

# A BILL FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NIGERIAN TELEVISION AUTHORITY ACT 1977, AND TO TRANSFER THE OWNERSHIP OF STAFF AND TELEVISION FACILITIES TO THE FOUNDERS OF THE STATE TELEVISION BROADCASTING AUTHORITIES AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH :—

*Presented by Representative JOSIAH Y. M. MALLO  
(Akwanga Federal Constituency Plateau)*

[ ]

Commence-  
ment.

1 BE IT ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal  
2 Republic of Nigeria and by Authority of same as follows :—

3 1.—(1) Subject to section 32 (2) of the constitution of the Federal  
4 Republic of Nigeria, 1979, the Nigerian Television Authority Act.  
5 (hereinafter referred to as “the Authority”) is hereby amended as  
6 follows :—

Amendment  
to Act No.24  
of 1977.

7 (2) Section 7 is hereby repealed and schedule 2 thereof is conse-  
8 quently repealed and the following section 7 substituted thereto :

9 “7. The Authority shall, without the exclusion of any other broad-  
10 casting authority (hereinafter referred to as “the broadcasting autho-  
11 rity”) or any person in Nigeria, be responsible for television broad-  
12 casting in Nigeria.”

13 (3) Not later than six months after the appointed day, the Govern-  
14 ment of the Federation shall divest itself and cause any enactment to  
15 divest itself by way of transferring the ownership of staff and television  
16 facilities to the broadcasting authorities.

17 2.—(1) By virtue of this Act, there shall be in the government  
18 of the state on the appointed day, without further assurance but subject

Assets and  
Liabilities.

1 as hereinafter provided, all assets, funds, resources and other movable  
2 or immovable property which immediately before the appointed day  
3 were vested in the Authority.

4 (2) As from the appointed day—

5 (a) the rights, interests, obligations and liabilities of the Authority  
6 existing immediately before the appointed day under any contract,  
7 instrument, shall by virtue of this Act be assigned to and vested in  
8 the government of the state ;

9 (b) any such contract or instrument as mentioned in subsection  
10 (1) of this section shall be of the same force and offset against, or in  
11 favour of the government of the state and shall be enforceable as  
12 fully and effectively as if instead of the Authority, the broadcasting  
13 authority had been named therein or had been a party thereto ; and

14 (c) the government of the state shall be subject to all the obligations  
15 and liabilities to which the Authority was subject immediately before  
16 the appointed day and all other persons shall, as from the appointed  
17 day, have the same rights, powers and remedies against the broad-  
18 casting authority as they had against the Authority before that day.

19 3. Any proceedings or cause of action pending or existing imme-  
20 diately before the appointed day by or against the Authority in respect  
21 of any right, interest, obligation or liability of the Authority may be  
22 continued or, as the case may be, commenced and any determination  
23 of a court of law, tribunal, or other authority or person, may be enforced  
24 by or against the government of the state to the same extent that any  
25 such proceedings, cause of action or determination might have been  
26 continued, commenced or enforced by or against the Authority if this  
27 Act had not been made.

- 1 4. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—
- 2 “the Authority” means the Nigeria Television Authority established
- 3 by the Nigerian Television Authority Act 1977.
- 4 “the broadcasting authority” means any authority (whether or
- 5 not a statutory corporation and howsoever known or designated) set
- 6 up by any state or group of states in Nigeria as a public body charged
- 7 with responsibility, either wholly or partially, for television
- 8 broadcasting which, pursuant to the Nigerian Television Authority
- 9 Act, 1977 divested itself of such responsibility ;
- 10 “the appointed day” means the date of coming into force of this Act.
- 11 5. This Act may be cited as the Nigerian Television Authority Citation.
- 12 (Transfer of Ownership) (Amendment) Act, 1980.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to give effect to the real intention and spirit of section 40 (1) of the constitution considering the way and manner in which all the various State Television Authorities were taken over by the Federal Government in 1976 and therefore transfers to the appropriate owners such Television Stations. The state television stations shall be responsible for television broadcasting in accordance with Section 32 (2) of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1979.