

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LEGISLATIVE HOUSES (POWERS AND PRIVILEGES) ACT, 2017, TO INSTITUTIONALIZE SUNSET CLAUSES AND MANDATORY PERIODIC LEGISLATIVE REVIEW OF ACTS ESTABLISHING MINISTRIES, DEPARTMENTS, AND AGENCIES FOR THE CONTINUED RELEVANCE, EFFECTIVENESS, AND EFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Hon. Aminu Jamo Daura*

[ ] Commencement

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

1           **1.** The Legislative Houses (powers and Privileges) Act, 2017 (in  
2 this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill:

Amendment of  
the Legislative  
Houses (Powers  
and Privileges)  
Act, 2017

3           **2.** The Principal Act is amended by inserting after the existing  
4 section 1, a new section "(2)"-

Insertion of a  
New Section (2)

5           "(2) Subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal  
6 Republic of Nigeria, each Legislative House or its committees shall-".

7           **3.** The Principal Act is further amended by inserting after the new  
8 section 2, a new subsection "(1)"-

Insertion of a  
New Subsection (1)

9           "(1) review the principal Act establishing each Ministry,  
10 Department, or Agency under its oversight jurisdiction at such intervals as  
11 may be determined by the Legislative House or Committee, having regard to  
12 the nature, mandate, and operational requirements of the institution  
13 concerned".

14           **4.** The Principal Act is further amended by inserting after the new  
15 subsection 1, a new subsection "(2)"-

Insertion of a  
New Subsection (2)

16           “(2) evaluate the continued relevance, efficiency, and  
17 effectiveness of the enabling legislation, and where necessary, recommend

	1	appropriate amendments, repeal, or the insertion of sunset provisions".
Citation	2	5. This Bill may be cited as the Legislative Houses (Powers and
	3	Privileges) (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Bill seeks to amend the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act, 2017, to institutionalize mandatory periodic legislative review of the laws establishing Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) of government, and to provide for the inclusion of sunset clauses in such laws where appropriate.

The amendment empowers each Legislative House and its committees to assess, at defined intervals, the continued relevance, efficiency, and effectiveness of the enabling statutes governing public institutions within their oversight jurisdiction. At present, there exists no statutory obligation for legislative committees to periodically review the legal frameworks of MDAs. Consequently, sunset clauses will serve as built-in legal mechanisms for triggering legislative reconsideration, reform, or repeal of outdated statutes after a defined period, in line with institutional performance and national priorities. This reform enhances the role of the legislature in promoting accountable, agile, and evidence-based governance. It also strengthens legislative oversight, ensures the continuous modernization of public institutions, and aligns Nigeria's legal-administrative framework with global best practices. Indeed, the Bill will contribute significantly to building a results-driven and future-ready public service by embedding a culture of regular statutory review and performance-based legislative renewal.