

## A BILL

### FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ELECTORAL ACT NO.6 OF 2010 (AS AMENDED) TO PROVIDE FOR THE HOLDING OF PARTICULAR ELECTIONS ON THE SAME DATE, ACCREDITATION OF VOTERS BY ELECTRONIC MEANS AND TO CONFER ON THE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION POWER TO CAUSE A DEBATE TO BE CONDUCTED FOR CANDIDATES CONTESTING ELECTION FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT AND FOR CONNECTED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Senator Abu Ibrahim*

*Co-sponsors*

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Sen. Abdul A. Ningi       | 2. Sen. Agboola H. Ayoola   |
| 3. Sen. Solomon Ewuga        | 4. Sen. Chris C. Nwankwo    |
| 5. Sen. Dahiru A. Kuta       | 6. Sen. Bindo Jibrilla      |
| 7. Sen. Nenadi E. Usman      | 8. Sen. Olu Adeyeye         |
| 9. Sen. Ibrahim Musa         | 10. Sen. Mattew Nwagwu      |
| 11. Sen. M. O. Husain        | 12. Sen. Akin B. Odunsi     |
| 13. Sen. Chris Ngige         | 14. Sen. Babafemi Ojudu     |
| 15. Sen. Ahmed Lawan         | 16. Sen. Urnaru Dahiru      |
| 17. Sen. Ahmed R Sani        | 18. Sen. Alkali Jajere      |
| 19. Sen. Domingo A. Obende   | 20. Sen. Ganiyu O. Solomon  |
| 21. Sen. Igwe Paulinus Nwagu | 22. Sen. Marafa Kabir Garba |
| 23. Sen. Babjide Omoworare   |                             |
| 24. Sen. Mohammed Magoro     |                             |
| 25. Sen. Mohammed Sani Saleh |                             |

[ ] Commencement

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

1. The Electoral Act. No 6 of 2010 (as amended) and here referred

1 to as the "Principal Act" is amended as set out in this Act.

2 2. For section 25 of the principal Act there is substituted a new section  
3 "25" as follows:

4 "25 (1) Elections into the offices of the President and Vice-President,  
5 the Governor and Deputy Governor of a State and to the Membership of the  
6 Senate, the House of Representatives and the House of Assembly of each State  
7 of the Federation shall be held on the same date throughout the Federation as  
8 may be appointed by the Commission in accordance with the Constitution and  
9 this Act.

10 (2) The date mentioned in subsection (1) of this section shall not be  
11 earlier than 150 days and not later than 30 days prior to the date the Senate, the  
12 House of Representatives and the House of Assembly of each State stand  
13 dissolved, and in the case of the office of the President and the Governor of a  
14 State, not earlier than 150 days and not later than thirty days prior to the  
15 expiration of the term of office of the last holder of such office.

16 (3) Elections into the offices of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and  
17 Membership of an Area Council shall be held on the same date as may be  
18 appointed by the Commission."

19 3. Section 47 of the principal Act is substituted for a new section "47"  
20 as follows:

21 "47 (1) Accreditation and voting in any particular election under this  
22 Act shall take place on the date and time appointed by the Commission  
23 throughout the Federation.

24 (2) For the purpose of accreditation of voters under subsection (1) of  
25 this section, the Commission shall provide for the use of Direct Data Capture  
26 Machines at all polling units."

27 4. Section 100 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of a  
28 new subsection (1a) as follows:

29 "(1a) Without prejudice to subsection (1) of this section, the  
30 Commission shall, no sooner than thirty days and not later than fifteen days

1 prior to the date appointed for holding election for the office of the President,  
2 cause to be conducted a presidential campaign debate in which all the  
3 candidates contesting election for that office shall attend and participate.”

4 5. Sections 9 and 13 of the Electoral (Amendment) Act. No.10,  
5 2010 are repealed.

6 6. This Act may be cited as the Electoral (Second Amendment)  
7 Act, 2013.

#### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this Act is to provide the holding of particular elections on the same date, for accreditation of voters by electronic means using the Direct Data Capture Machine prior to voting and also, to make presidential campaign debate compulsory and confer on the Independent National Electoral Commission power to facilitate the conduct of such debate.

#### FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

There shall be appropriated to the Independent National Electoral Commission under the Appropriation Act of the relevant financial year, such sums of money to enable it carry out the responsibilities imposed on it under this Act.