

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE COPYRIGHT ACT CAP C28, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO ADDRESS DIGITAL PIRACY, STREAMING RIGHTS, ONLINE CONTENT DISTRIBUTION, AND TO ALIGN WITH THE STANDARDS OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO), FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY IN THE DIGITAL AGE, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Paul Nnamchi

Co-Sponsors:

- Hon. Ahmed Yusuf Doro Hon. Ahmed Munir
- Hon. Chimaobi Sam Atu Hon. Husseni A. Abdulkareem
- Hon. Alfred Ajang Hon. Inuwa Muhammed Bassi
- Hon. Ime B. Okon Hon. John M. Dafaan
- Hon. Garba Ibrahim Mohammed

[] Commencement

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

- 1 1. The Copyright Act is amended to include updated definitions of
- 2 "digital content," "streaming," "on-demand access," "digital rights
- 3 management (DRM)," and "online distribution platforms" consistent with
- 4 international copyright laws and WIPO standards.
- 5 2.-(1) Copyright holders shall have exclusive rights over the digital
- 6 reproduction, transmission, and streaming of their content.
- 7 (2) Unauthorized online distribution, public streaming, or hosting
- 8 of copyrighted content without proper licensing shall constitute a criminal
- 9 offence.
- 10 (3) Service providers and platforms shall be held liable for
- 11 repeated hosting or facilitation of copyright-infringing materials.

Amendment of the Copyright Act (Cap. C28, LFN 2004)

Insertion of Section 4A - Digital Rights and Streaming Protections

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| Insertion of Section 5A - Digital Content Licensing and Monitoring | 1 | 3. -(1) The Nigerian Copyright Commission shall establish a Digital |
| | 2 | Content Registry and licensing system for creators and platforms. |
| | 3 | (2) Platforms offering streaming or digital downloads must obtain |
| | 4 | express licenses and display digital watermarks provided by the Commission. |
| | 5 | (3) Monitoring tools, including AI and web-crawling technology, |
| | 6 | shall be deployed by the Commission to identify and act on copyright |
| | 7 | violations online. |
| Insertion of Section 6A - Compliance with WAPO Treaties | 8 | 4. -(1) Nigeria shall adopt and implement the WIPO Copyright Treaty |
| | 9 | and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty in full. |
| | 10 | (2) The Copyright Commission shall collaborate with international |
| | 11 | copyright organizations to enforce cross-border protection of Nigerian works. |
| | 12 | (3) Foreign digital platforms operating in Nigeria must comply with |
| | 13 | local copyright registration and enforcement mechanisms. |
| Amendment of Penalties - Section 21 | 14 | 5. Section 21 is amended to reflect the following penalties: |
| | 15 | (a) Individuals or organizations found guilty of digital piracy or |
| | 16 | unauthorized streaming shall face imprisonment for a term of not less than five |
| | 17 | (5) years, or a fine of N10,000,000, or both; |
| | 18 | (b) Repeat corporate offenders shall face platform suspension, |
| | 19 | monetary penalties up to N100,000,000, and forfeiture of infringing assets; |
| Citation | 20 | 6. This Bill may be cited as the Copyright (Digital Enforcement and |
| | 21 | Content Protection) Amendment Act, 2025. |

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Copyright Act to respond to emerging challenges in digital content protection, online streaming, and copyright enforcement. It aligns Nigeria's legal framework with WIPO conventions and the demands of a fast-evolving digital economy, while safeguarding the rights and revenues of Nigerian creators.