

2014 - ADAMAWA STATE CHRISTIAN PILGRIMS WELFARE COMMISSION LAW

BILL NO. 7 OF 2014

ADAMAWA STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

**A BILL
FOR**

**A LAW TO ESTABLISH ADAMAWA STATE CHRISTIAN PILGRIMS
WELFARE COMMISSION AND TO PROVIDE FOR MATTERS
INCIDENTAL THERETO.**

Date of commencement ()

BE IT ENACTED by Adamawa state House of Assembly and by the authority of the same as follows:-

Short title and Commencement 1. This Law may be cited as Adamawa State Christian Pilgrims Welfare Commission Law, 2014 and shall come into operation on theday of 2014.

Interpretation 2. In this Law unless the context otherwise requires:-
“Commission” means Adamawa State Christian Pilgrims Welfare Commission;
“Governor” means the Governor of Adamawa state;
“Member” means a member of the Commission and includes the Chairman;
“Pilgrim” means a person who undertake pilgrimage;
“Pilgrimage” means journey undertaken by a pilgrim from any part of the state to Jerusalem and other parts of the world for purpose of pilgrimage or his return thereof;
“State” means Adamawa state of Nigeria.

Establishment of the Commission 3. (1) There is hereby established for the State a Commission to be known as Adamawa State Christians Pilgrims Welfare Commission.
(2) The Commission:-

- (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and common seal;
- (b) may sue and be sued in its own name; and
- (c) may acquire, hold and dispose of any property or interest in the property, for the purpose of carrying out its functions under this Law.

Composition of the Commission

4. (1) The Commission shall consist of:-

- (a) the Executive Head of the Commission as Executive Chairman who shall be a university graduate with relevant qualification and experience in Christian studies appointed by the Governor;
- (b) two members each from the Three Senatorial Zones of the State, both of whom must be literate with requisite experience in pilgrimage operation;
- (c) one representative of Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) in the state;
- (d) the Executive Chairman and members shall be appointed by the Governor subject to the confirmation of the House of Assembly.

Functions of the Commission

5. The functions of the Commission shall be:-

- (a) to provide to all intending pilgrims with all relevant information regarding pilgrimage;
- (b) to assist intending pilgrims in procuring all travel documents and any other immigration requirement;
- (c) to make necessary arrangement for the transportation and accommodation of persons performing pilgrimage;
- (d) to organized sensitization seminars for all intending pilgrims;
- (e) to do such other thing that may appear to it to be requisite or necessary for the attainment of the objective of this law;
- (f) organize, coordinate and conduct Christian Pilgrimage.

Secretary of
the Commission

6. (1) There shall be a Secretary to the Commission, who shall be a Civil Servant not below the rank of a Director in the State Civil Service to be appointed by the Governor.

(2) The Secretary shall carry out his functions in accordance with the provision of this Law, and in particular he shall:-

- (a) record and keep minutes of the Board meetings;
- (b) conduct correspondence and keep relevant documents of the Board;
- (c) have custody of the common seal;
- (d) perform all other duties as may from time to time be assigned to him by the Chairman or the Commission;
- (e) interpret the law of the Commission;
- (f) co-ordinate the activities of the Commission; and
- (g) be signatory to all the Accounts of the Commission.

Tenure of office
of members

7. (1) A member shall hold office for a period of five years and may be reappointed for another term of five years and no more.

(2) Notwithstanding the provision of Sub-section (1) of this Section the Governor may terminate the appointment of a member on grounds of misbehavior or inability to discharge the functions of his office by reason of physical or mental illness or on any other ground.

(3) A member may resign his appointment by sending a notice to that effect to the Governor in writing and upon receipt, the resignation becomes effective.

Remuneration

8. The Chairman and members of the Commission shall be paid such remuneration as the Governor may determine.

Funds of the
Commission

9. The funds of the Commission shall include:-

- (a) all grants from the State Government;

- (b) all charges received by the Commission from intending pilgrims;
- (c) the Commission will open account or accounts in reputable Banks in the State where all its funds will be saved;
- (d) donations or grants from any body or organization; and
- (e) all moneys which may from time to time accrue to the Commission from other services including the disposal, lease or hire or any other dealings with any property vested in or acquired by the Commission.

Application of
funds

10. (1) Any money received by Commission under the provision of this Law shall be applied by the Commission in carrying out of its functions under this Law.
- (2) The Commission shall keep proper account in respect of each financial year and shall within three (3) months after the end of each financial year, cause the account to be audited by the Auditor - General of the State or his representative who shall make a full report.
- (3) A copy of such report shall be sent to the Governor.

Appointment of
Pilgrimage Leader

11. (1) The Governor may appoint for each pilgrimage a government delegation committee, headed by a leader with a Secretary and one member from each Senatorial Zone, who shall liaise with the Commission to ensure successful Pilgrimage and the welfare of the pilgrims.
- (2) The Committee shall submit a report to the Governor within two (2) months after return from the pilgrimage.

Medical Team

12. (1) There shall be a Medical Team for each pilgrimage comprising a Medical Doctor and three (3) supporting Nurses from each of the 3 Senatorial Zones to be appointed by the Commission.
- (2) Each Medical Team shall be equipped with medical facilities and logistics for the discharge of its functions.

Establishment of
Local Government
Area Schedule
Officer

13. (1) The Commission shall establish a Schedule Officer in each Local Government Area to be appointed by the Executive Chairman of the Council.
(2) The Schedule Officer must be a Civil Servant not below the rank of Grade Level 12.

Duties of Local
Government Area
Schedule Officers

14. The duties of the Local Government Area Schedule Officer shall include the following:
(a) to represent the Commission in the Local Government Council;
(b) to co-ordinate the activities of the Commission at the Local Government Area;
(c) to advise/direct intending pilgrims to pay into the account of the Commission all approved pilgrimage fare;
(d) to arrange a sensitization and orientation programme on pilgrimage duties for the intending pilgrims of the Local Government Area.

Appointment of
Pilgrimage Guides/
Preachers

15. The Commission shall appoint such number of persons no more than three from each Local Government to serve as pilgrimage guides and preachers:
Provided that no person shall be appointed as preacher who has no requisite knowledge of pilgrim fundamentals.

Power to co-opt

16. (1) Where upon any special circumstances the Commission deems it necessary to obtain the advice of any person upon any particular matter, the Commission may co-opt such a person to be a member for that particular meeting and such co-opted person shall have all the rights and privileges of a member save that he shall not be entitled to vote on any question.
(2) The Commission may employ the services of any person or organization for effective execution of its functions under this Law.
(3) Any person employed under Sub-section (2) shall be paid from the funds of the Commission.

Limitation of
suit against the
Commission

17. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Law, the provision of public officers protection Law, shall apply in relation to any suit instituted against the Commission, any member or employee of the Commission.

(2) No suit against the Commission, member or employee of the Commission for any act done in pursuance or execution of this Law or any other enactment or any public duties or authorities or in respect of any alleged neglect or default in the execution of this Law or any other enactment, duties or authority, shall lie or instituted in any Court unless it is commenced within three months after the act, neglect or default, complained of.

Meetings of the
Commission

18. (1) The Commission shall hold not less than five (5) general meetings in each year and the meetings shall hold at such time and place as the Chairman may appoint.

(2) The Commission may hold such other meetings as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out its functions.

(3) At any meeting, the Chairman shall preside and in his absence, the members present shall select one of them to preside.

(4) Every question at a meeting of the Commission shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting and in the case of equal division of votes; the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

Quorum

19. Not less than one half of members shall form a quorum at any meeting of the Commission.

Validity of
proceedings

20. No act or proceedings of the Commission shall be rendered invalid on account of any vacancy among its members.

Rules and
Regulations

21. The Commission shall have power to make rules and regulations for the purpose of discharging its functions.

Appointment of
Committees

22. The Commission may appoint one or more Committees to advise it or undertake any action in pursuance of the functions of the Commission.

Repeal of Pilgrims
Welfare Board
Edict No. 2 of
1987

23. (1) The Pilgrims Welfare Board Edict No.2 of 1987 is hereby repealed.
(2) The repeal of the enactment specified in Sub-section (1) of this Section shall not affect any thing done or purported to have been done under the repealed Law.