

2022 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

The National Assembly voted on 68 amendments to the 1999 Constitution on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. These 15 proposed amendments are some of the 68 that fall within our scope of work over the last decade. We have indicated our position on these pertinent issues. While some align with the position of the **National Assembly**, others do not.

The journey to amend the Constitution is yet to end and will continue at the **State Houses of Assembly.** The bills need to be passed by 24 State Houses of Assembly and require presidential assent before it becomes law. Furthermore, the House of Representative has agreed to re-vote on 3 Bills within the next 4 weeks. Womanifesto is advocating that both chambers re-vote on all 5 gender-focused Bills that were not passed.

We must engage in this voting process.

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General Issue	Bill Provisions	House of Reps Vote	Senate Vote	EiE Position
National Assembly	Provide pension for presiding officers of the National Assembly.	Failed Yes - 103 No - 193 Total - 296	Failed Senate President did not reveal the breakdown.	×
Judiciary	Provide the timelines within which civil and criminal cases are heard and determined at Trial and Appellate Courts in order to eliminate unnecessary delay in justice administration and delivery.	Approved Yes - 297 No - 3 Total - 300	Failed Yes - 49 No - 31 Total - 80	
Judiciary	Allow court or tribunal proceedings to be conducted remotely, virtually, online or through any media platform or technological innovation;	Approved Yes - 276 No -17 Total - 293	Failed Yes - 62 No - 24 Abstain - 3 Total - 89	
Immunity	Expand immunity to the legislative and judicial arms of government.	Failed Yes - 185 No - 111 Total - 296	Failed Yes - 29 No - 50 Abstain - 1 Total - 80	×
Cross-Carpeting	Provide for the termination of tenure of certain elected officials on account of a change of political party.	Approved Yes - 259 No - 44 Total - 303	Failed Yes - 25 No - 50 Total - 75	
Elections	Provide for diaspora voting and for related matters.	Failed Yes - 58 No - 240 Total - 298	Failed Yes - 29 No - 62 Abstain - 1 Total - 92	
Abuja	Provide for the Office of the Mayor for the administration of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.	Approved Yes - 245 No - 53 Total - 298	Failed Yes - 62 No - 25 Abstain - 1 Total - 88	×
Council of State	Include former heads of the National Assembly in the Council of State.	Approved Yes - 259 No - 44 Total - 303	Approved Yes - 73 No - 19 Abstain - 1 Total - 93	X

EIE'S POSITION ALIGNS WITH THESE APPROVED PROVISIONS:

- 1. Provide for independent candidacy in Presidential, Governorship, National Assembly, State Houses of Assembly and Local Government Councils elections;
- 2. Enhance existing provisions on the formation of political parties;
- 3. Establish the Office of the Attorney General of the Federation and of the State separate from the Office of the Minister of Justice or Commissioners for Justice of the state in order to make the Offices of Attorneys—General independent and insulated from partisanship;
- 4. Empower the National Assembly and State Houses of Assembly to summon the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Governors of states to answer questions on issues on which the National and State Houses of Assembly have the power to make law;
- **5.** Allow states generate, transmit and distribute electricity in areas covered by the national grid;
- 6. Move fingerprints, identification and criminal records from the Exclusive Legislative List to the Concurrent Legislative List;
- 7. Abrogate the State Joint Local Government Account and provide for a Special Account into which shall be paid all allocations due to Local Government Councils from the federation account and from the government of the State;

Section 9(2) of the 1999 Nigerian Constitution (as amended) states that "An Act of the National Assembly for the alteration of this Constitution, not being an Act to which Section 8 of this Constitution applies, shall not be passed in either House of the National Assembly unless the proposal is supported by the votes of not less than two-thirds majority of all the members of that House and approved by resolution of the Houses of Assembly of not less than two-thirds of all the States."









