

Twelfth Parliament

Sixth Session

Morning  
Sitting

(No.19)

(191)

REPUBLIC OF KENYATWELFTH PARLIAMENT – SIXTH SESSIONTHE NATIONAL ASSEMBLYVOTES AND PROCEEDINGSWEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022 (MORNING SITTING)

1. The House assembled at Thirty Minutes past Nine O'clock.
2. The Proceedings were opened with Prayer
3. **Presiding** – the Deputy Speaker
4. **PETITIONS**

a) The Deputy Speaker presented the following Petition:

**REGARDING WAIVER OF VALUE ADDED TAX LEVIED ON TEXTBOOKS, JOURNALS AND PERIODICALS**

**“Honourable Members,** Standing Order 225(2)(b) requires the Speaker to report to the House any petition, other than those presented by a Member. Further, Article 119 of the Constitution provides for the right of any person to petition Parliament to consider any matter within its authority, including petitioning the House to enact, amend or repeal any legislation.

**Honourable Members,** in this regard I wish to report to the House that my office has received a petition from Mr. Njoroge Waweru of P.O. Box 287 Kikuyu calling for *waiver of Value Added Tax levied on textbooks, journals and periodicals.*

In his petition, **Honourable Members,** the petitioner avers that whilst the Value Added Tax (VAT) is premised on the real value of a product, the true value of a book cannot be quantified in precise monetary terms by publishers or by revenue collection agencies. He is convinced that taxation on books and related publications amounts to predatory distortion of taxation and a contradiction by any government that understands the value of education and that seeks to promote a culture of lifelong learning among its citizens. Further, the petitioner observes that most distribution channels of books do not conform to the conventional value chain of commercial items on account of, among other reasons, that some of them are donations meant to assist those in need or for academic purposes.

**Honourable Members,** the petitioner is thus aggrieved by the 16% VAT that is currently levied by the National Government through the Kenya Revenue Authority on both new and used books. He regards this as a tax-based discrimination against printed material since online books and publications are never taxed. He concludes by emphasizing the need to create a robust reading culture in the current Information Age, and makes a passionate call for the waiver of VAT currently levied on textbooks, general books, journals and periodicals.

**Honourable Members**, having determined that the matters raised by the petitioner are well within the authority of this House, I order that, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 227(1), this petition be committed to the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning. The Committee is required to consider the petition and report its findings to the House and to the petitioner in accordance with Standing Order 227(2).

**I thank you!"**

- b) The Member for Seme Constituency (Hon. James Nyikal, MP) presented a Petition on compensation for Internally Displaced Persons from Nyanza –Western Region.

## 5. PAPERS

The following Papers were laid on the Table of the House:-

- a) Report of the Auditor-General and Financial Statement of State Department for Housing and Urban Development for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2021; and
- b) Monetary Policy Statement for December, 2021 by Central Bank of Kenya.
- c) Reports of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements in respect of the following Institutions for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 and the certificates therein: -
  - i. Matili Technical Training Institute;
  - ii. Aldai Technical Training Institute;
  - iii. Ol' Lessos Technical Training Institute;
  - iv. Thika Technical Training Institute;
  - v. Tseikuru Technical Training Institute;
  - vi. Weru Technical Training Institute;
  - vii. Kieni Technical and Vocational College;
  - viii. Technical University of Mombasa;
  - ix. Machakos University;
  - x. Inter-Governmental Relations Technical Committee;
  - xi. Kenya Film Commission;
  - xii. National Council for Population and Development;
  - xiii. Konza Technopolis Development Authority;
  - xiv. National Communications Secretariat;
  - xv. Kenya Export Promotion and Branding Agency;
  - xvi. Kenya Broadcasting Corporation;
  - xvii. New Partnership for Africa's Development/Africa Peer Review Mechanism (NEPAD/APRM) Kenya Secretariat;
  - xviii. Kenya Yearbook Editorial Board; and
  - xix. Anti-Female Genital Mutilation Board.
- d) Report of the Auditor-General and Financial Statement of Kaiboi Technical Training Institute for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 and the certificates therein;
- e) Report of the Auditor-General and Financial Statement of Kaiboi Technical Training Institute for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 and the certificates therein.

*(The Majority Whip)*

## 6. QUESTIONS

- a) The following Questions were made to various Ministries/State Departments/Commissions: -

- (i) Question 049/2022 by the Member for Alego Usonga Constituency (Hon. Samuel Atandi, MP) regarding irregular dismissal of Mr. Reuben Omondi by the Teachers Service Commission.

*(To be responded to in writing by the Teachers Service Commission)*

- (ii) Question 050/2022 by the Member for Mwatate Constituency (Hon. Andrew Mwadime, MP) regarding delays in commissioning the Gemology Centre in Voi.

*(To be responded to by the Cabinet Secretary for Petroleum and Mining before the Departmental Committee on Environment and Natural Resources)*

- (iii) Question 067/2022 by the Member for Jomvu Constituency (Hon. Bady Twalib, MP) regarding failure by state agencies to implement court orders regarding Owino – Uhuru Village in Mikindani.

*(To be responded to by the Attorney General before the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs)*

- (iv) Question 068/2022 by the Member for Kwale County (Hon. Zuleikha Hassan, MP) regarding delays in processing pensions for former employees of the Coast water Services Board.

*(To be responded to by the Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation before the Departmental Committee on Environment and Natural Resources)*

- (v) Question 074/2022 by the Nominated Member (Hon. Godfrey Osotsi, MP) regarding copyrights complaints by Transcend media Group against Safaricom Limited.

*(To be responded to by the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and Coordination of National Government before the Departmental Committee on Administration and National Security)*

b) The following Questions was deferred: -

- (i) Question 055/2022 by the Member for Mathioya Constituency (Hon. Peter Kihara, MP) regarding pending Local Purchase Orders for Macnut Farm Products Ltd.

7. **THE PUBLIC DEBT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 36 OF 2020)**

Motion made and Question proposed: -

THAT, the Public Debt Management Authority Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 36 of 2020) be read a Second Time.

*(Hon. Sakwa Bunyasi, MP -23.02.2022)*

Debate on the Motion having been concluded on 23.02.2022;

Mover replied;

Question deferred.

8. **THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT CONSTITUENCIES DEVELOPMENT FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 5 OF 2022)**

(Hon. John Paul Mwirigi, MP)

Order for First Reading read;

Bill read a First Time and referred to the relevant Departmental Committee pursuant to Standing Order 127(1)

9. THE HIGHER EDUCATION LOANS BOARD (AMENDMENT) BILL NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 37 OF 2020

Motion made and Question proposed: -

THAT, the Higher Education Loans Board (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 37 of 2020) be read a Second Time.

*(Hon. John Paul Mwirigi, MP)*

Debate arising;

Change of Chair from the Deputy Speaker to Hon. Christopher Omulele, MP

Mover replied;

Question deferred.

10. THE INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY PRACTITIONERS BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 38 OF 2020)

Motion made and Question proposed: -

THAT, the Information Communication Technology Practitioners Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 38 Of 2020) be read a Second Time.

*(Hon. Hon. Godfrey Osotsi, M.P.)*

Debate arising;

Question deferred.

And the time being six minutes past One O'clock the House adjourned without Question put pursuant to the Standing Orders.

11. HOUSE ROSE - at six minutes past One O'clock

MEMORANDUM

The Speaker will take the Chair today-  
Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 2.30pm

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