adjustment originated;</p> <p>(2D) – the result of the referendum is then approved by a simple majority of the members in each of the local</p>	

	<p>(iii) the local government councils in respect of the area, is received by the National Assembly; and</p> <p>(b) a proposal for the boundary adjustment is approved by –</p> <p>(i) a simple majority of members of each House of the National Assembly, and</p> <p>(ii) a simple majority of members of the House of Assembly in respect of the area concerned.</p> <p>(3).....</p> <p>(4) A bill for a Law of a House of Assembly for the purpose of boundary adjustment of any existing local government area shall only be passed if-</p> <p>(a) a request for the boundary adjustment is supported by two thirds majority of members (representing the area demanding and the area affected by the boundary adjustment) in each of the following, namely –</p> <p>(i) the House of Assembly in respect of the area, and</p> <p>(ii) the local government council in respect of the area, is received by the House of Assembly; and</p> <p>(b) a proposal for the boundary adjustment is approved by a simple majority of members of the House of Assembly in respect of the area concerned.</p>	<p>government councils in a majority of the local government councils in the State.</p> <p>(2E) – the result of the referendum is approved by a resolution passed by two-thirds majority of members of the House of Assembly.”</p> <p>B. in subsection (4) by, inserting new subsection “(4C)”, “(4D)” and “(4E)” –</p> <p>“(4C) – a proposal for the boundary adjustment is thereafter approved in a referendum by at least two-thirds majority of the people of the local government areas where the demand for the boundary adjustment originated;</p> <p>(4D) – the result of the referendum is approved by a resolution passed by two-thirds majority of members of the House of Assembly.”</p>	
		<p style="text-align: center;">Citation</p> <p>This may be cited as the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Fourth Alteration) Bill, 2025</p>	

		<p style="text-align: center;">Explanatory Memorandum</p> <p>This Bill seeks to alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to provide for the conduct of referendum in the case of any demand for boundary adjustment.</p>	
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2. Referendum in Matters of National and State-Level Importance

Bill No: SB 249

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ALTER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, 1999 TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF REFERENDUM IN MATTERS OF NATIONAL OR STATE LEVEL IMPORTANCE; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS.

Sections	Provision of the Constitution	Provision of the Bill	Remarks
		ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria -	
		<p style="text-align: center;">Clause 1 Alteration of the Constitution</p> <p>The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (in this Bill referred to as “the Principal Act”) is altered as set out in this Bill.</p>	
9	<p>Mode of altering provisions of the Constitution</p> <p>(1).....</p> <p>(2).....</p> <p>(3).....</p> <p>(4) For the purposes of section 8 of this Constitution and of subsections (2) and (3) of this section, the number of members of each House of the National Assembly shall, notwithstanding any vacancy, be deemed to be the number of members specified in sections 48 and 49 of this Constitution.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clause 2 Alteration of Section 9</p> <p>Section 9 is altered by inserting after the existing subsection (4), a new subsection “(4A)” –</p> <p>“(4A) – A proposal for the alteration of this Constitution (not being a proposal under section 8 of this Constitution) or a proposal for a decision on any matter of national or State level importance shall be approved by a least a simple majority of eligible voters in a referendum to be conducted by the Independent National Electoral Commission.”</p>	
		Citation	

		This Bill may be cited as the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2025.	
		<p style="text-align: center;">Explanatory Memorandum</p> <p>This Bill seeks to alter the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to provide for the conduct of referendum in matters of National or State level importance.</p>	

3. Rotation of Power Among Geo-Political Zones, Senatorial Zones & Federal Constituencies

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ALTER THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, 1999 (AS AMENDED) TO MAKE PROVISIONS FOR ROTATION OF POWER AMONG THE GEO-POLITICAL ZONES, SENATORIAL ZONES AND FEDERAL CONSTITUENCIES IN PRESIDENTIAL, GUBERNATORIAL AND SENATORIAL ELECTIONS IN NIGERIA

Section	Provision of the Constitution/Principal Act	Provision of the Bill	Remarks
		<p>Clause 1</p> <p>Alteration of the Constitution</p> <p>The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (in this Act referred to as “Principal Act”) is amended as set out in this Bill.</p>	
3	<p>CHAPTER I</p> <p>General Provisions</p> <p>PART I</p> <p>Federal Republic of Nigeria</p>	<p>Clause 2</p> <p>Alteration of Section 3</p> <p>Section 3, is altered by inserting a new subsection “(5A)” –</p> <p>“Geo-political zones shall be as defined in Part III of the First Schedule to this Constitution.”</p>	
48	<p>Composition of the Senate</p> <p>The Senate shall consist of three Senators from each State and one from the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.</p>	<p>Clause 3</p> <p>Alteration of Section 49</p> <p>Section 48 of the Principal Act is altered by inserting a new subsection (1A) (a) (b) -</p> <p>“(1A) (a) Senatorial election shall rotate round all the Federal Constituencies in the Senatorial Zone to give a sense of inclusion, participation and representation in</p>	

		<p>the Constituencies to engineer social progress and development.</p> <p>(b) every Federal Constituency in a Senatorial District which has produced a Senator shall not be eligible to produce a Senator, unless and until all other Federal Constituencies produce a Senator.”</p>	
49		<p style="text-align: center;">Clause 4 Alteration of Section 49</p> <p>Section 49 of the Principal Act is altered by inserting a subsection a subsection (1)(a) (b) to read thus;</p> <p>“(1) a. every Local Government which has produced a Member of House of Representatives shall not be eligible to produce a Member of House of Representatives upon cessation of tenure, unless and until all Local Governments in the Federal Constituency produces a Member of House of Representatives.</p> <p>b. provided the occupant of an office in (b) above shall have served a full term of four years or any number of terms that Electorates validated through an election.”</p>	
133	<p>Election: single Presidential candidate</p> <p>A candidate for an election to the office of President shall be deemed to have been duly elected to such office where, being the only candidate nominated for the election –</p> <p>(318) he has a majority of YES votes over NO votes cast at the election; and</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clause 5 Alteration of Section 133</p> <p>Section 133 of the Principal Act is altered by inserting new subsections (2),(3) and (4) –</p> <p>“(2) The office of the President of Nigeria shall revolve round the six Geo-political Zones, with each State holding the office for a maximum of two terms of four years each, to give every section and State in Nigeria a</p>	

	<p>(318) he has not less than one-quarter of the votes cast at the election in each of at least two-thirds of all the States in the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja,</p> <p>but where the only candidate fails to be elected in accordance with this section, then there shall be fresh nominations.</p>	<p>sense of inclusion, participation and representation in Nigeria's democracy.</p> <p>(318) any Zone in Nigeria which has produced a President of the Federal Republic shall not be eligible to produce another President until the other Zones take their turns.</p> <p>(4) the effective date for consideration in the rotation of power shall be 29th of May, 1999 when the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) became effective.”</p>	
179	<p>Election: single candidate and two or more candidates</p> <p>(1).....</p> <p>(2).....</p> <p>(3).....</p> <p>(4).....</p> <p>(5).....</p>	<p>Clause 6</p> <p>Alteration of Section 179</p> <p>Section 179 of the Principal Act is altered by inserting new subsections (6) and (7) –</p> <p>“(6) The office of the Governor of a State in Nigeria shall revolve round all the three Senatorial Zones in the State, to give every indigene of the State a sense of inclusion, participation and representation in the development of the State.</p> <p>(7) every Senatorial Zone in a State which has produced Governor of that State in a democratically conducted election shall not be eligible to produce a Governor, unless and until other Senatorial Zones produce Governors of the State.”</p>	
318	<p>PART IV</p> <p>Interpretation, citation and commencement</p>	<p>Clause 7</p> <p>Alteration of Section 318</p>	

		<p>Section 318 of the principal is altered by inserting the new paragraphs “18” and “38” –</p> <p>“Geo-Political Zones” means the North-West, North-East, North-Central, South-East, South-South and South-West blocks, that form a block for administrative and political convenience.</p> <p>“Rotation of power” means revolving of political power among the Geo-Political Zones, Senatorial Zones, and Federal Constituencies in Presidential, Gubernatorial and Senatorial offices in Nigeria.”</p>	
First Schedule	<p>SCHEDULES FIRST SCHEDULE [Section 3]</p>	<p>Clause 8 Insertion of Part III</p> <p>First Schedule is altered by inserting a new “Part III” “Geo-Political Zones” –</p> <p>“Part III</p> <p>The definition of the boundaries of the Geo-Political Zones referred to under Section (3) and this Chapter is as follows:</p> <p>NORTH WEST consists of the following States; Kaduna, Kano, Kastina, Zamfara, Sokoto, Kebbi.</p> <p>NORTH EAST consists of the following states; Borno, Yobe, Jigawa, Taraba, Gombe, Bauchi and Adamawa.</p> <p>NORTH CENTRAL consists of the following States; Benue, Kogi, Nasarawa, Plateau, Niger and Kwara</p> <p>SOUTH EAST consists of the following States; Enugu, Ebonyi, Anambra, Imo, Abia</p>	

		<p>SOUTH-SOUTH consists of the following States; Rivers, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Cross River, Akwa Ibom</p> <p>SOUTH WEST consists of the following States; Lagos, Ogun, Osun, Ekiti, Ondo</p>	
		<p style="text-align: center;">Clause 9 Citation</p> <p>This Bill may be cited as Constitution Sixth (Alteration) Bill, 2025</p>	