

**NATIONAL ORDER OF PRECEDENCE OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND OTHER
PERSONS BILL, 2000**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish a National Order of Precedence of Public Officers and Other Persons in the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

The National Order of Precedence is to be observed at national and state functions..

**NATIONAL ORDER OF PRECEDENCE OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND OTHER
PERSONS BILL 2000**

ARRANGMENT OF CLAUSES

CLAUSES:

1. Establishment of Order of Precedence.
2. Observance of the Order at a State Government functions etc.
3. Objectives of the National Order of Precedence.
4. Penalty
5. No succession of duties.
6. Interpretation
7. Short Title

**NATIONAL ORDER OF PRECEDENCE OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND OTHER
PERSONS BILL 2000**

**A BILL
FOR**

**AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL ORDER OF PRECEDENCE OF
PUBLIC OFFICERS AND OTHER PERSONS IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC
OF NIGERIA.**

SPONSOR: SENATOR JONATHAN SILAS ZWINGINA.

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria-

Establishment of Orders of Precedence	1. (1) There is hereby established a National Order of Precedence of Public Officers and Other Persons of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as prescribed in Subsection (2) of this Section.
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(2) The Order of Precedence established under Subsection (1) shall be as follows-

- (i) The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (ii) the Vice-President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (iii) the President of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (iv) the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (v) the Chief Justice of Nigeria;
- (vi) former Presidents of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (vii) former Vice-Presidents of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (viii) the Deputy President of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (ix) the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (x) Senators and Members of House of Representatives;
- (xi) the Governors of the States of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (xii) the President of the Court of Appeal and Justices of the Supreme Court;
- (xiii) Ministers of Cabinet Rank of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (xiv) The Deputy Governors of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (xv) Ministers of State of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (xvi) Ambassadors of Foreign Nations;
- (xvii) Former Senate Presidents;
Former Speakers of the House of Representatives;
Former Deputy Senate Presidents;
Former Deputy Speakers of the House of Representatives
Retired Chief Justices of Nigeria;
Former Members of the National Assembly;
Former Elected Governors;
- (xviii) the former elected Deputy Governors of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (xix) Special Advisers to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (xx) the Secretary to the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (xxi) the Head of Service of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

- Speakers of the State Houses of Assembly;
- the Clerk of the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- the Chief Registrar of the Supreme Court of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- the Governor of the Central Bank of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (xxii) the Service Chiefs;
- (xxiii) the Inspector-General of the Police of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (xxiv) the Justices of the Court of Appeal;
- (xxv) the Chief Judge of the Federal High Court;
- the Chief Judges of States;
- the Chief Judge of the High Court of FCT, Abuja;
- Grand Kadi and President of the Customary Court of Appeal;
- (xxvi) Traditional Rulers by status;
- (xxvii) The Judges of the Federal High Court, State High Courts and the High Court of the FCT, Abuja;
- Kadis of the Sharia Court of Appeal of the FCT, Abuja;
- Judges of the Customary Court of Appeal of the FCT, Abuja;
- (xxviii) the Chairman, Civil Service Commission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- the Chairman, Independent Electoral Commission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- the Chairman, National Population Commission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- the Chairman, Police Service Commission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- the Chairman, Federal Character Commission and Chairman of other statutory Commissions of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (xxix) the Auditor-General for the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and
- Accountant-General of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (xxx) the Clerk of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- the Clerk of the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- the Federal Permanent secretaries of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- the Deputy Inspector-General of Police Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- the Heads of Para-Military organisations of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- the Special Assistants to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- Bishops and Imams;
- (xxxi) Members of States Houses of Assembly;
- (xxxii) Chairmen of Local Government Councils;
- (xxxiii) Commissioners of State Governments;
- (xxxiv) Any other category of Officers in the Public Services of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

(3) The National Order shall be –

- (a) observed at-
 - (i) national functions;
 - (ii) official and social engagements; and
- (b) for the purposes of assisting the determination of the remuneration, salaries and allowances of Public Officers and Other Persons in the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

- Observance of the
Order at a State
Government functions etc.
2. Where public office holders of the Federation are in attendance at an occasion organised or sponsored by a State Government, such public office holders and other dignitaries shall take their precedence in the Order prescribed in Subsection (2) of Section 1 of this Act, provided that the Governor of that State shall take his precedence immediately after the Chief Justice of Nigeria.
- Objectives of the
National Order of
Precedence
3. The National Order of Precedence of Public Officers and Other Persons of the Federal Republic of Nigeria are to-
- (a) maintain public order and decorum at national functions, official and social engagements of the Federal and State Governments of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
 - (b) uphold respect and recognition at national and public places, VIP Lounges, Domestic and International Airports and Diplomatic Missions;
 - (c) facilitate the good governance of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and
 - (d) guide the Revenue Mobilization and Fiscal Commission in determining the remuneration, salaries and allowances of Public Officers.
- Penalty 4.
- (1) Any public officer of the Federal Republic of Nigeria or any person to whom this Act applies who contravenes the provisions of Section 2(1) of this Act, shall be liable to an official reprimand made in writing to such public officer or person by the Secretary to the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, after at least one public officer noticing such contravention and who are, as it were, placed above the offender in the National Order of Precedence of Public officers and other Persons of the Federal Republic of Nigeria have reported such contravention, in writing, to the Secretary to the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
- (2) The official reprimand issued therefrom shall, without prejudice to the position which the offender occupies in the National Order of Precedence of public officers and other person of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, be a subtle rebuke or caution of the offender which shall be caused to be published in the Official Gazette of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
- (3) Former Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Federal Republic of Nigeria are NOT excluded from the provisions of subsections (1) and (2) of this section.
- (4) The category of Public Officers listed in section 4(3) shall not be privileged to issue a reprimand to offending officers placed below them in Order of Precedence of Public Officers and Other Persons.
- (5) Any public officer or any other person to whom this Act applies whose name has been published three times in the Official Gazette as

having contravened the provisions of this Act, shall not be entitled to any National Honour or National Merit Award after the third contravention unless such a person has received an official pardon by the President.

No succession of duties 5.

This Act does not in any way form, connote or impute, a succession of duties among the Public Officers prescribed in Subsection (2) of Section 1; that is to say, in the event of vacancy by reason of death or resignation or removal from office.

Interpretation 6.

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

“Act or” Act of the National Assembly” means any law made by the National Assembly and includes any law which takes effect under provisions of the Constitution as an Act of the National Assembly;

“Authority” includes government;

“Public Office” includes the Chairmanship or membership of ad-hoc tribunals, Commissioners or committees; and

“Order of Precedence” means a list of Public Officers arranged in their order of seniority or hierarchy and functions in government and with President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, being the first in the list.

Short-title 7.

This Act may be cited as the National Order Of Precedence of Public Officers and Other Persons Bill 2000.

I CERTIFY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION
2(1) OF THE ACTS AUTHENTICATION ACT, 1961,
THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF THE BILL PASSED
BY BOTH HOUSES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.



IBRAHIM SALIM

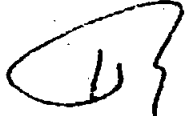
CLERK TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

31st DAY OF AUGUST, 2000.

SCHEDULE TO THE NATIONAL ORDER OF PRECEDENCE OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND OTHER PERSONS BILL 200

(1) SHORT TITLE OF BILL.	(2) LONG TITLE OF BILL	(3) SUMMARY OF CONTENTS BILL	(4) DATE PASSED BY SENATE	(5) DATE PASSED BY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE
National Order of Precedence of Public Officers and Other Persons Bill 2000	An Act to establish a National Order of Precedence of Public Officers and Other Persons in the Federal Republic of Nigeria.	This Bill seeks to establish a National Order of Precedence of Public Officers and Other Persons in the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The National Order of Precedence is to be observed at National and State functions.	9-3-2000	22-8-2000

I certify that this Bill has been carefully compared by me with the decision reached by the National Assembly and found by me to be true and correct decision of the Houses and is in accordance with the provisions of the Acts Authentication Act of 1961.

 31/8/00

Clerk to the National Assembly

I Assent

President of the Federal Republic
of Nigeria