

#### REPUBLIC OF KENYA

# THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT - (THIRD SESSION) THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MESSAGES

### **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE**

\_\_\_\_\_ (No. 009 of 2024) \_\_\_\_\_

#### ON PASSAGE OF FOUR BILLS

## Honourable Members,

- 1. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 41(5), I wish to report to the House that on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024, I received four (4) Messages from the Senate regarding the passage of two Senate Bills and two National Assembly Bills.
- 2. The first and second Messages convey that, on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024, the Senate considered and passed The County Boundaries Bill (Senate Bill No. 6 of 2023) and The Sugar Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 34 of 2022). The Sugar Bill was passed with amendments.
- 3. Honourable Members, the third and fourth Messages convey that, on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024, the Senate considered and passed The Division of Revenue Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 14 of 2024) with amendments and the County Governments (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bill No. 25 of 2023) without amendments.
- 4. Honourable Members, the County Boundaries Bill (Senate Bill No. 6 of 2023) seek to give effect to Article 188 of the Constitution by providing for a procedure for alteration of county boundaries. It also proposes to provide for a mechanism for resolution of disputes relating to county boundaries as well as the establishment of an independent county boundaries commission.

- 5. On the other hand, the County Governments (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bill No. 25 of 2023) seeks to amend the County Governments Act, Cap. 265 to raise the statutory thresholds for removal of a member of a County Executive Committee. In conveying the Message regarding passage of this particular Bill, the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the Senate has notified that the sponsor, Sen. Samson Cherarkey, MP, has nominated the Member for Marakwet West, the Hon. Timothy Kipchumba Toroitich, MP, to co-sponsor the Bill in this House. In this regard, the Hon. Toroitich will henceforth be responsible for marshaling its consideration in the National Assembly.
- 6. Honourable Members, with regard to the Sugar Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 34 of 2022), I hereby direct the Clerk to circulate the Senate amendments to the Bill to all Members as required by the Standing Orders. In the meantime, the Message from the Senate, together with the Schedule of Senate amendments, shall stand referred to the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock for consideration.
- 7. Honourable Members, in order for the House to commence consideration of the two (2) Senate Bills, I further direct the Clerk to schedule the Bills for First Reading when the House convenes next for its regular Sittings. Thereafter, the two Bills will stand committed to the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs for consideration.
- **8.** I urge the two Committees to prioritize the respective Bills referred to them and report to the House as soon as is practicable to enable the House to proceed with the next stages of the Bills.

- 9. Honourable Members, with respect to the two (2) National Assembly Bills, that is, the Sugar Bill, 2022 and the Division of Revenue Bill, 2024, you will recall that the National Assembly passed the two Bills on 27th September, 2023 and 20th March 2024, respectively, following which I referred the Bills to the Senate for consideration pursuant to the requirements of Article 110(4) of the Constitution. As part of the bicameral architecture of our legislative process on Bills concerning County Governments, the House is now required to consider the Senate amendments to the two Bills.
- 10. Honourable Members, passage of a Division of Revenue Bill ought to be done expeditiously and within the statutory timelines in order to allow for the attendant steps in the budget making process.
- **11.** In this regard and in line with the resolution of the House of 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 regarding *Processing of Messages received from the Senate during the Short and Long Recesses*, through *Notification No. 001 of 2024* dated Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024, I referred the Senate amendments to the Division of Revenue Bill, 2024 to the Budget and Appropriations Committee as soon as I received it.
- 12. The Committee is expected to have concluded consideration of the Senate amendments and should table its report today to facilitate consideration of the business listed as Order No. 10 in the day's Order Paper. As I have communicated earlier, this particular business has a statutory timeline.
- **13.** The House is accordingly guided.

I thank you!

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

Monday, 13th May 2024

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