



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 17 April, 2018

1. The House met at 11.21 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 12 April, 2018.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Announcements**

(a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**

Mr Speaker recognised the presence of the Members of *National Association of Kano State Students, University of Abuja Chapter*, Gwagwalada, Abuja.

(b) **Defections:**

Mr Speaker announced defection of the following Members:

- (i) Hon. Ben Nwankwo (*Orumba North/Orumba South Federal Constituency*), from the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) to All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA); and
- (ii) Hon. Anayo Nnebe (*Awka North/Awka South Federal Constituency*), from the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) to All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA).

(c) **Ad-hoc Committee to investigate the proposed payment of \$17 Million to Lawyers by the Office of the Attorney-General of the Federation for Recovery of Abacha Loot (HR.136/04/2018):**

Mr Speaker announced the membership of the *Ad-hoc* Committee:

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|----|-------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. | Hon. Zakari Mohammed | — | Chairman |
| 2. | Hon. Mark Terser Gbilla | — | Member |
| 3. | Hon. Adamu Kamale | — | Member |
| 4. | Hon. Ibrahim D. Matazu | — | Member |
| 5. | Hon. Frederick Agbedi | — | Member |
| 6. | Hon. Stella Ngwu | — | Member |
| 7. | Hon. Kehinde Agboola | — | Member |

4. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)

(i) *Call for the Federal Government to Urgently Rescue the Remaining Chibok Girls in Captivity:*

Hon. Asabe Vilita Bashir (*Damboa/Gwoza/Chibok Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Call on the Federal Government to Urgently Rescue the Remaining Chibok School Girls in Captivity:

The House:

Notes the abduction of 219 students of Government Girls Secondary School, Chibok in Chibok Local Government Area, Borno State by the Boko Haram insurgents on Monday, 14 April, 2014;

Appreciates the efforts of the Federal Government and security agencies which had led to the rescue of 107 of the abducted Chibok girls;

Regrets that Thursday, 14 April, 2018, marked the fourth year of that dreadful incident and 112 of the girls are yet to be rescued;

Aware of Government's assurances to rescue the remaining Chibok girls through negotiation with the insurgents;

Also regrets that negotiations are taking too long;

Commend the Federal Government for the swift action taken in the negotiation on release of most of the abducted Dapchi girls;

Concerned about the fate of the remaining abducted Chibok girls who are continuously subjected to untold hardship, slavery, molestation, abuse, rape, pregnancy and forceful marriage in the hands of their abductors;

Also concerned about the agony their parents go through each day they remain in captivity;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to urgently conclude negotiations and secure the release of the remaining abducted Chibok girls as well as the remaining Dapchi girl in Boko Haram custody; and
- (ii) also urge the Executive Arm of Government to be proactive in its duty to protect lives and property of Nigerians, especially school children who are targets of the insurgents (*Hon. Asabe Vilita Bashir — Gwoza/Damboa/Chibok Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:

“set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to interface with security and intelligence agencies on the release of the remaining kidnaped Chibok/Dapchi girls” (*Hon. Diri Douye — Yenagoa/Kolokuma/Opokuma Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv) as follows:

“invite all Security Agencies to brief the House on the present status of the kidnaped girls” (*Hon. Diri Douye — Yenagoa/Kolokuma/Opokuma Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

Noted the abduction of 219 students of Government Girls Secondary School, Chibok in Chibok Local Government Area, Borno State by the Boko Haram insurgents on Monday, 14 April, 2014;

Appreciated the efforts of the Federal Government and security agencies which had led to the rescue of 107 of the abducted Chibok girls;

Regretted that Thursday, 14 April, 2018, marked the fourth year of that dreadful incident and 112 of the girls are yet to be rescued;

Aware of Government's assurances to rescue the remaining Chibok girls through negotiation with the insurgents;

Also regretted that negotiations are taking too long;

Commend the Federal Government for the swift action taken in the negotiation on release of most of the abducted Dapchi girls;

Concerned about the fate of the remaining abducted Chibok girls who are continuously subjected to untold hardship, slavery, molestation, abuse, rape, pregnancy and forceful marriage in the hands of their abductors;

Also concerned about the agony their parents go through each day they remain in captivity;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to urgently conclude negotiations and secure the release of the remaining abducted Chibok girls as well as the remaining Dapchi girl in Boko Haram custody; and
- (ii) also urge the Executive Arm of Government to be proactive in its duty to protect lives and property of Nigerians, especially school children who are targets of the insurgents;
- (iii) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to interface with security and intelligence agencies on the release of the remaining kidnaped Chibok/Dapchi girls; and
- (iv) invite all Security Agencies to brief the House on the present status of the kidnaped girls (**HR. 137/04/2018**).

- (ii) ***Need for Rebasing the Employment Formula into Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Federal Government Using Local Governments Instead of States as a Base in Compliance with Federal Character Provisions:***

Hon. Muhammed Sani Zorro (*Gumel/Gagarawa/Mai Gatari/Sule Tankarkar Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need for Rebasing the Employment Formula into Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Federal Government Using Local Governments Instead of States as a Base in Compliance with Federal Character Provisions:

The House:

Aware of the various recruitment and replacement exercises into Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Federal Government, using States instead of Local Government Areas as the prevailing formula and policy for such recruitments;

Also aware of the provisions of the Federal Character Commission Act among which are to give effect to the provisions of section 14 (3) and (4) of Chapter 1, part II of the 1999 Constitution (as amended);

Worried that the provisions of sections 8 (1) (a) - (d), 3 and 9 of the Second Schedule, Part II and 14 (3) and (4) of the Constitution are largely observed in breach by Extra-Ministerial Departments, Parastatals, bodies and institutions of the Federal Government;

Resolves:

- (i) that henceforth, mass recruitments into Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Federal Government should be rebased along our country's Local Government Areas as the 3rd tier of Government — as provided for in Parts I and II, First Schedule of the Constitution, to promote a sense of belonging for all Nigerians through equitable distribution of employment opportunities; and
- (ii) to mandate the Committees on Federal Character, and Legislative Compliance to ensure full implementation, monitoring and report back on quarterly bases. (*Hon. Muhammed Sani Zorro — Gumel/Gagarawa/Mai Gatari/Sule Tankarkar Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Aware of the various recruitment and replacement exercises into Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Federal Government, using States instead of Local Government Areas as the prevailing formula and policy for such recruitments;

Also aware of the provisions of the Federal Character Commission Act among which are to give effect to the provisions of section 14 (3) and (4) of Chapter 1, part II of the 1999 Constitution (as amended);

Worried that the provisions of sections 8 (1) (a) - (d), 3 and 9 of the Second Schedule, Part II and 14 (3) and (4) of the Constitution are largely observed in breach by Extra-Ministerial Departments, Parastatals, bodies and institutions of the Federal Government;

Resolves:

- (i) that henceforth, mass recruitments into Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Federal Government should be rebased along our country's Local Government Areas as the 3rd tier of Government — as provided for in Parts I and II, First Schedule of the Constitution, to promote a sense of belonging for all Nigerians through equitable distribution of employment opportunities; and
- (ii) to mandate the Committees on Federal Character, and Legislative Compliance to ensure full implementation, monitoring and report back on quarterly bases. (HR. 138/04/20118).

5. Privilege (Order Six, Rule 2)

Hon. Toby Okechukwu (*Aninri/Agwu/Oji-River Federal Constituency*), drew the attention of the House to alleged payment of 460 Million dollars to Companies in the United States of America for the supply of arms and ammunition for the military by the Federal Government, without approval by the National Assembly. He stressed that this was an infraction of Sections 4 and 80 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) and therefore considered this as a breach of his privilege and that of the House.

Matter referred to the Committees on Ethics and Privileges, and Finance.

6. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1425).
- (2) Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1426).
- (3) Federal Colleges of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1427).
- (4) Federal College of Agriculture, Ijebu Jesa (Establishment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1428).
- (5) Federal Polytechnic Gwoza (Establishment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1429).
- (6) Federal Polytechnics Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1430).
- (7) Federal Highways Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1431).

7. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Electric Power Sector Reform Act, Cap. E7, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Prohibit and Criminalize Estimated Billing by Electricity Distribution Companies and Provide for Compulsory Installation of Pre-Paid Meters to all Power Consumers in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1384) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Electric Power Sector Reform Act, Cap. E7, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Prohibit and Criminalize Estimated Billing by Electricity Distribution Companies and Provide for Compulsory Installation of Pre-Paid Meters to all Power Consumers in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1384) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Power.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of the National Institute for Hospitality and Tourism for Training, Certification and Registration of Personnel in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1316) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of the National Institute for Hospitality and Tourism for Training, Certification and Registration of Personnel in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1316) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on of the Whole.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of the National Agency for Technology Management to play a leading role in the build-up of expertise for effective Management Service; and for Related Matters (HB. 1366) — Second Reading**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

10. **Need to Connect Local Government Areas in Ogoni Land, Rivers State to the National Grid through the Afam Power Station**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

11. **Need to Address the Inability to secure place of Primary Assignments by National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Members**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that one of the major aims for establishing the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) is to promote unity among Nigerians by posting graduates of higher institutions to various places other than their States of Origin for a one-year compulsory national service;

Concerned that in recent years, many National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) members have found it difficult to secure places of primary assignments as the organisations they are posted to often reject them on the grounds that they either cannot provide for their remuneration or they do not need their services;

Also concerned that the negative response from organisations and institutions where the corps members were posted has left many of them frustrated, after spending several months in vain looking for a place where they could be accepted for their primary assignment;

Convinced that organizations actually need the services of corps members as they stand to gain tremendously from the programme;

Cognizant that there is a need to investigate the reason for the rejection of corps members by various organizations and institutions;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Youth Development to investigate the reason for rejection of National Youth Service Corps members by organizations and institutions posted for their one-year compulsory National Service with a view to proffering lasting solutions to the matter and report back within (4) weeks for further legislative actions (*Hon. Bolaji Yusuf Ayinla — Mushin II Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that one of the major aims for establishing the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) is to promote unity among Nigerians by posting graduates of higher institutions to various places other than their States of Origin for a one-year compulsory national service;

Concerned that in recent years, many National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) members have found it difficult to secure places of primary assignments as the organisations they are posted to often reject them on the grounds that they either cannot provide for their remuneration or they do not need their services;

Also concerned that the negative response from organisations and institutions where the corps members were posted has left many of them frustrated, after spending several months in vain looking for a place where they could be accepted for their primary assignment;

Convinced that organizations actually need the services of corps members as they stand to gain tremendously from the programme;

Cognizant that there is a need to investigate the reason for the rejection of corps members by various organizations and institutions;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Youth Development to investigate the reason for rejection of National Youth Service Corps members by organizations and institutions posted for their one-year compulsory National Service with a view to proffering lasting solutions to the matter and report back within (4) weeks for further legislative actions (**HR. 139/04/2018**).

12. **Consideration of Report**

A Bill For an Act to Provide easy Access to Higher Education for Nigerians through Interest Free Loans from Nigerian Education Bank Established in the Act with a view to provide Education for all Nigerians and for Related Matters (HB.435) (Committee of the Whole):

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services on a Bill For an Act to Provide easy Access to Higher Education for Nigerians through Interest Free Loans from Nigerian Education Bank Established in the Act with a view to provide Education for all Nigerians and for Related Matters (HB. 435) and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE EASY ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION
FOR NIGERIANS THROUGH INTEREST FREE LOANS FROM NIGERIAN EDUCATION
BANK ESTABLISHED IN THE ACT WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDE EDUCATION FOR
ALL NIGERIANS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB 435)

Clause 1: Commencement.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any Act or in any other enactment or Law, the provision of this Bill shall apply to all matters pertaining to the application and grant of loans to Nigerians seeking Higher Education into institutions of higher learning in Nigeria through the Nigerian Education Bank (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 1 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 2:

Subject to the provisions that may be contained in other Enactment, all students seeking higher education in any Public institution of higher learning in Nigeria shall have equal right to access the loan under this Bill without any discrimination arising from gender, religion, tribe position or disability of any kind (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 2 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 3:

The loan referred to this Bill shall be granted to students only for the payment of Tuition fees (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 3 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 4:

The grant of the loan to any student under this Bill shall be Subject to the students/applicants(s) satisfying the requirements and Conditions set out under this Bill (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 4 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 5:**Establishment of the Nigerian Education Bank.**

- (1) There is hereby established a bank to be known as the Nigerian Education Bank (in this Bill referred to as "the Bank") which shall have the functions and powers conferred on it by this Bill.
- (2) The Bank shall:
 - (a) be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and shall have powers to sue and be sued in its corporate name;
 - (b) have its head office located at the Federal Capital Territory and may establish branch offices in any state of the federation as it may deem fit;
 - (c) subject to the provision of the Land use Act, acquire, hold, or dispose of properties, moveable or immovable for the purposes of its functions (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 5 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 6:

Functions of the Bank.

The functions of the Bank shall be to —

- (a) implement the provisions of this Bill;
- (b) supervise, coordinate, administer, and monitor the management of the students loan in Nigeria;
- (c) receive applications for students' loan through higher Institutions in Nigeria on behalf of the applicants, screen the applications to ensure that all requirements for grant of students' loan under this Bill are satisfied in Compliance to the provision of this Bill;
- (d) approve and disburse loan to qualified applicants.
- (e) control and monitor and coordinate the students loan account/fund and ensure compliance in respect of disbursement;
- (f) monitor academic records of grantees of the loan to obtain information on their year of graduation, national services, employment in to ensure that grantees of the loan commence repayment of the loan as at when due;
- (g) liaise with the employers of the grantees and conclude documentation with employers to ensure that the required sum to be deducted is deducted from the grantees salary and remitted to the student loan 'fund' account as directed by the commission;
- (h) provide financial advice on educational matters to institutions of Higher Education, and to parents and educational investors (i) ensure adequate security on any loan granted;.
- (i) engage and participate in other banking business;
- (k) exercise all legal rights towards recovering all loan and enforcing the provisions of this Bill;
- (l) quarterly issue a report to the President on the performance of the students Loan;
- (m) without prejudice to the provisions of this Bill or any other enactment provide rules and guidelines including method of application to ensure better performance at all times and prevent the emergence of ghost students applications;
- (n) employ and pay the staff of the bank salaries and other benefits using the scale as applicable to the industry of similar status;
- (o) enter into any negotiation, agreement and contractual relationship such as may be necessary or expedient for the discharge of the functions of the commission;
- (p) conduct studies, researches and investigations that may further the attainment of the goal and development of the students loan regime in Nigeria;
- (q) do legally anything necessary to be done to facilitate the carrying out of its functions (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 6 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 7: Governing Board of the Bank.

- (1) There shall be for the Bank a Governing Board (in this Bill referred to as "the Board") which shall be responsible for the discharge of the functions of the Bank.
- (2) The Board shall consist of the following members —
 - (a) a Chairman who shall be a Professor and a retired Vice Chancellor of any Nigerian University;
 - (b) the Managing Director;
 - (c) the Secretary;
 - (d) the Minister of Education;
 - (e) the Chairman, National University Commission;
 - (f) a representative of Vice Chancellor's forum of all Nigeria Universities;
 - (g) a representative of the Rectors forum of all Nigerian Polytechnics and Colleges of Education in Nigeria;
 - (h) the Minister of finance or his representative;
 - (i) the Auditor General of the Federation;
 - (j) a representative of the Nigerian Labour Congress;
 - (k) a representative of the Nigerian Bar Association;
 - (l) a representative of Academic Staff Union of Universities (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 7 stands part of the Bill — Deferred.

Clause 8: The Chairman and members of the Board shall be appointed by the President subject to confirmation of the National Assembly and shall be Persons of proven integrity and ability (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 8 stands part of the Bill — Deferred.

Clause 9: Tenure of Office.

The Chairman and Members of the Board shall each hold office —

- (i) for a term of four (4) years and may be reappointed for a further Term of four years and no more; and
- (ii) on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 9 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

- Clause 10:** (1) A person shall cease to hold office as a member of the Board in the occurrence of any of the following —
- (a) if he dies;
 - (b) if he becomes bankrupt;
 - (c) if he is convicted of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty or fraud;
 - (d) if he becomes unsound mind or is incapable for any reason of carrying out his duties;
 - (e) he is guilty of serious misconduct in relations to his duties;
 - (f) he resigns his appointment by written notice under his hand to the President.
- (2) Where there is a vacancy in the Membership of the Board as a result of any of the causes mentioned above, it shall be filled by the appointment of a successor to hold office for the remainder of the term office of his predecessor to the extent that the successor shall represent the same interest and shall be appointment by the President (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 10 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

- Clause 11:** The President may remove a member if he is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Board or the public that such a member continues in office:

Provided that removal of the Chairman of the Bank shall be subject to ratification of the Senate (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 11 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

- Clause 12:** A member of the Board shall be paid such allowances and expenses as may be determined by Revenue mobilization. Allocation and Fiscal Commission using the scale as applicable to industry of similar status (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 12 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

- Clause 13:** The Board shall have power to appoint for the Bank, either directly or on secondment from public service of the federation, such number of employees as may in the opinion of the Board be required to assist the bank in the discharge of and of its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 13 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

- Clause 14:** Share Capital of the Bank.

- (1) The share capital of the bank shall subject to sub-section 2 of this section be ₦1,000,000,000 (one Billion Naira) divided into one Billion shares of ₦1,000,000,000 shares of ₦1.00 each.

- (2) The share capital shall on the commencement of this Bill be deemed to have been subscribed for, issued and called up in full and payment in respect of the call up shares shall be made by the holder of the shares at such time and in such manner as the President may direct.
- (3) The President may from time to time increase the share capital of the bank and Board shall forthwith make calls for additional shares on such terms and conditions as the Board may determine.
- (4) All the shares of the Bank shall be taken up by the Federal Government of Nigeria and shall subject to subsection (1) and (2) of this section be paid for by the Federal Government.
- (5) The Accountant-General of the Federation shall when authorised under this sub-section by the President charge to and issue out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation any sum required for making payment for shares in the Bank taken up by the Federal Government.
- (6) The liability of the holder of shares in the Bank shall be limited to the amount, in any, unpaid on the shares held by the holder (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 14 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 15: Fund of the Bank.

- (1) Without prejudice to the provisions of section 14 of this Bill, there is hereby established a fund to be known as the Students Loan Fund (in this Bill referred to as 'the Fund') to which funds of the bank from other sources shall be paid
- (2) All contributions and other monies required or prescribed by this Bill shall be paid into the fund to be held and managed by the Bank for the purpose of granting and disbursement of loans to qualified applicants of the Student Union (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 15 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 16: Sources of Fund.

Subject to the provisions of section 14 of this Bill, the fund of the bank shall consist of:

- (a) all interests arising from deposits in the bank;
- (b) Education bonds;
- (c) Education endowment fund schemes;
- (d) 1% of all taxes, levies and duties accruing to the government of the federation from Federal Inland Revenue Services(FIRS), Nigerian Immigration Services and Nigerian Customs Services;
- (e) 1% of all profits accruing to the government of the Federation arising from oil and other minerals;
- (f) all sums accruing to the fund by way of donations, gifts grant, Endowment or otherwise;

- (g) interest and Revenue accruing from savings and investments made by the bank;
- (h) other revenue accruing to the bank from any other source (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 16 stands part of the Bill — Deferred.

Clause 17: Aims and Objectives of the Fund.

The aims and objectives of the funds shall be to:

- (a) Facilitate the mobilization of funds to provide interest free loans to Students of Institutions of higher learning in Nigeria for the payment of tuition fees ensure constant supply of loans to qualified students applicants for the purpose of providing education to all Nigerians (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 17 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 18: Eligibility of Application.

- (1) Students applying for loan under this Bill must apply to the Chairman of the Bank through their respective institutions upon satisfaction of the following conditions:
 - (i) applicant must have secured admission into any of the Nigerian Universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of Education or any Vocational School established by the Federal Government or the government of any State of the Federation;
 - (ii) applicant income or family income must be less than ₦500,000 (Five hundred Thousand Naira per annum.
 - (iii) applicant must provide at least two guarantors; each of the guarantors must be a civil servant of not less than level 12 years in the service; or a Lawyer with at least 10 (ten) years post-call experience; a Judicial Officer; or a Justice of peace (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Amendment Proposed:

In subclause (iii), line 4, immediately after the word “peace” insert the words “Head of Traditional Institution at the Local Government level” (*Hon. Abubakar Chika Adamu — Shiroro/Rafi/Munya Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 18 as amended, stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 19: Disqualification.

A student is disqualified from accessing the Loan if;

- (a) he is proven to have defaulted in respect of any previous loan granted by any organization;
- (b) he has been found guilty of exam malpractice by any school authority, or he is convicted of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty or fraud;

- (c) he has been convicted of drug offenses;
- (d) any of the parents has defaulted in respect of students' loan or any loan granted to him/her (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman – Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 19 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 20: Method of Application.

- (1) All applications from every Institution must be submitted through the Students Affairs Office of each Institution via a list of all qualified applicants from the Institution accompanied by a cover letter signed by the Vice Chancellor or Rector or the head of the institution and the Students Affairs Officer and addressed to the Chairman of the Board of the Bank.
- (2) Each application as stated above must be accompanied by:
 - (a) copy of the student's admission letter;
 - (b) letter by the guarantors addressed to the Chairman, Governing board of the bank recommending the student for the loan and stating that he accepts liability in the event of default;
 - (c) each guarantor must submit two passport photographs, name of employer and evidence of being so employed by the named organization;
 - (d) where the guarantor is self-employed he must provide particulars of his business as registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission or any other appropriate authority and his bankers.
- (3) Each institution must ensure that all applications from its school reach the Bank not more than 30 days after close of admission for the academic year (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 20 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 21: Disbursement.

- (1) Processing of any applicant's application and disbursement shall be made within 30 days of the application reaching the Bank.
- (2) Without prejudice to sub-section (1) above, the applications must be processed and send to the Minister for approval within the said 30 days (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out subclause (2) (Hon. Abubakar Chika Adamu — Shiroro/Rafi/Munya Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 21 as amended, stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 22: Payment.

- (1) Any beneficiary of the loan to which this Bill refers shall commence repayment two years after completion of the National Youth Service Corps programme.

- (2) Repayment shall be by direct deduction of 10% of the beneficiaries salary at source by the employer and credited to the Students' Loan Account to be prescribed by the Bank.
- (3) Where the beneficiary is self employed, he shall remit 10% of his total profit monthly to the Students loan account to be prescribed by the Bank.
- (4) For the purpose of sub-section (3) above, a self employed person shall within sixty (60) days of assuming that status submit all information such as name of business, address and location, registration documents, if registered, name of bankers, names of partners, name of directors and shareholders to the Commission.
- (5) Anyone in default of the provisions of sub-section (4) above, or found to be aiding the default, of any of the provisions of this Bill is guilty of an offence and if convicted shall be liable to imprisonment for two years or a fine of ₦500,000 (Five Hundred Thousand Naira) or both (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 22 stands part of the Bill — Deferred.

Clause 23: Application of the Public Officer Protection Act.

- (1) The provisions of the Public Officer Protection Act shall apply in relation to any suit instituted against any officer or employee of the Bank in his capacity as such.
- (2) No suit shall be commenced against a member of the Board or the Secretary or any officer or employee of the Bank in that capacity before the expiration of a period of one month after writing a notice of intention to commence the suit which shall have been served upon the Bank by the intending Plaintiff or his agent.
- (3) The notice referred to in sub-section (2) shall state, the cause of action, particulars of claims the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff and the relief, which he claims.
- (4) A notice, summons, or other documents required or authorized to be served upon the Bank under the provisions of this Bill or any other law or enactment may be served by delivering it to the Secretary or by sending it by registered post and addressed to the Secretary at the head office of the Board (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 23 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 24: Annual Report.

The Board shall not later than 4 months after the end of year, submit to the President a report on the activities of the bank and its administration during the immediately preceding year and shall include in the report the audited accounts of the bank and the auditor's comment on the report (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Amendment Proposed:

In line 1, immediately after the words "submit to the", *leave out* the word "President" and *insert* the words "Minister of Education" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 24 as amended, stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 25: Regulations.

The Minister may make such regulations as he deems fit to be necessary or expedient for giving full effect to the provisions of this Bill (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 25 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 26: Interpretation.

In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Bank" means the Nigerian Education Bank established herein (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word "Bank" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Boards" means the Governing Board of the Nigerian Education Bank (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word "Board" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Minister" means the Minister of Education (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word "Minister" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Loan" means loan to be granted to qualified Student of institution of higher learning's in Nigeria (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word "Loan" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Institutions of Higher Learning" means Public Universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of Education and Vocational schools established by government (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Institutions of Higher Learning" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Fund" means Student Loan Fund established under this Bill (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word "Fund" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 26 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 27: Repeal.

- (1) The Nigerian Education Bank Cap 104 laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 is hereby repealed.

- (2) All assets, fund, resources and other moveable or immovable properties which immediately before the commencement of this Bill were vested in the repealed Act shall by virtue of this Bill be vested in the Bank established under this Bill (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 27 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 28: Citation

This Bill may be cited as the Students' Loan (Access to Higher Education) Bill, 2018 (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 28 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Explanatory Notes:

This Bill seeks to provide easy access to higher education for Nigerians through student's loan with a view of providing education for all Nigerian and for other purposes connected thereto (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Provide Easy Access to Higher Education for Nigerians Through Interest Free Loans from Nigerian Education Bank Established in the Act with a View to Provide Education for All Nigerians and for Related Matters (HB 435)

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services on a Bill For an Act to Provide easy Access to Higher Education for Nigerians through Interest Free Loans from Nigerian Education Bank Established in the Act with a view to provide Education for all Nigerians and for Related Matters (HB.435) and approved Clauses 1 - 6, deferred Clauses 7 and 8, approved Clauses 9 - 15, deferred Clause 16, approved Clause 17, approved Clause 18 as amended, approved Clauses 19 and 20, approved Clause 21 as amended, deferred Clause 22, approved Clause 23, approved Clause 24 as amended, approved Clauses 25 - 28, the Explanatory Memorandum, and the Long Title of the Bill.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

Ordered: that Chairmen Committees on Finance, Rules and Business, Tertiary Education and Services to liaise with the sponsor of the Bill to re-examine Clauses 7, 8, 16 and 22 of the Bill and report back on Wednesday, 25 April, 2018.

13. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 18 April, 2018 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.45 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker