

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ALTER THE PROVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, 1999 AND FOR OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

Sponsored by Senator Babajide Christopher Omoworare

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Commencement

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

1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (in this Act referred to as "Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill.

2. Third schedule(I) is amended as set out in this Bill

3. Third schedule (I) (20) (f) is altered by substituting the said clause with a new clause as follows:

"five Chief Judges of States to be nominated by the Association of Chief Judges of states and of the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja in rotation to serve for two years.

4. Third schedule (I) (20) (g) is altered by substituting the said clause with a new clause as follows:

"one Grand Kadi to be appointed by the Association of Grand Kadis of the Sharia Courts of Appeal to serve in rotation for two years"

5. Third schedule (I) (20) (h) is altered by substituting the said clause as follows:

"one President of the Customary Court of Appeal to be appointed by the Association of Presidents of the Customary Courts of Appeal to serve in rotation for two years"

Amendment

6. Third schedule (I) (20) (i) is altered by substituting the said clause with a new clause as follows:

“five members of the Nigerian Bar Association who have been qualified to practice for a period of not less than fifteen years, at least one of whom shall be a Senior Advocate of Nigeria and who shall be appointed pursuant to a resolution of the National Executive Committee of the Bar to serve for two years and subject to re-appointment.

7. This Bill may be cited as Constitution (Alteration) Bill, 2013 **Citation**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to alter Third schedule (I) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) and to bring about the entrenchment of democratic norms in the compositions of members of the National Judicial Council with a view to bringing transparency into its functions.