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**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

**THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT - (THIRD SESSION)  
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**MESSAGES**

**MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE**

\_\_\_\_\_ (No. 002 of 2024) \_\_\_\_\_

**ON PASSAGE OF SEVEN SENATE BILLS**

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**1. Honourable Members,** pursuant to Standing Order 41(1) of the National Assembly Standing Orders, I wish to report to the House that I received seven (7) Messages from the Senate regarding passage of the following Senate Bills—

- (i) The Equalization Fund Appropriation Bill (Senate Bill No. 30 of 2023);
- (ii) The County Licensing (Uniform Procedure) Bill (Senate Bill No. 9 of 2022);
- (iii) The Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill (Senate Bill No. 12 of 2022);
- (iv) The Mung Beans Bill (Senate Bill No. 13 of 2022);
- (v) The Start-Up Bill (Senate Bill No. 14 of 2022);
- (vi) The Persons with Disabilities Bill (Senate Bill No. 7 of 2023); and
- (vii) The Kenyan Sign Language Bill (Senate Bill No. 9 of 2023).

**2. Honourable Members,** the **first** Message conveys that on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024, the Senate considered and passed the Equalization Fund Appropriation Bill (Senate Bill No. 30 of 2023) **with amendments.**

3. The Bill, which was published *vide* Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 113 of 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023, seeks to authorize the issue of a sum of money out of the Equalisation Fund and its application towards the service of the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and to appropriate that sum for certain public basic services.
4. **Honourable Members**, the **second** Message conveys that on Wednesday, on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024, the Senate considered and passed the County Licensing (Uniform Procedure) Bill (Senate Bill No. 9 of 2022) **with amendments**. The Bill was published *vide* Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 196 of 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and seeks to establish standard uniform procedures for licensing by county governments.
5. The **third Message** conveys that on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024, the Senate considered and passed the Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill (Senate Bill No. 12 of 2022) **with amendments**. The Bill, which was published *vide* Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 205 of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022, seeks to provide for a framework for agricultural and livestock extension services and to establish the Agricultural and Extension Service.
6. **Honourable Members**, in the **fourth Message**, the Senate conveys that on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024 it considered and passed the Mung Beans Bill (Senate Bill No. 13 of 2022) **with amendments**. The Bill was published *vide* Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 206 of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022 to provide for the development, regulation and promotion of the mung beans sector.

- 7. Honourable Members,** the **fifth Message** conveys that on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024, the Senate considered and passed the Start-Up Bill (Senate Bill No. 14 of 2022) **with amendments.** The Bill was published *vide* Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 207 of 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The Bill seeks to provide a framework to encourage growth and sustainable technological development, new entrepreneurship employment and to create a more favourable environment for innovation to attract Kenyan talents and capital.
- 8. Honourable Members,** the **sixth Message** conveys that on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024, the Senate considered and passed the Persons with Disabilities Bill (Senate Bill No. 7 of 2023) **with amendments.**
- 9.** The said Bill was published *vide* Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 16 of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and seeks to provide for the institutional framework for protecting, promoting, and monitoring the rights of persons with disabilities, and to provide incentives and reliefs to give effect to Article 54 of the Constitution.
- 10. Honourable Members,** the **seventh Message** conveys that on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024, the Senate considered and passed the Kenyan Sign Language Bill (Senate Bill No. 9 of 2023) **with amendments.** The Bill, which was published *vide* Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 21 of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023, seeks to give effect to Article 7(3)(b) of the Constitution relating to the promotion and development of the use of Kenyan Sign Language, to provide for the inclusion of sign language in education curriculum, and to provide for the use of sign language in legal proceedings.

**11.** Having passed the seven (7) Bills, the Senate now seeks concurrence of the National Assembly pursuant to the provisions of Article 110(4) of the Constitution and Standing Orders 46(1) and 161 of the Senate Standing Orders.

**12. Honourable Members,** further to seeking concurrence of this House, the Speaker of the Senate has also notified that pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 162 of the Senate Standing Orders, the sponsors of the following Senate Bills have designated co-sponsors in the National Assembly -

- (i) Sen. Crystal Asige, MP, being the sponsor of the Persons with Disabilities Bill (Senate Bill No. 7 of 2023) and the Kenyan Sign Language Bill (Senate Bill No. 9 of 2023), has nominated the **Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona, CBS, MP** as the co-sponsor of the two Bills;
- (ii) Further, Sen. Crystal Asige, MP, being the sponsor of the Start-Up Bill (Senate Bill No. 14 of 2022), has nominated the **Hon. Irene Mayaka, MP** as the co-sponsor of the Bill; and
- (iii) Finally, Sen. Enock Kiio Wambua, MP, being the sponsor of the Mung Beans Bill (Senate Bill No. 13 of 2022), has nominated the **Hon. Paul Nzengu, MP** to co-sponsor the Bill in the National Assembly.

**13. Honourable Members,** whereas Sen. Asige has designated Hon. Millie to co-sponsor the Persons with Disabilities Bill (Senate Bill No. 7 of 2023), I am aware of a prior agreement between the National Assembly Leader of the Majority Party and the Senate Majority Leader on the marshalling for consideration of the said Bill in this House.

**14.** For the record, the two Leaders agreed that the Bill would be sponsored by the Majority Party once it gets to the National Assembly. This is to ensure that the Bill is prioritized and considered in an expedited manner since it is largely informed by a similar Bill in the National Assembly that emanated from the Executive. In this case, the Hon. Millie will only co-sponsor the Kenyan Sign Language Bill, 2023.

**15. Honourable Members,** designation of co-sponsors of Senate Bills in this House corresponds with the provisions of Standing Order 143(1)(b) of the National Assembly Standing Orders. In this regard, the designated Members of the National Assembly will assume the role of co-sponsor of the respective Bill and shall be responsible for marshaling their consideration in the National Assembly.

**16. Honourable Members,** in order for the House to commence consideration of the Bills, I have directed the Clerk to list the Bills for First Reading tomorrow, Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Thereafter, the seven Bills will stand committed to the following respective Committees—

- (a) The Equalization Fund Appropriation Bill (Senate Bill No. 30 of 2023) to the **Budget and Appropriations Committee;**
- (b) The County Licensing (Uniform Procedure) Bill (Senate Bill No. 9 of 2022) and The Start-Up Bill (Senate Bill No. 14 of 2022) to the **Departmental Committee on Trade, Industry and Cooperatives;**
- (c) The Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill (Senate Bill No. 12 of 2022) and The Mung Beans Bill (Senate Bill No. 13 of 2022) to the **Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock;**

- (d) The Persons with Disabilities Bill (Senate Bill No. 7 of 2023) to the **Departmental Committee on Social Protection**; and
- (e) The Kenyan Sign Language Bill (Senate Bill No. 9 of 2023) to the **Departmental Committee on Education**.

**17.** The Committees are encouraged to prioritize the Bills in their agenda and report to the House as soon as practicable to enable the House to proceed with the next stages of the Bills.

**18.** The House is accordingly guided.

**I thank you!**

  
**THE RT. HON. (DR.) MOSES F.M. WETANG'ULA, EGH, MP**  
**SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

*Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024*