

# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT MARRIAGE BETWEEN PERSONS OF SAME GENDER,  
SOLEMNIZATION OF SAME AND FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATED THEREWITH

*Sponsors:*

- |                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| HON. CHUKWUDI MAYOR EZE        | HON. EMEKA IHEDIOHA          |
| HON. C. I. D. MMADUABUM        | HON. LEO. O. OGOR            |
| HON. JOHN OWAN ENOH            | HON. STANLEY OHAJURUKA       |
| HON. NKEIRUKA ONYEJECHA        | HON. IBRAHIM GHALID MUSTAPHA |
| HON. MOHAMMED DARANGI KWAKWARA | HON. HEMBE HERMAN            |
| HON. ABOLAGBA J. A.            | HON. RUFUS OMEIRE            |
| HON. ERNEST IBEJIAGO           | HON. K. G. B. OGUAKWA        |
| HON. JULIET AKANO              | HON. CHUKA AMA_NWAUWA        |
| HON. CHUMA NZERIBE             | HON. SOLOMON AHWINAHWI       |
| HON. PEACE NNAJI               | HON. HASSAN A. HARUNA        |
| HON. SAMSON OSAGIE             | HON. J. J. IDACHABA          |
| HON. MOHAMMED SANI ABDU        | HON. DARLINGTON OKEREKE      |
| HON. CHILE IGBAWUA             | HON. H. S. DICKSON           |
| HON. KOLAWOLE YUSUF            | HON. ANIETH IKPONG KING      |
| HON. AROLE FANCY               | HON. EMMANUEL JIME           |
| HON. ARIBISALA ADEWALE         | HON. ABASS BRAIMAH           |
| HON. PAUL EZE                  | HON. FRIDAY ITULAH           |
| HON. SYLVESTER OGBAGA          | HON. MOHAMMED MAIFATS        |
| HON. OGBUEFI OZOMGBACHI        | HON. EZIUCHE UBANI           |
| HON. PAT ASADU                 | HON. L. U. CHIMA             |
| HON. KALU UDUMA                | HON. CHUKWUKA ONYEMA         |
| HON. UMEOJI CHUKWUKA           | HON. UCHE EKWUNIFE           |
| HON. BASSEY EKO EWA            | HON. HENRY SHAWULU           |
| HON. NNANNA UZOR KALU          | HON. PAULICAP IGWE           |
| HON. MATHEW OMEGARA            |                              |

[ ]

Commence-  
ment.

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

- 1 1.—(1) Marriage Contract entered between persons of same Gender is
- 2 hereby prohibited in Nigeria.
- 3 (2) Marriages Contract entered between persons of same gender are invalid
- 4 and shall not be recognized as entitled to the benefits of a valid marriage.
- 5 (3) Marriage Contract entered between persons of same gender by virtue
- 6 a certificate issued by a foreign country shall be void in Nigeria, and any

Prohibition of  
marriage by  
persons of  
same gender.

	1	benefits accruing there from by virtue of the certificate shall not be enforced by
	2	any court of law in Nigeria.
Solemnization of same sex marriage in places of worship.	3	2.—(1) Marriage entered between persons of same Gender shall not be
	4	solemnized in any place of worship either Church or Mosque in Nigeria.
	5	(2) No marriage certificate issued to parties of same sex marriage in
	6	Nigeria.
Recognized Marriage in Nigeria.	7	3. Only marriage contracted between a man and a woman either under
	8	Islamic Law, Customary Law and Marriage Act is recognized as valid in Nigeria.
Offences and penalties.	9	4.—(1) Persons that entered into a same gender marriage contract commit
	10	an offence and are jointly liable on conviction to a term of 3 years imprisonment
	11	each.
	12	(2) Any persons or group of persons that witnesses, abet and aids the
	13	solemnization of a same gender marriage contract commits an offence and
	14	liable on conviction to—
	15	(a) if an individual to a term of 5 years imprisonment or a group of
	16	persons to a fine of N2,000 or both,
	17	(b) if a group of persons to a fine of N50,000 only.
Jurisdiction.	18	5. The High Court of a State shall have jurisdiction to entertain matter
	19	arising from the breach of the provisions of this Bill.
Interpretation.	20	6. In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires—
	21	“Marriage” here relates to a legal union entered between persons of opposite
	22	sex in accordance with the Marriage Act, Islamic and Customary Laws.
	23	“High Court” to include High Court of the Federal Capital Territory,
	24	Abuja.
	25	“Same Gender Marriage” means the coming together of persons of the
	26	same sex with the purpose of leaving together as husband and wife or for
	27	other purposes of same sexual relationship.
Citation.	28	7. This Bill may be cited as Same Gender Marriage (Prohibition) Bill,
	29	2008.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to prohibit marriage between persons of same gender, and witnessing same, and provided appropriate solemnization of the marriage penalties thereof.