



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (FOURTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

MORNING SITTING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 07, 2025 AT 9.30 AM

1. The Senate assembled at thirty minutes past Nine O'clock.
2. The proceedings were opened with Prayer said by the Speaker.

3. **QUORUM OF THE SENATE**

The Speaker, having counted the Honourable Senators present at the commencement of the Sitting and confirming that there was no Quorum, directed that the Bell be rung for ten minutes, pursuant to Standing Order 40;

And there being a Quorum before the expiry of the ten minutes;

The Speaker invited the Clerk to call the Orders of the Day.

4. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR ON VISITING TEACHERS AND STUDENTS FROM KAMWIMBI SECONDARY SCHOOL IN THARAKA NITHI COUNTY**

The Deputy Speaker conveyed the following Communication from the Chair –

“Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, of visiting teachers and students from Kamwimbi Secondary School in Tharaka Nithi County. The delegation comprises four (4) teachers and ninety-nine (99) students, who are in the Senate for a one-day academic exposition.

Honourable Senators,

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them and, on behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you.”

5. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS**QUESTIONS**

- i) Question No. 052 by Nominated Senator (Sen. Catherine Mumma, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for Education on alignment of the curriculum and training in the County Vocational Training Centers (VTCs) with the standards in National Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions was answered by the Cabinet Secretary.
- ii) Question No. 058 by the Senator for Nairobi City County (Sen. Edwin Sifuna, CBS, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for Education on the financial crisis at the Technical University of Kenya (TUK) was answered by the Cabinet Secretary.
- iii) Question No. 060 by Nominated Senator (Sen. George Mbugua, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for Education on inclusion and support for learners with hearing impairment in pre-primary and lower primary school was answered by the Cabinet Secretary.
- iv) Question No. 061 by Nominated Senator (Sen. Betty Montet, MP) on behalf of Nominated Senator (Sen. Joyce Korir, CBS, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for Education on the low absorption rate of teachers by the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) was answered by the Cabinet Secretary.
- v) Question No. 064 by the Senator for Kakamega County (Sen. (Dr.) Boni Khalwale, CBS, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for Education on review of the remuneration of primary school headteachers was answered by the Cabinet Secretary.
- vi) Question No. 071 by Nominated Senator (Sen. Catherine Mumma, MP) on behalf of the Senator for Makueni County (Sen. Daniel Maanzo, EBS, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for Education on measures to enhance access to free and quality education in marginalized and other underserved areas was answered by the Cabinet Secretary.
- vii) Question No. 034 by the Senator for Kitui County (Sen. Enoch Wambua, CBS, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury and Economic Planning on pension disbursements to former Members of Parliament, who served between 1979 and 1992 was deferred.
- viii) Question No. 035 by the Senator for Kirinyaga County (Sen. James Murango, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury and Economic Planning on the taxes and levies imposed throughout the entire tea supply chain was deferred.
- ix) Question No. 048 by the Senator for Kisumu County (Sen. (Prof.) Tom Ojienda, SC, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury and

Economic Planning on delays in processing pension claims of retired civil servants was deferred.

6. **MOTION – CONSOLIDATION OF BURSARY FUNDS FOR EQUITABLE ACCESS TO EDUCATION IN KENYA**

Order read;

Motion made;

THAT AWARE THAT, Pursuant to Article 53 of the Constitution, every child in Kenya is entitled to free and compulsory basic education, and the Basic Education Act provides that basic education should be guided by principles such as equitable access to all youth and equal access to education or institutions;

FURTHER AWARE THAT, many students in secondary schools and higher education institutions come from financially disadvantaged backgrounds, making it difficult for them to afford school fees and access education opportunities;

NOTING THAT, over the years, various interventions have been made, including the issuance of bursaries through the National Government Constituency Development Fund (NCDF), National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF), the Ministry of Education and county governments through various county bursary funds;

CONCERNED THAT, despite these efforts, school fees remain unaffordable for many parents and the allocation of bursaries has been plagued by nepotism, favoritism and political manipulation, lack of transparency and accountability;

FURTHER CONCERNED THAT public learning institutions are primarily funded by the Government through the Ministry of Education and, in the Financial Year 2024/25, approximately Kshs. 656 billion was allocated to the education sector, making it difficult to ascertain the specific funds granted to each student and that the lack of transparency in the disbursement of bursaries from various agencies makes it difficult to determine the total amount allocated in a financial year, thus hindering efforts to ensure equitable access to education for financially disadvantaged students;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Senate urges the Ministry of Education to:

- 1) audit the funds allocated to bursaries by both the National Government and county governments;
- 2) consolidate the funds distributed by various government entities and agencies, with the aim of directing these funds directly to schools as supplementary capitation to facilitate the achievement of free secondary education; and

- 3) calculate the cost of education per learner and make this information public for primary, secondary, and tertiary institutions, including a detailed breakdown of the annual financial requirements for each student across the country.

(Sen. Karungo Thangwa, MP)

And the time being One O'clock, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Veronica Maina, MP) interrupted the proceedings and adjourned the Senate without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

7. **SENATE ROSE** – at One O'clock

M E M O R A N D U M

The Speaker will take the Chair on
Wednesday, May 07, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.

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