

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT FRIVOLOUS PETITIONS; AND OTHER MATTERS
CONNECTED THEREWITH

Sponsored by Senator Bala Ibn Na' Allah

[] Commencement

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

1 1. Not withstanding anything contained in any law, it shall be
2 unlawful to submit any petition, statement intended to report the conduct of
3 any person for the purpose of an investigation, inquiry and or inquest
4 without a dully sworn affidavit in the High Court of a State or the Federal
5 High Court confirming the content to be true and correct and in accordance
6 with the Oaths Act.

7 2. Any petition and or complains not accompanied by a sworn
8 affidavit shall be incompetent and shall not be used bay any government
9 institution, Agency or bodies established by any law for the time being
10 enforced in Nigeria.

11 3.-(1) Any person who unlawfully uses, publish or cause to be
12 published any petition, complaint not supported by a dully sworn affidavit
13 shall be deemed to have committed an offence and upon conviction shall be
14 liable to an imprisonment for six months without an option of fine. Penalty

15 (2) Any person who acts, uses, or cause to be used any petition or
16 complaints not accompanied by a dully sworn affidavit shall be deemed to
17 have committed an offence and upon conviction shall be liable to an
18 imprisonment for a term of 2 years or a fine of
19 N200,000.00 or both.

20 (3) Where any person in order to circumvent this law makes any
21 allegation and or publish any statement, petition in any paper, radio, or any

1 medium of whatever description, with malicious intent to discredit or set the
2 published against any person or group of persons, institutions of government,
3 he shall be guilty of an offence and upon conviction shall be liable to an
4 imprisonment term of two year or a fine of N4,000,000.00.

5 (4) Where any person through text message, tweets, WhatsApp or
6 through any social media post any abusive statement knowing same to be false
7 with intent to set the public against any person and/or group of persons, an
8 institution of Government or such other bodies established by law shall be
9 guilty of an offence and upon conviction shall be liable to an imprisonment for
10 2 years or a fine of N2,000,000.00 or both such fine and imprisonment.

Citation

11 4. This Bill may cited as Frivolous Petitions (Prohibition, etc.)
12 Bill,2015.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to prohibit frivolous petitions intended to report the conduct of any person of an investigation, inquiry or inquest without a duly sworn affidavit.