

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ALTER THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA 1999 TO EMPOWER THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL TO FIX AND REVIEW, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NATIONAL SALARIES, INCOMES AND WAGES COMMISSION, THE SALARIES, ALLOWANCES, AND OTHER EMOLUMENTS OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS AND STAFF OF THE JUDICIARY, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Julius Ihonvbere

[] Commencement

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

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| 1 | 1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 Cap | Alteration of the |
| 2 | C23 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 (in this Bill referred to as 'the | Constitution of the |
| 3 | Principal Act') is altered as set out under this Bill. | Federal Republic |
| 4 | 2. The item "I-National Judicial Council" number "21" of the | of Nigeria Cap. C23 |
| 5 | Third Schedule to the Principal Act is altered by inserting after the existing | LFN 2004 |
| 6 | paragraph "(i)", a new paragraph "(j)"- | Alteration of the |
| 7 | "(j) fix and review, in conjunction with the Salaries, Incomes and | Third Schedule |
| 8 | Wages Commission, salaries and other emoluments of judicial officers and | to the Principal |
| 9 | judiciary staff." | Act |
| 10 | 3. This Bill may be cited as the Constitution of the Federal | Citation |
| 11 | Republic of Nigeria (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2025. | |

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, to expressly empower the National Judicial Council (NJC) to fix and periodically review, in collaboration with the National Salaries, Incomes and Wages Commission, the salaries, allowances, and other emoluments of judicial officers and staff of the judiciary at both the federal and state levels.

The proposed amendment is aimed at strengthening the independence of the judiciary by ensuring that remuneration and benefits of judicial personnel are determined through a mechanism that reflects the unique nature of judicial service and insulates it from undue political influence. It also seeks to promote accountability, fairness, and regularity in the compensation structure of the judiciary in line with international best practices and constitutional principles of separation of powers and financial autonomy.