



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT – (SIXTH SESSION)

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

_____ (No. 27 of 2022) _____

**REFERRAL OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE HUDUMA BILL,
2021 TO WINNOWING PROCESS**

Honourable Members,

You may recall that the House concluded the Second Reading of the Huduma Bill, (National Assembly Bill No. 57 of 2021) on 13th April 2022. The Bill was subsequently committed to Committee of the Whole House pursuant to the Standing Orders.

Honourable Members, the Bill seeks to put in place new provisions for civil registration and legal identification of persons, new mechanisms for management of civil registration and legal identification through an integrated National Identity Management System (NIIMS), to provide for enrolment of persons into the NIIMS, assigning of the *Huduma Namba* and issuance of legal identity documents and passports, to provide for personal data protection and promotion of efficiency in the delivery of public services, amongst other provisions. The Bill also proposes to repeal the Births and Deaths Registration Act (Cap. 149), the Registration of Persons Act (Cap. 107) and the Kenya Citizens and Foreign Nationals Management Service Act, 2011.

Honourable Members, I have since received various proposed amendments to the Bill from, among other Members, the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Administration and National Security, the Hon. Peter Mwathi, CBS, MP, the Hon. Aden Duale, EGH, MP, the Hon. Owen Baya, MP, the Hon. Gladwell Cheruiyot, MP, the Hon. Peter Kaluma, the Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah, CBS, MP, the Hon. Abdikhaim Osman, MP, the Hon. John Kiarie, MP and the Hon. (Dr.) Robert Pukose, MP. Further, the Office of the Clerk has notified that they are drafting amendments sought by a number of other Members to the Bill. It is therefore likely that additional amendments will be received prior to the scheduling of the Bill for Committee of the whole House. Notably, most of the amendments so far received require harmonization, through a process commonly referred to as "*winnowing*".

Honourable Members, Standing Order 131 on '*Referral of proposed amendments to Committees*' states, and I quote –

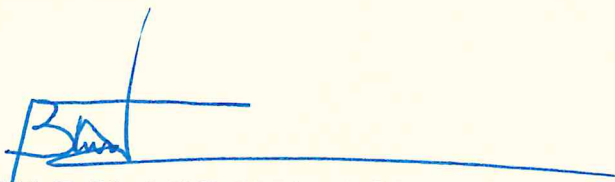
"131. Where after a Bill has been Read a Second Time and before commencement of Committee of the Whole, amendments have been proposed to it, which in the opinion of the Speaker require harmonization, the Speaker may direct any Member proposing an amendment to the Bill to appear before the relevant Departmental Committee dealing with the subject matter of the Bill to present his or her proposed amendments and the Committee shall submit a report to the House on the result of the exercise before the Committee of the Whole House is taken."

Honourable Members, having perused the proposed amendments so far received, I note that they are wide-ranging and substantive in nature and may, in some instances, require fresh public participation and engagement with relevant stakeholders in accordance with provisions of Article 118 of the Constitution. In this regard and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 131, I hereby refer all the amendments to the Huduma Bill, 2021 to the Departmental Committee on Administration & National Security for "winnowing and public participation" It is expected that the Committee, in consultation with the concerned Members, will seek to harmonize the amendments before the Bill proceeds for Committee of the Whole House. Members with amendments are encouraged to attend meetings of the Committee to seek to harmonize the amendments before the scheduling of the Bill for Committee of the Whole House.

Honourable Members, Noting the timelines before the House proceeds to adjourn *Sine Die*, the Committee is encouraged to immediately convene for this purpose and report back to the House soonest.

The Committee, and indeed the House, is accordingly guided.

I thank you.



THE HON. JUSTIN B.N. MUTURI, EGH, MP
SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 18th May 2022

