Twelfth Parliament (028)



Fifth Session (247)

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT – (FIFTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021 AT 10.00 A.M.

- 1. The Senate assembled at Ten O'clock.
- 2. The proceedings were opened with a prayer said by the Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, MP).

3. <u>MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THE PASSAGE, BY THE</u> <u>NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, OF THE CONSTITUTION OF KENYA (AMENDMENT)</u> <u>BILL, 2020 PROMOTED BY THE BUILDING BRIDGES INITIATIVE</u>

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, MP) conveyed the following Message from the National Assembly-

"Honourable Senators,

I wish to report to the Senate that, pursuant to Standing Order 41 (3) and (4), I have received the following message from the Speaker of the National Assembly regarding the passage of the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill, 2020. Pursuant to the said Standing Order, I now report the Message-

"PURSUANT to the provisions of Standing Order 41(1) of the National Assembly Standing Orders, I hereby convey the following Message from the National Assembly –

WHEREAS, The Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill, 2020 promoted by the Building Bridges Initiative, proposing to amend the Constitution of Kenya was introduced in Parliament pursuant to the provisions of Article 257(7) of the Constitution in the form forwarded to the National Assembly by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission;

FURTHER, WHEREAS the said Bill was Read a First Time on Thursday, 4th March, 2021, considered and <u>passed</u> in Second Reading and Third Reading on Thursday, 6th May, 2021 by Votes supported by a majority of all Members of the National Assembly in accordance with the requirements of Article 257(8) of the Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 41(1) *of the National Assembly Standing Orders, I hereby <u>convey</u> the said decision of the National Assembly to the Senate."*

I thank you."

4. **PETITIONS**

a) Pursuant to Standing Order 230(2)(b), the Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, MP) reported to the Senate a Petition by Mr. Kevin Ndoho Macharia concerning access to justice under the Corona (COVID-19) pandemic and the appointment of court reporters.

Pursuant to Standing Order 231, the Speaker allowed Senators to make comments, observations or seek clarification in relation to the Petition and, subsequently, committed it to the Standing Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights, pursuant to Standing Order 232(1).

b) Pursuant to Standing Order 230(2)(b), Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, MP) presented to the Senate a Petition by Mr. Paulo Kiprotich Mosbei concerning historical injustices suffered by the Torobeek community.

Pursuant to Standing Order 231, the Speaker allowed Senators to make comments, observations or seek clarification in relation to the Petition and, subsequently, committed it to the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations, pursuant to Standing Order 232(1).

5. STATEMENT PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 47(1)

The Senator for Vihiga County (Sen. George Khaniri, MP) made a statement concerning increase of fuel prices in Kenya.

In the Statement, the Senator informed the House that energy is one of the most important components in life that is required at every level on a daily basis. He noted that, one of most crucial source of energy for industries, automobiles and other machines is petrol which is a big component in Kenya's economic and social life as it is widely used commercially and domestically.

The Senator raised concern of the rising fuel pump price by big margins which always results in increase in the overall cost of living in the country with negative effects on the majority of Kenyans. Further, the Senator informed the House that since the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) revised petroleum product prices that apply across the country from the 15th date of every month, the price of fuel had risen over the last few months, to the current prices which are a seven year high.

The Senator informed the House that a comparison of pump prices of petroleum products across the region reveals that prices in Kenya are the highest in East Africa. This scenario has two immediate implications; one being the economic hardship to the general public and two being closure of industries and capital flight which will result in slower economic growth.

In conclusion, the Senator emphasized on the primary roles of parliaments and urged the Senate to consider making necessary changes on the Petroleum Act 2019, Legal Notice No. 196 of 2010 and Legal Notice No. 26 of 2012 as soon as possible to provide a caveat to cushion Kenyans from high price increases.

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Following concerns raised by Senators, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, MP) referred the Statement to the Standing Committee on Energy for consideration, pursuant to Standing Order 47 (3).

And the time being thirty minutes past twelve O'clock, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, MP) adjourned the Senate without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

6. <u>SENATE ROSE</u> – at thirty minutes past twelve O'clock.

MEMORANDUM

The Speaker will take the Chair on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 2.30 p.m.