

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO PROTECT THE SENIOR CITIZENS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS,
2019

Sponsored by Hon. Chukwuma Umeoji

[] Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of
Nigeria as follows-

1 1. -(1) It shall be an offence under this Bill to-

2 (a) use Senior Citizens confidential financial information and
3 funds for unauthorized self-gain, or

4 (b) Unlawfully access and use assets of Senior Citizens, a person
5 guilty under this Sub-Section, shall be liable on conviction on indictment to
6 a fine not less than Five Million (N5,000,000.00).

7 (2) It shall be an offence under this Bill to-

8 (a) dishonestly or forcibly take the financial belongings of Senior
9 Citizens, without their permission or consent,

10 (b) intentionally cause bodily harm and emotional distress or
11 failing to provide physical support due to not purchasing the required
12 disability support equipment, or

13 (c) intentionally administer or prescribe medication in order to take
14 control of Senior Citizens financial belongings by being given custody; a
15 person guilty under this Sub-Section, shall be liable on conviction on
16 indictment to a fine not less than Five Million Naira (N5,000,000.00).

17 (3) It shall be an offence under this Bill to-

18 (a) force changes to a will or other legal document,

19 (b) deny any Senior Citizens the right to access their personal
20 funds,

21 (c) forge signatures and make a false instrument/statement with the

Offences against
Senior Citizens

1 intention that it shall be used to induce another person to accept it as genuine
2 and, by reason of so accepting it to do some act, or to make some omission, to

3 the prejudice of the elderly person, or other vulnerable persons,

4 (d) authorise the payment of money or delivery of any property, with

5 the intention of making a gain for himself or herself or another, or causing loss

6 to Senior Citizens,

7 (e) intentionally misappropriate or improperly or illegally convert

8 money or other valuable possessions,

9 (f) a person who dishonestly with the intention of making a gain for

10 himself or herself or another, or of causing loss to the Senior Citizens, by any

11 deception procures the execution of valuable security is guilty of an offence, or

12 (g) Any person who abets, aids and counsels or authorises the

13 payment of money or delivery of any property, with the intent of making a gain

14 for himself or herself or another, will be held equally accountable as the same

15 persons in the above Sub-Sections.

16 (4) Paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) of subsection (3) of this Bill, shall

17 apply in relation to-

18 (a) the making, acceptance, endorsement, alteration, cancellation or

19 destruction in whole or in part of a valuable security, and

20 (b) the signing or sealing of any paper or other material in order that it

21 may be made to or converted into, or used or dealt with as, a valuable security,

22 as if that were the execution of a valuable security.

23 In this section, "valuable security" means, any document creating, transferring,

24 surrendering or releasing any right to, in or over property of Senior Citizens a

25 person guilty of any of the above offences shall be liable on conviction to a fine

26 not less than Five Million Naira (N5,000,000.00) and/or imprisonment for a

27 term not less than Five (5) years.

28 2. The Minister may-

29 (a) by regulations provide, for any matter referred to in this Bill as

30 prescribed or to be prescribed, and

1 (b) in addition to any other power conferred on him or her to make
2 regulations, make regulations generally for the purposes, and for the
3 purpose of giving full effect to this Bill.

4 3. In this Bill-

Interpretation

5 "Senior Citizen Abuse" means an intentional act that could reasonably be
6 expected to result in physical or psychological injury to Senior Citizens;

7 "financial abuse" means interfering with the financial autonomy and well
8 being of Senior Citizens, which involves a person knowingly by deception
9 or intimidation, obtaining or using, or endeavouring to obtain or use an
10 elderly person, or other vulnerable persons funds, assets or property with the
11 intent to temporarily or permanently deprive the Senior Citizens of the use,
12 benefit or possession of the funds, assets or property, or to benefit someone
13 other than the Senior Citizens;

14 "Senior Citizen" means a person, other than a child, an elderly person,
15 especially an old-age pensioner who-

16 (a) is suffering from a disorder of the mind, whether as a result of
17 age, mental illness, or any form of accident, or physical disability;

18 (b) that the person is incapable of adequately providing for his or
19 her own health or personal care;

20 (c) a person who is 65 years of age and above.

21 4. This Bill may be cited as the Senior Citizens Protection Bill,
22 2019.

Short title

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to protect the Senior Citizens.

