

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ALTER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA 1999 CAP C23 LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA 2004, TO MANDATE PERIODIC LEGISLATIVE REVIEW OF ACTS ESTABLISHING MINISTRIES, DEPARTMENTS, OR AGENCIES, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE INCLUSION OF SUNSET CLAUSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTITUTIONAL NEEDS; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Aminu Jamo Daura

[] Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria-

1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 Cap C23 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is altered as set out in this Bill:

Alteration of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 Cap. C23 LFN, 2004

2. Section 4 of the Principal Act is altered by inserting after the existing subsection 3, a new subsection "(4)"-

Alteration of Section 4

"(4) Every Act of the National Assembly establishing a Ministry, Department, or Agency shall contain provisions for its periodic review, and may include, where appropriate, a sunset clause, as determined with regard to the nature, mandate, and operational requirements of the institution concerned, to ensure continued relevance, effectiveness, and efficiency".

3. Section 88 of the Principal Act is altered by inserting after the existing paragraph b, a new paragraph "(c)"-

Alteration of Section 88

"(c) conduct a periodic review of the laws establishing Ministries, Departments, and Agencies to determine their continuing relevance, effectiveness, and alignment with national development priorities".

4. This Bill may be cited as the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2025.

Citation

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Bill seeks to alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 to introduce a requirement for periodic legislative review of all Acts establishing Ministries, Departments, or Agencies (MDAs) of government. It further empowers the National Assembly to include, where appropriate, sunset clauses in such laws, in accordance with the peculiar mandate, functions, and operational characteristics of the institutions concerned. Therefore, the new subsection (4) of Section 4 and paragraph (c) of Section 88(2) of the Constitution, makes it constitutionally obligatory for the National Assembly to include mechanisms for review and renewal, or discontinuation, of such institutions based on performance, relevance, and necessity. Where applicable, sunset clauses will be used to automatically trigger the reconsideration, reform, or repeal of enabling laws after a defined operational period. This reform is intended to enhance the adaptability, responsiveness, and accountability of public institutions. It will also reduce bureaucratic duplication, strengthen legislative oversight, and promote dynamic and evidence-based governance in Nigeria. Ultimately, the measure aligns with global best practices and is essential to building an efficient and results-oriented public service architecture.