



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

# e-NEWS

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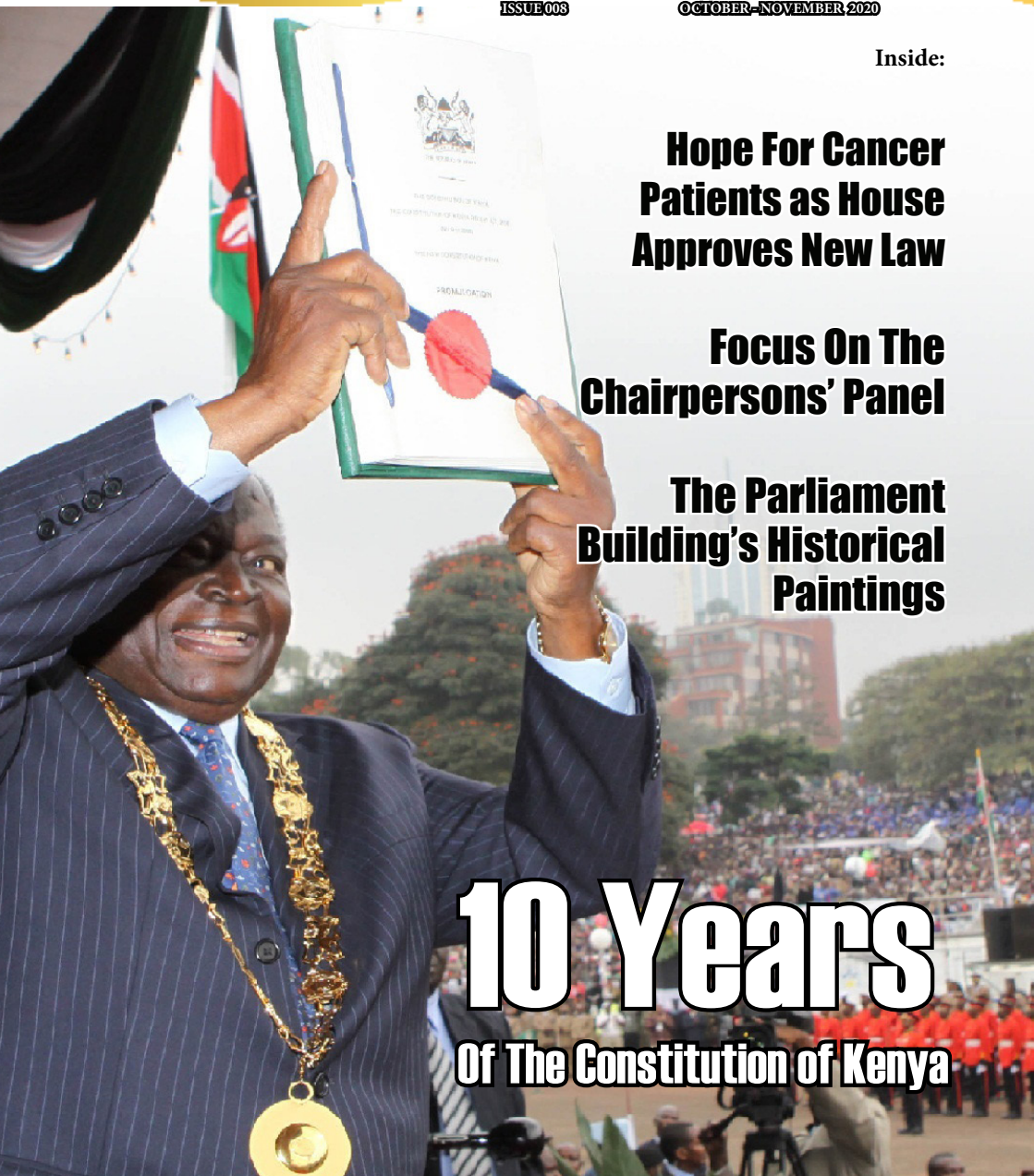
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**Hope For Cancer  
Patients as House  
Approves New Law**

**Focus On The  
Chairpersons' Panel**

**The Parliament  
Building's Historical  
Paintings**

**10 Years  
Of The Constitution of Kenya**



# Foreword



**I**t is a great pleasure to write the foreword for the 8th Issue of the National Assembly E-Newsletter.

As Kenya marks 10 years since the promulgation of its constitution, this issue outlines the various Acts of Parliament passed by the National Assembly to facilitate the implementation of the Constitution. In this regard, we enumerate the over 50 Acts of Parliament that have been passed by the 10th, 11th and 12th Parliaments.

From the floor of the House, the National Assembly approved the Third Basis for sharing National Revenue Allocation to counties as well as the County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2020 in record time. This approval made it possible for the Treasury to release funds to county governments. Turn to page 11 for details.

This issue also covers good news for cancer patients after the National Assembly passed a Bill that gives

them hope, as it makes cancer treatment accessible and affordable. Read more on this on page 22.

Other than our regular pictorial page, we take our readers through a journey in which we highlight the historical paintings along the corridors of the Main Parliament Building.

We also bring to you a focus on the Chairperson's Panel; who are the Members? What is their role? Find out more on page 8 of this publication.

In a bid to consolidate feedback from our readers, we have provided a contact email address where as a reader you can suggest areas of Parliamentary Business that you would wish to read about from our next issue, and to make commentaries on the featured articles. You're invited to make your proposals.

**Mr. Michael R. Sialai, EBS**  
*Clerk of The National Assembly of Kenya*

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# CONSTITUTION AT 10

A BRIEF HIGHLIGHT ON ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN PARLIAMENT



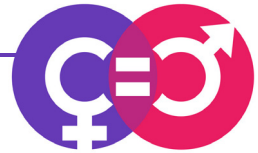
The Constitution of Kenya was promulgated on 27th August 2010 . It provided for various legislations that were necessary for its implementation. According to the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution, the maximum period for the enactment of these legislations was capped at five (5) years.

These legislations were progressively passed by the 10th Parliament (2007- 2012), 11th Parliament (2013-2017) and 12th Parliament (2017-2022).



## Legislation passed by the 10th Parliament

- the Judicial Service Act, 2011;
- the Vetting of Judges and Magistrates Act, 2011;
- the Supreme Court Act, 2011;
- the Independent Offices Appointment Act, 2011;
- the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission Act, 2011;
- the Political Parties Act, 2011;
- the Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act, 2011;
- the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011;
- the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights Acts, 2011;
- the National Gender and Equality Commission Act, 2011;
- the Commission on Revenue Allocation Act, 2011.
- the Contingencies Fund and County Emergency Funds Act, 2011;
- the National Government Loans Guarantee Act, 2011;
- the Environment and Land Court Act, 2011;
- the Industrial Court Act, 2011;
- the Power of Mercy Act, 2011;
- the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2011;
- the Commission on Administrative Justice Act, 2011;
- the Elections Act, 2011;
- the County Governments Act, 2012;
- the Finance Act, 2012;
- the Land Act, 2011;
- the Land Registration Act, 2012;
- the National Land Commission Act, 2012;
- the Leadership and Integrity Act, 2012; and
- the National Intelligence Service Act, 2012.



## Legislation passed by the 11th Parliament

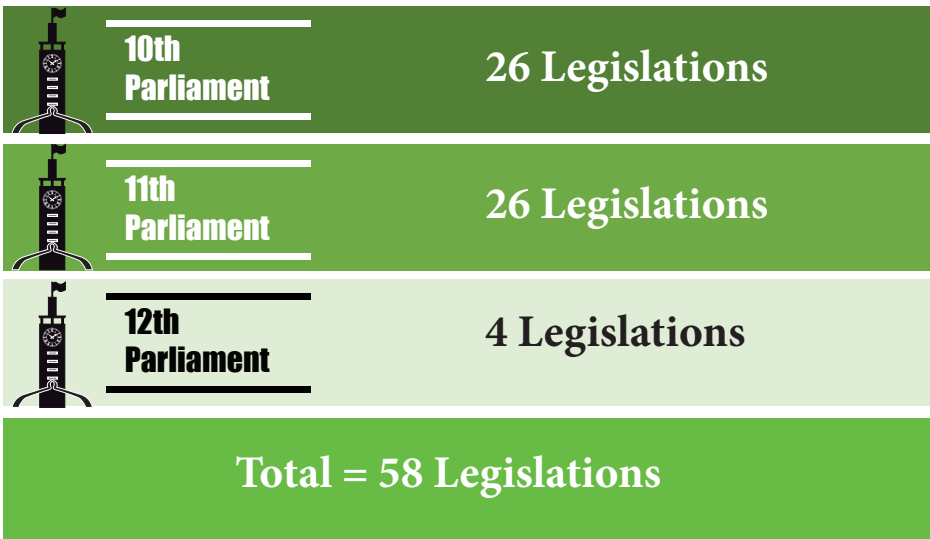
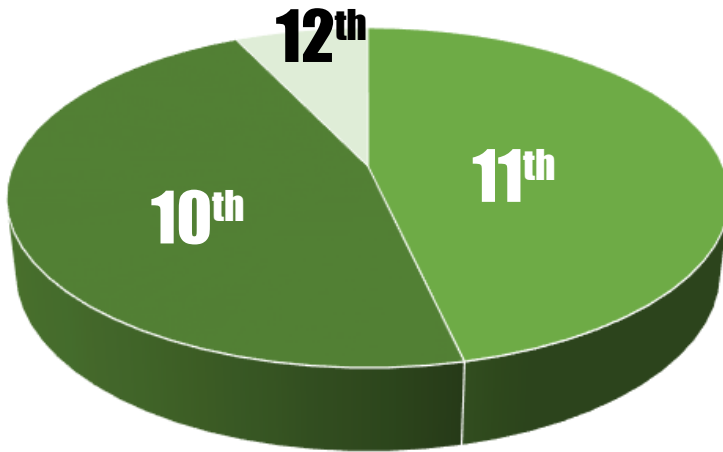
- the Matrimonial Property Act, 2013;
- the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act, 2013;
- the Kenya Information Communications (Amendment) Act, 2013;
- the Media Council Act, 2013;
- the Fair Administrative Action Act, 2014;
- the Victims Protection Act, 2014;
- the Persons Deprived of Liberty Act, 2014;
- the Environment Management and Coordination (Amendment) Act, 2014;
- the Prevention and Control of Marine Pollution Act, 2014;
- the Public Audit Act, 2014;
- the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act, 2014;
- the Public Service (Values and Principles) Act, 2014;
- the Marriage Act 2014; the Mining Act, 2014;
- the Judiciary Fund Act, 2015;
- the Forest Conservation and Management Act, 2016;
- the Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions Act, 2016;
- the Natural Resources (Classes of Transactions Subject to Ratification) Act, 2016;
- the Community Land Act, 2016;
- the Land Laws (Amendment) Act, 2016;
- the Seeds and Plant Varieties (Amendment) Act, 2016;
- the Access to Information Act, 2016;
- the Organization and Administration of the Court of Appeal Act, 2016;
- the Organization and Administration of the High Court Act, 2016;
- the Small Claims Court Act, 2016;
- the Magistrates Court Act, 2016; and
- the Legal Aid Act, 2016.



## Legislation passed by the 12th Parliament

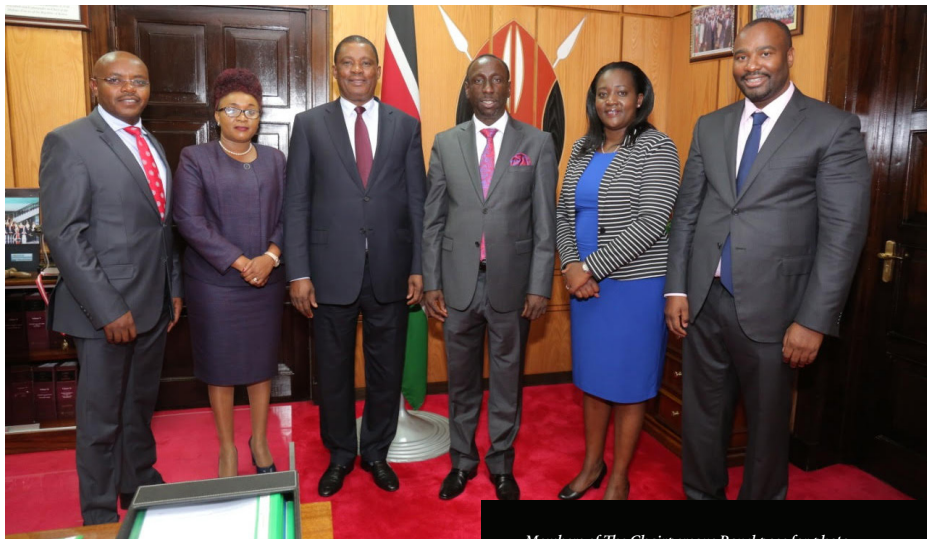
- The Energy Act, 2019
- The Physical Planning and Land Use Act, 2019
- The Petroleum Act, 2019
- The Data Protection Act, 2019.

## Summary





## Focus on The Chairpersons' Panel



*Members of The Chairpersons Panel pose for photo with The Speaker and Deputy Speaker; From Left to right ; Hon. Patrick K. Mariru, Hon. Jessica Mbalu, Hon Justin Muturi, Hon Moses Cheboi, Hon. Soipan Tuya, and Hon. Christopher Omulele.*

In parliamentary practice, the Deputy Speaker serves as the Chairperson of Committees and presides over all Committees of the whole House. This is in addition to presiding over the House in the absence of the Speaker. In discharging the duties of the office, the Deputy Speaker is assisted by four Members collectively known as the Chairpersons' Panel.

The Chairpersons' Panel is established in accordance with Article 107 of the Constitution and Standing Order 16 of the National Assembly and comprises the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Chairpersons of Committees. The current Chairpersons of Committees are Hon. Soipan Tuya, Hon. Patrick K. Mariru, Hon. Jessica Mbalu, and Hon. Christopher Omulele.

### **Hon. Soipan Tuya, CBS, MP**

Hon. Soipan Tuya is the Woman Representative of Narok County and is a lawyer by profession. She joined politics in 2013 as the pioneer woman representative for Narok County and is currently serving as the First Chairperson of Committees in the Speaker's Panel. She also serves as the Vice Chairperson of the Liaison Committee, and is a Member of the Justice & Legal Affairs Committee as well as the Procedure and House Rules Committee.



### **Hon. Patrick K. Mariru, MP**

Hon. Patrick Kariuki Mariru is serving his first term as Member of Parliament for Laikipia West Constituency, and is a lawyer by profession. He is the Second Chairperson of Committees in the Speaker's Panel. Hon Mariru is a Member of the Procedure and House Rules Committee and the Committee on Delegated Legislation. Before joining Parliament, Hon. Mariru served as Speaker of the County Assembly of Laikipia.



### **Hon. Jessica Nduku Kiko Mbalu, CBS, MP**

Hon. Jessica Mbalu is the Member of Parliament for Kibwezi East Constituency and is a Certified Public Accountant. She is the third Chairperson of Committees in the Speaker's Panel. Hon Mbalu was first elected to Parliament in 2013 and has served in the Chairperson's Panel since. She is the Vice Chair Person of the Public Accounts Committee, and a Member of the Procedure and House Rules Committee. Before joining Parliament, Hon. Mbalu was a part-time lecturer at the Catholic University of East Africa.

### **Hon. Christopher Omulele, MP**

Hon. Christopher Omulele is serving his second term as Member of Parliament for Luanda Constituency, and is a lawyer by profession. He is the Fourth Chairperson of Committees in the Speaker's Panel (A position he has held since the 11th Parliament). Hon. Omulele is a Member of the Procedure and House Rules Committee, and the Departmental Committees on Finance & National Planning, and Sports, Tourism & Culture.

He is also a Member of Parliamentary Caucus on Sustainable Development and Business, as well as the Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA).



## Do not drop the guard, Speaker warns as House reviews COVID-19 Measures

The National Assembly has reviewed the control measures in respect of the management of Covid-19. This follows an inspection and evaluation exercise by the Ministry of Health following a directive from the Speaker of the National Assembly Hon Justin Muturi.

As a result of this assessment by the Ministry of Health, the capacity of the National Assembly Main Chamber which had been reduced from its usual capacity of 416 to a maximum of 60 at the peak of the pandemic; has now been reviewed upwards to 112 Members. This will see more Members accessing the Chamber and participating in the deliberations of the House.

The capacity of committee rooms has been increased from ten (10) to fifteen (15) persons while the Chapel will now hold a maximum of fifteen (15) persons. Also, the Muslims' prayer room will now hold a maximum of nine (9) persons, six (6) in the male section and three (3) in the female section.

While issuing the directive, Speaker Muturi encouraged Members of Parliament and the general parliamentary fraternity not to drop the guard with regards to observing the public health guidelines currently in place. This will ensure that the



institution controls any chance of infection in case of a resurgence of the disease.

The National Assembly therefore continues to uphold the public health protocols including the requirement for social distancing and wearing of face masks. To this end, sanitizers have been provided in all buildings within the precincts of Parliament and regular fumigation is carried out in conjunction with the Ministry of Health. The restriction of non-essential visitors (school/university/group visits) to Parliament remains in force. Hopefully, access will be allowed in the coming days. Let's keep safe!





## National Assembly Unlocks Release of Funds to Counties

The National Assembly approved the Third Basis for Sharing of National Revenue Allocated to Counties on 24th September, 2020. This approval which the House undertook in record time given the cash crunch experienced by the County Governments due to the protracted process on the matter in the Senate, was critical in unlocking the release of funds to county governments and was approved in accordance with Article 217 of the Constitution. The Basis covers the period 2020/2021 to 2024/2025.

While recommending the approval of the Third Basis for Revenue Sharing, the Budget and Appropriations Committee observed that the recommendations from the Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA)

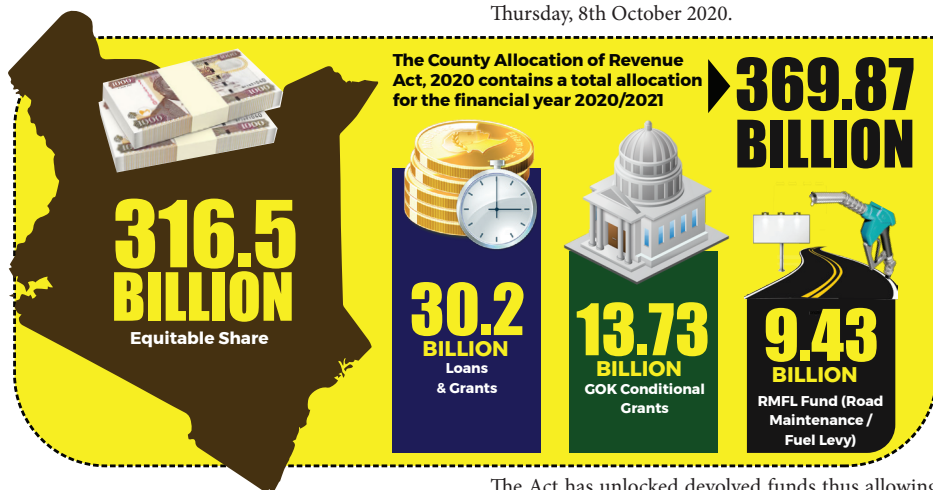
had been submitted to the Senate in April 2019. The Chairperson of the Committee, Hon. Kanini Kega (Kieni) reiterated the need for the prioritization of the formula in future to avoid unnecessary stalemates as witnessed during the initial consideration of the Basis. Further, the Committee emphasised the need to use current data, including population census, in calculating the indexes attached to the parameters and include parameters of other essential services such as water.

The stalemate on the funding of county governments had led to a strain in the provision of key services across the country. This was especially noticeable in the breakdown of health services in counties.

The Resolution of the Senate on the Third Basis for Sharing of National Revenue Allocated to Counties was received in the National Assembly on Friday, 18th September, 2020. The approval of the formula by the National Assembly was closely followed by the passage of the County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2020.

## The County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2020

On Tuesday, 6th October 2020, the National Assembly passed in all stages the County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2020. The Bill had been referred to the National Assembly on 1st October 2020 from the Senate. The Bill was assented to by the President on Thursday, 8th October 2020.



The conditional allocation will cover such services as leasing of medical equipment and rehabilitation of youth polytechnics.

The Act has unlocked devolved funds thus allowing the financing of county functions and operations which had stalled since the beginning of the current financial year(2020/2021).

# Committee On Delegated Legislation Engages Taxi Companies On Proposed Traffic Rules



*An Uber Chapchap driver waits for client outside a mall. PHOTO CREDIT: businesstoday.co.ke*

The Traffic (Transport Network Companies) Regulations 2020 have raised concerns from taxi operating companies as heard by the Committee on Delegated Legislation in a meeting held with the service providers to consider the proposed Regulations. The Committee, chaired by Ti-aty MP Hon. Kassait Kamket, sought to hear from the taxi companies in compliance with Article 118 of the Constitution.

The ride-hailing companies; Uber, Bolt, Little Cab, Maramoja, Catch Taxi and Hava Cabs, insist that their platforms are playing a critical role in ensuring that citizens and businesses have access and capability to participate in an already growing part of the digital economy. The companies note that their role is to match supply and demand for professional for-hire transport services, in real time.

“While the Regulations are largely progressive, we believe that certain components pose a significant risk to the industry as they introduce severely restrict the ability of ride hailing service operators to generate revenue” read the statement.

Among the sections flagged by the taxi operators is the proposal to cap the commission charged at not more than fifteen percent (15%) per trip. The operators observed that this would be prohibitive as it would limit their ability to continue investing in beneficial services for drivers e.g. support services, security features, marketing to passengers, training, and advances in technology.

“Furthermore, the National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) does not regulate prices in any similar mode of transportation. We believe that such principles should be applied fairly across the sector and not discriminate solely the ride-hailing sector” said the operators.

Additionally, they sought the Committee’s indulgence to encourage the Government to explore new policies to further enable growth of the sector by reducing entry and operating costs for drivers.

The Committee is set to meet other stakeholders in the transport industry before writing its report.

## The Justification for Disagreeing with the Regulations

1



There are no product features that would justify a regulation of service fees.

2



Rideshares do not constitute an “essential good or service”.

3



There are no market failures that would warrant capping the service fees.

## The Negative effects of the Service Cap on the market

1



**Effect on investment:** will lower the market profitability for platforms, and dissuade them from investing, or restrict investments to areas deemed most profitable.

2



**Effect on demand:** increase the average price of rides, hence a drop in the number of users, thus, a drop in the drivers' income.






3



**Effect on competition:** would also lead to a drop in competitive intensity.

## Taxi Operators Appeal to the Government:



-  Decreasing taxes on locally manufactured vehicles purchased by verified ride-hailing drivers
-  Allowing drivers on ride-hailing platforms to access Preferential Income Tax rates
-  Providing ride-hailing drivers with flexible Pension and Health schemes through NSSF and NHIF
-  Promoting ride-hailing as a congestion reducing platform in commercial towns with parking limitations
-  Allowing drivers to register on Ajira and paying the one-time fee rather than paying income or turnover taxes.



# How Members Introduce Bills in the National Assembly



HE The President Uhuru Kenyatta ascending into lawThe Tax Bill, 2020

In the former constitutional dispensation, there were Private Member's Bills and the Executive majorly sponsored legislation in the House. However, under the current Constitution, a Member of Parliament can sponsor a legislation without a lot of impediments.



## Different ways legislation is introduced

There are different ways in which a Bill may be introduced in the House. A Parliamentary Party, either through the Leader of the Majority Party or the Leader of the Minority Party, may sponsor a Bill. The Executive may also do so. So can a Committee of the House. A citizen may also petition the National Assembly to have a legislation enacted.

So, how does a Member of Parliament who for instance realizes that a certain problem needs to be solved through the enactment of a law by the House go about this process?

## Step One: Write to the Speaker

The first step is to write a letter to the Speaker. This is preceded by research including on the existing laws and the gaps that are there. In the letter, the MP states the problem the Bill will solve. These are referred to as the objects and reasons of the Bill. If the Bill contains any provision limiting any fundamental right or freedom; or delegates any legislative powers, the sponsor has to state so. Further, he or she has to state if the Bill will affect the functions of county governments. Besides this, the sponsor has to state if the Bill has financial implications.

Thereafter, the sponsor of the Bill submits the letter to the Speaker for approval. If the Speaker approves it, it then moves to the second step.

### Step Two: Drafting of the legislative proposal

The instructions of a Member are then referred by the Speaker to the Clerk. The Clerk's office has legislative drafters who draft proposals in proper form in terms of format and style. At this point, the Member engages a legislative drafter over the proposal, for purposes of drafting and incorporating their comments until the proposal is ready.

### Step Three: Money Bill Certification

The Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) advises on whether a legislative proposal has financial implications or not. Technically, they certify whether it is a money Bill or not. When the legislative proposal has been completed, it is sent to the PBO for money Bill certification. This takes about 14 days.

### Step Four: Money Bills are submitted to the Budget and Appropriations Committee

The legislative proposal (containing the memorandum of objects and reasons at the end of the proposal) is submitted to the Speaker with comments on whether the legislative proposal affects or does not affect county governments; is a draft money Bill, and whether it complies with the Constitution and Standing Orders.

If it is a money Bill, and the Speaker approves it; it is then submitted to the Budget and Appropriations Committee. The Committee takes 21 days to submit a report with recommendation to the Speaker on whether the proposal should be proceeded with or not. This will be specifically on financial implications and not on policy.

If the legislative proposal is not a money Bill, then it would skip this step and gallop to the next step.

### Step Four: Pre-publication Scrutiny

Generally, for individual members, this is the stage where the legislative proposal is submitted to the relevant Departmental Committee for pre-publication scrutiny. The Committee, unlike the Budget and Appropriations Committee, looks at the policy implications of the legislative proposal. It then submits its report within 21 days recommending to the Speaker whether the legislative proposal should be published as a Bill or not.

If the Speaker approves it for publication, it is published at the Government Printer as a Bill. It is thereafter introduced to the House for First Reading.



### Parting Shot

Introducing a legislation is not as daunting as in the past. Members are encouraged to utilize the expertise in the Clerk's office in legislative and procedure, legislative drafting, committees, research, budget and fiscal matters, and media relations. A Member with a legislative idea has this talent pool at disposal to discharge their legislative role.

For more, you can read this Factsheet on How Laws are Made



# Pictorial



ABOVE: Members of the Committee on Finance and National Planning led by the Chairperson Hon. Gladys Wanga on a fact-finding visit of the Port of Mombasa.

A KRA official explains the cargo scanning process to Members of the Committee on Finance and National Planning. The Committee led by Chairperson Hon. Gladys Wanga toured the Port of Mombasa to familiarize itself with the operations of the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) in the Southern Region.







1. Honourable Members of the Committee on Delegated Legislation inspecting the Chai Trading Company's warehouse in Mikindani, Mombasa.

2. The Chair person of the Committee on Delegated Legislation Hon. Kassait Kamket, speaking during the public hearings.

3. The Chai Trading Company General Manager Mr. Francis Muthamia, submits the company's views on The Crops (Tea Industry) Regulations 2020.







*4 & 5: Hon Members of the Committee on Delegated Legislation following Proceedings during a session with the Management of the Chai Trading Company Ltd in Mombasa, on the Proposed Crops (Tea Industry) Regulation 2020.*



# Labour Committee Considers Petition on Salary Arrears by Posta Kenya Employees



POSTA HOUSE: (Image Credit: Wikimedia Commons)

The National Assembly Departmental Committee on Labour & Social Welfare chaired by Hon. Peter Mwathi (Limuru) is currently considering a protracted salary arrears dispute at the Postal Corporation of Kenya (PCK) following a petition filed by the firm's employees. Through the petition presented to the House on August 11th, 2020 by the Member for Wajir East Hon. Rashid Kassim, the employees are seeking the intervention of the House in resolving the delay of salaries that has caused great distress to the workers.

The petitioners are praying that, pursuant to the Employment Act, the House recommends that the Cabinet Secretary responsible for Information, Communications & Telecommunication immediately initiates a process of rescuing the Postal Corporation of Kenya from its current financial crisis.

In addressing the petition, the Committee held a meeting with the Cabinet Secretary, ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs, Mr. Joe Mucheru; the Principal Secretary, Broadcasting & Telecommunication, Ms. Esther Koimett; the Postmaster General, Postal Corporation of Kenya, Mr. Dan Kagwe, and, Deputy Secretary General COTU, Mr. Benson Okwara. During the meetings, the Ministry officials acknowledged that the Ministry was aware of the dire financial status of the Corporation, and in particular the delayed payment of salaries. The Principal Secretary explained that the declining performance output by the PCK had necessitated the preparation of a bailout

proposal by the Ministry to the National Treasury.

It was reported that the National Treasury, as the sole shareholder, approved the request for financial assistance, and committed to inject Kshs. 810 Million to the Corporation. This amount is expected to clear the backlog of the salary arrears.

Earlier, the petitioners had informed the Committee that in the last five years, the Corporation has consistently posted a deficit on an increasing trend, thus its current financial challenges, which have made it difficult to settle salary, and meet its other financial obligations. According to the stakeholders, the COVID-19 pandemic has aggravated the situation, due to minimal postal activities resulting in a serious financial crunch that has consequently led to the failure by the corporation to honour employees' remuneration since March 2020 thus contravening the provisions of Article 41 of the Constitution which provides that every person has the right to fair labour practices.

The petition was presented in accordance with Article 119 of the Constitution which provides that every person has a right to petition the House to consider any matter within its authority, as contemplated in Article 94 and Article 95 of the Constitution, including to enact, amend or repeal any legislation.

The Committee is expected to submit its report within 60 days of presentation to the House.





*The Labour and Social Welfare Committee at a meeting to discuss the POSTA employees petition;*

*TOP: Hon. Peter Mwathi Chairperson , Labour and Social Welfare Committee.*

*RIGHT: Mr. Benson Okwara, Deputy Secretary General COTU.*

*BELOW: Mr. Joe Mucheru, Cabinet Secretary, ICT Innovation and Youth Affairs.*

*BOTTOM RIGHT: Hon. Tom Odege and Hon. William Sossion Members of the Committee*



## Conduct of Committee Inquiries

One of the principal functions of the National Assembly is inquiring into matters of concern to the people and recommending appropriate intervention. Fundamentally, all select committees of the House engage in some form of inquiry.

For a committee to undertake an effective inquiry, the following stages are recommended:-

**i**

Identification of the subject matter for inquiry;

**ii**

Formulation of Terms of Reference;

**iii**

Mapping of relevant stakeholders

**iv**

Developing a work plan;

**v**

Collecting, collating and analysing evidence;

**vi**

Preparation of a draft report;

**vii**

Consideration and adoption of the draft report; and

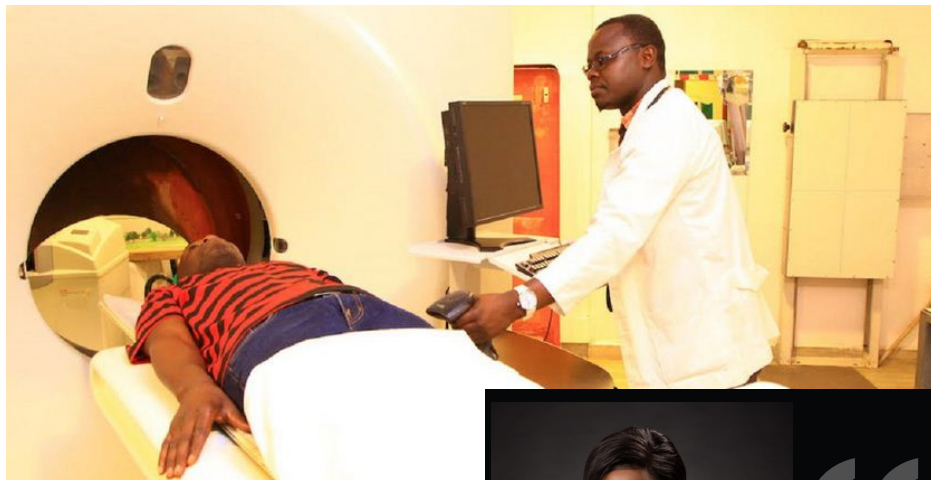
**viii**

Tabling of the report

It is advisable that an inquiry should ideally not take more than one month to conclude.



# Hope For Cancer Patients as House Approves New Law



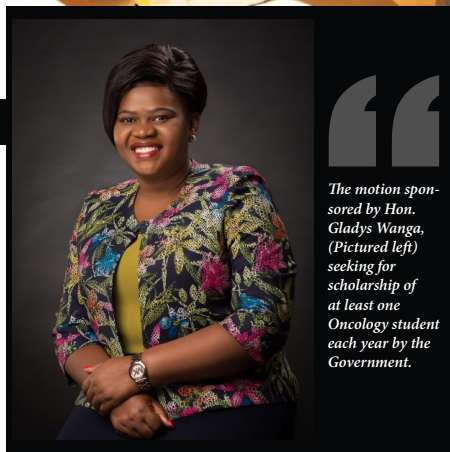
*A cancer patient undergoing scan at local Private Hospital*

Cancer has become one of the leading causes of death in the world. Data from the Ministry of Health indicate that there is an annual incidence of cancer of about 28,000 new cases with an annual mortality of over 22,000 cases. This makes cancer the third leading cause of death after infectious, and cardiovascular diseases.

By 2019, there were only sixteen radiation oncologists, ten medical physicists, thirty-five oncology nurses, twenty-seven therapy radiographers and three nuclear medicine physicians in the Country.

Noting the shortage of Cancer specialists in the Country, the National Assembly, in 2015, passed a motion sponsored by Hon. Gladys Wanga, seeking for scholarship of at least one Oncology student each year by the Government. This encouraged Hon. Wanga to sponsor the Cancer Prevention and Control (Amendment) Bill, 2019 which seeks to address challenges experienced by cancer patients; including low staffing levels in cancer treatment and management centers, and the high cost of cancer treatment.

The principal object of the Bill is to amend the Cancer Prevention and Control Act, 2012, to make provision for training of health cadres in the specialized field of oncology, include cancer treatment as part of the provision of primary healthcare, and incorporate



*The motion sponsored by Hon. Gladys Wanga, (Pictured left) seeking for scholarship of at least one Oncology student each year by the Government.*

the use of e-health and telemedicine.

Telemedicine and e-health will help bridge the geographical barriers to accessing timely management of cancer and override the limited infrastructure and resources available in the country. Additionally, combating the disease at primary levels will increase public awareness, result in early diagnosis and reduce incidences of mortality. The Bill seeks to prioritize capacity building to address the existing gap in health workers trained in the field of oncology.

The enactment of this Bill will make cancer treatment and management more accessible to patients, and reduce the Cost of treatment. The Bill was passed by the National Assembly on October 8th and has since been forwarded to the Senate for Consideration.

# Focus On The Historical Paintings Along The National Assembly Corridors



A walk along the corridors of the main Parliament Building, brings to sight a collection of paintings of Kenya's rich history, that portray daily life in the country during the colonial era.

These are embroidery paintings which were woven by the East Africa Women League, a civic group campaigning for women empowerment in colonial Kenya, illustrate the main economic activities of the day, historical events, and the main physical features in different parts of the country. Each of the 50 paintings, woven between 1957 and 1961, depict a particular town in the country. In this article, we feature Naivasha, Nyeri, and Njoro among others.

On the Naivasha painting, an aquatic plane is seen landing on the lake adjacent to Mt. Longonot. Lake Naivasha was used as a landing port for Imperial Airways planes enroute to South Africa from Southampton in England. The Nyeri painting features an impression of Tree Tops Hotel from where Queen Elizabeth ascended to the top of the British royalty.

The history of urbanization in the country is captured in panels that showcase among others, the establishment of Egerton Agricultural College (later University); the establishment of towns along the Northern corridor; establishment of health institutions like Gertrude's Hospital; and conferencing fa-



cilities at Brackenhurst Conference Center.

Agricultural milestones like planting of the first tea, coffee, and wheat crops are shown in paintings of Limuru, Kiambu, Njoro and Nairobi. Machakos; the first inland colonial administrative center, is showcased as a town with a thriving Ostrich farming venture.

A glimpse of life in pre-colonial Kenya is also high-



lighted in some of the paintings like Nyali, where the arrival of Vasco da Gama in Mombasa is portrayed in a panel showing his fleet of three ships, Sao Mario, Sao Raphael and Sao Gabriel. His arrival was part of the famous voyage to India via the Cape of Good Hope.

The painting of Kikuyu-Muguga sets out a southerly view looking towards Ngong Hills where the old slave caravan used to pass. The panel also shows a herd of elephants at Sigona where a large watering hole was converted to a golf and country club.

Paintings of neighborhoods in Nairobi have a depiction of Mt. Kenya in the background, a testament to a time when there were fewer high-rise buildings and

less pollution in the capital. The boundaries of the paintings highlight the diversity of flora and fauna in each town. Some of the animals were found in territories that would not be associated with the species today. For instance lions were found in Ruiru and Karen, Rhinos and Buffaloes grazed around Nanyuki, Leopards and Cheetahs would stalk the plains near Nairobi and the mythical Nandi bear is painted in the Nandi area.

This collection of paintings provides a gateway to a past that shows the advances made by Kenya; in a combination of history, culture, geography, economic activities, and urban development of the country that makes for a refreshing and informative series.

# Got Views?



Enjoying the National Assembly E-News? Got questions regarding some of the articles? Have ideas on what you would like to see in the next issue? Got ideas on how we can improve?

We would like to hear from you. Give us your feedback on;  
*[nanewsletterfeedback@gmail.com](mailto:nanewsletterfeedback@gmail.com)*





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