

SPECIAL ISSUE

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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

KENYA GAZETTE SUPPLEMENT

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS, 2025

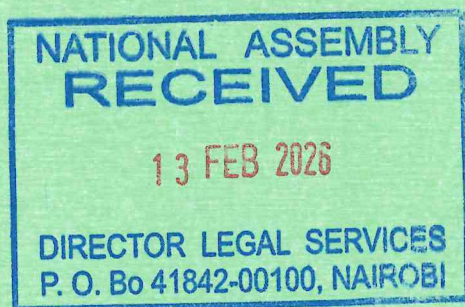
NAIROBI, 21st November, 2025

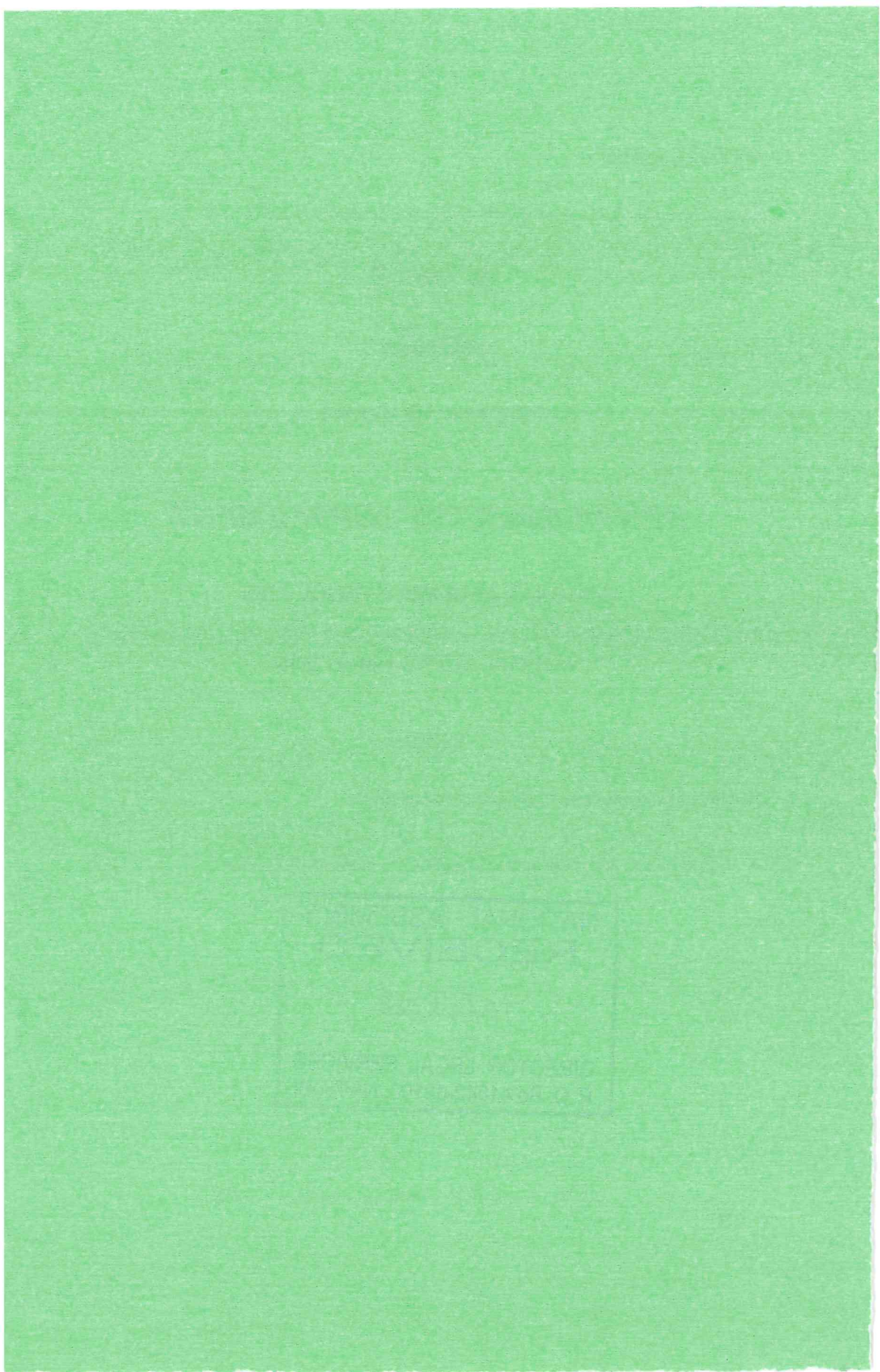
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**THE KENYA CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025**

A Bill for

AN ACT of Parliament to amend the Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act

ENACTED by the Parliament of Kenya, as follows—

1. This Act may be cited as the Kenya Citizenship and Immigration (Amendment) Act, 2025.

Short title.

2. The Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act is amended by deleting section 15 and substituting therefor the following new section—

Repeal and replacement of section 15 of Cap. 170.

Stateless persons.

15. (1) A person who does not have an enforceable claim to the citizenship of any recognized state and has had habitual residence in Kenya since 12th December, 1963, shall be deemed to have been lawfully resident and may, on application, in the prescribed manner be eligible to be registered as a citizen of Kenya if that person—

- (a) is able to understand and communicate in Kiswahili, a local dialect, or other communication formats and technologies available to persons with disabilities;
- (b) has not been convicted of an offence and sentenced to imprisonment for a term of three years or longer during the person's stay in Kenya; and
- (c) understands the rights and duties of a citizen.

(2) The Cabinet Secretary shall maintain a register of registered stateless persons living in Kenya.

3. Section 16 of the Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act is amended by deleting subsection (2).

Amendment of section 16 of Cap.170.

MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The principal object of the Bill is to amend the Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act, Cap. 170 to remove the time limit for application for citizenship by stateless persons and migrants.

Clause 1 of the Bill provides for the short title.

Clause 2 of the Bill provides for the amendment of section 15 of the principal Act to remove the limitation of time for application of citizenship by stateless persons and to include the requirement that a stateless person have been habitually resident in Kenya since 12th December 1963.

Clause 3 of the Bill provides for the amendment of section 16 of the principal Act to remove the limitation of time for application of citizenship by migrants.

Statement on the delegation of legislative powers and limitation of fundamental rights and freedoms

The Bill does not delegate legislative powers to the Cabinet Secretary and does not limit any fundamental rights and fundamental freedoms.

Statement that the Bill does not concern County Governments

The Bill relates to immigration and citizenship which is a function of the National Government under Section 3 of Part 1 of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution. It is therefore not a Bill concerning County Governments.

Statement that the Bill is not money Bill within the meaning of Article 114 of the Constitution

The enactment of this Bill will not occasion additional expenditure of public funds.

Dated the 19th November, 2025.

Owen Yaa Baya,
Member of Parliament