

No. 10: Presidential Assent

**A Bill
For**

An Act to alter the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to provide for timely passage of Bills; and for related matters

Section	Provision of the Constitution/Principal Act	Provision of Harmonized Bill	Remarks
		ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria -	
		<p style="text-align: center;">Alteration of the Constitution</p> <p>1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (in this Bill referred to as “the Principal Act”) is altered as set out in this Bill.</p>	
Section 58	<p>Mode of exercising Federal Legislative power: general</p> <p>58.(1) The power of the National Assembly to make laws shall be exercised by bills passed by both the Senate and the House of Representatives and, except as otherwise provided by subsection (5) of this section, assented to by the President.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(2)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(3)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(4)</p> <p>(5) Where the President withholds his assent and the bill is again passed by each House by two-thirds majority, the bill shall become law and the assent of the President shall not be required.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Alteration of section 58</p> <p>2. Section 58 of the Principal Act is altered by inserting, after subsection (5), a new subsection “(6)” –</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(6) Where the President neither signifies that he assents or that he withholds assent, the Bill shall, at the expiration of thirty days from the date of receipt, become law.”</p>	“

Section	Provision of the Constitution/Principal Act	Provision of Harmonized Bill	Remarks
		ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria -	
		<p style="text-align: center;">Alteration of the Constitution</p> <p>1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (in this Bill referred to as “the Principal Act”) is altered as set out in this Bill.</p>	
Section 59	<p>Mode of exercising Federal legislative power: money bills.</p> <p>59. – (1) The provisions of this section shall apply to –</p> <p>(a)</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>(3)</p> <p>(4) Where the President, within thirty days after the presentation of the bill to him, fails to signify his assent or where he withholds assent, then the bill shall again presented to the National Assembly sitting at a joint meeting, and if passed by two-thirds majority of members of both houses at such joint meeting, the bill become law and the assent of the President shall not be required.</p> <p>(5) In this section, "joint finance committee" refers to the joint committee of the National Assembly on finance established pursuant to section 62(3) of this Constitution.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Alteration of section 59</p> <p>3. Section 59 of the Principal Act is altered by substituting for sub-section (4), a new subsection “(4)” –</p> <p>“(4) Where the President within 30 days after the presentation of a Bill to him, fails to signify his assent or where he withholds his assent, then-</p> <p>(a) the President of the Senate shall, within 7 days, convene a joint sitting of the National Assembly to reconsider the Bill; and</p> <p>(b) if passed by two-thirds majority of members of both Houses at such joint sitting, the Bill shall become law and the assent of the President shall not be required.”</p>	
Section 100	Mode of Exercising Legislative Power of a State	Alteration of section 100	

Section	Provision of the Constitution/Principal Act	Provision of Harmonized Bill	Remarks
		ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria -	
		<p style="text-align: center;">Alteration of the Constitution</p> <p>1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (in this Bill referred to as “the Principal Act”) is altered as set out in this Bill.</p>	
	<p>100.(1) The power of a House of Assembly to make laws shall be exercised by bills passed by the House of Assembly and, except as otherwise provided by this section, assented to by the Governor.</p> <p>(2).....</p> <p>(3).....</p> <p>(4).....</p> <p>.</p> <p>(5) Where the Governor withholds assent and the bill is again passed by the House of Assembly by two-thirds majority, the bill shall become law and the assent of the Governor shall not be required.</p>	<p>4 .Section 100 of the Principal Act is altered –</p> <p>(a) by inserting, after subsection (4), a new subsection “(5)” -</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(4A) Where the Governor neither signifies that he assents nor that he withholds assent, the Bill shall at the expiration of thirty days from the date of receipt become law”; and</p> <p>(b) by renumbering the section appropriately.</p>	
Citation		<p style="text-align: center;">Citation</p> <p>5. This Bill may be cited as the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Fourth Alteration) Bill, No. 10, 2017.</p>	
		<p style="text-align: center;">EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM</p> <p>This Bill seeks to alter the Constitution to provide for the timely passage of Bills.</p>	