

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROHIBIT MARRIAGE OR CIVIL UNION ENTERED BETWEEN PERSONS OF SAME SEX, SOLEMNIZATION OF SAME AND FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATED THEREWITH. (IID. 197)

PROVISIONS OF THE BILL

RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Commencement

Enacted by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows-

Prohibition of marriage or civil union by persons of same gender

1-(1) Marriage Contract or civil union entered between persons of same Gender is hereby prohibited in Nigeria.

(2) Marriage Contracts or civil union entered between persons of same gender are invalid and shall not be recognized as entitled to the benefits of a valid marriage.

(3) Marriage Contract or civil union entered between persons of same gender by virtue a certificate issued by a foreign country shall be void in Nigeria, and any benefits accruing there from by virtue of the certificate shall not be enforced by any court of law in Nigeria.

Solemnization of same sex marriage in places of worship

2-(1) Marriage or civil union entered between persons of same Gender shall not be solemnized in any place of worship. either Church or Mosque in

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(2) No marriage certificate issued to parties of same sex marriage or civil union in Nigeria shall be valid

**Recognized Marriage in Nigeria.**

3. Only marriage contract between a man and a woman either under Islamic Law, Customary Law and Marriage Act is recognized as valid in Nigeria.

**Registration of Homosexual Clubs and Societies**

4.-(1) The Registration of gay clubs, societies and organisations, their sustenance, processions and meetings are hereby prohibited.

(2) The public show of same sex amorous relationship directly or indirectly is hereby prohibited.

**Offences and penalties.**

5-(1).Persons that entered into a same gender marriage or civil union contract commit an offence and are jointly liable on conviction to a term of 14 years imprisonment each.

(2). Any person who registers, operates or participates in gay clubs, societies and organisations, or directly or indirectly make a public show of same sex amorous relationship commits an offence and shall each be liable on conviction to a term of 10 years imprisonment

(3).Any persons or group of persons that witness, aid and abets the

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solemnization of a same sex marriage contract or civil union or supports the registration of gay clubs, societies and organisations, processions or meetings in Nigeria commits an offence and liable on conviction to a term of 10 years imprisonment

**Jurisdiction.**

6. The High Court of a State or of the Federal Capital Territory shall have jurisdiction to entertain matter arising from the breach of the provisions of this Bill.

**Interpretation**

7. In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires -

"Marriage" here relates to a legal union entered between persons of opposite sex in accordance with the Marriage Act, Islamic and Customary Law.

"Court" means High Court of a State or of the Federal Capital Territory.

"Same Sex Marriage" means the coming together of persons of the same sex with the purpose of living together as husband and wife or for other purposes of same sexual relationship.

"Witness" means those who sign, witness to the solemnisation of the marriage.

"Civil Union" means any arrangement between persons of the same sex to live together as sex partners, and shall include such descriptions as adult independent relationships, common-law partnership, civil solidarity pacts,

domestic partnerships, reciprocal  
beneficiary relationships, registered  
partnership, significant relationship,  
stable unions, etc.

**Citation**

**8.** This Bill may be cited as Same Sex  
Marriage (prohibition) Bill, 2013