

Legislative Report

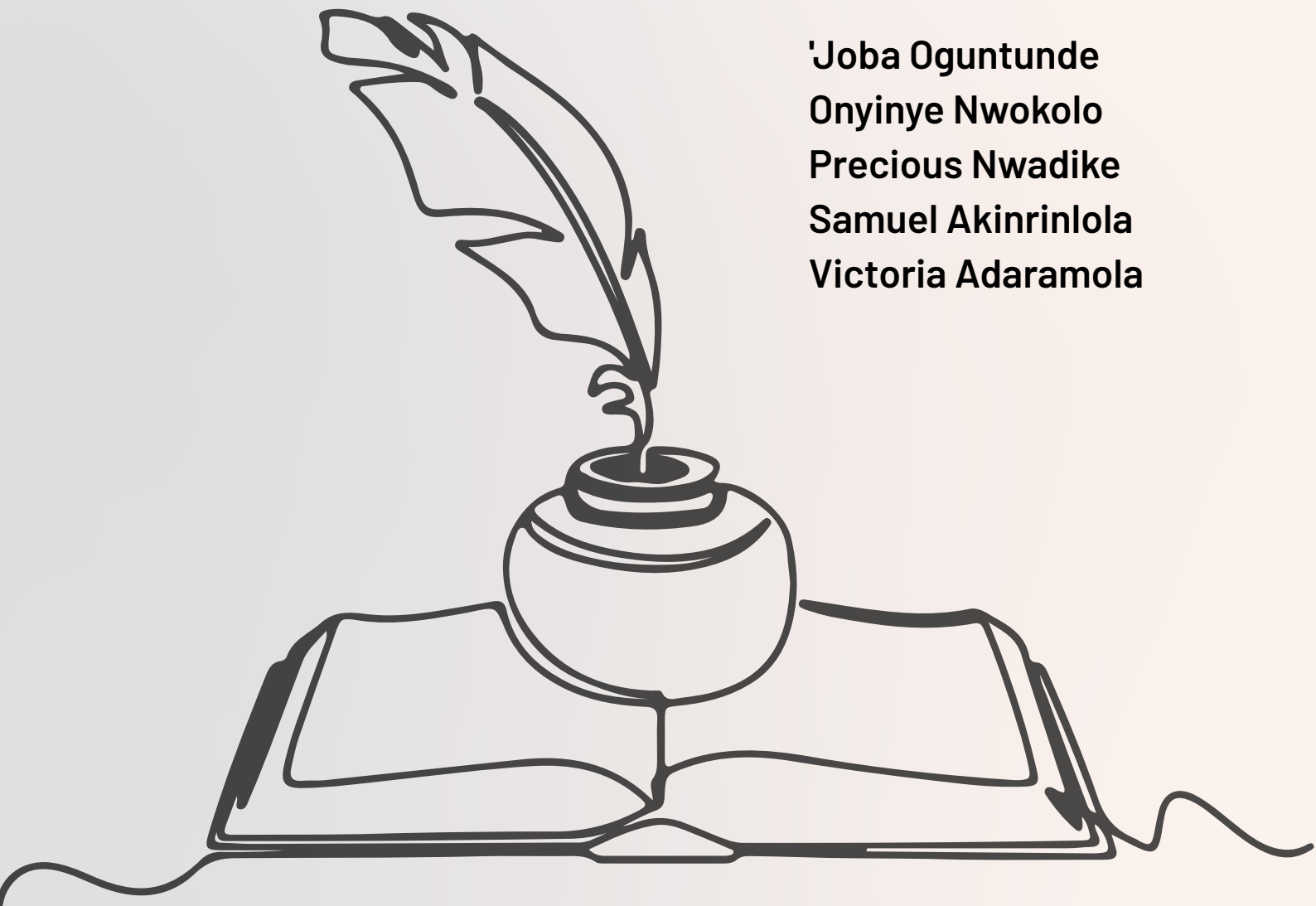
A Quarterly Report on Legislative
Developments at the National Assembly

(Q2 2025)



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Executive Summary

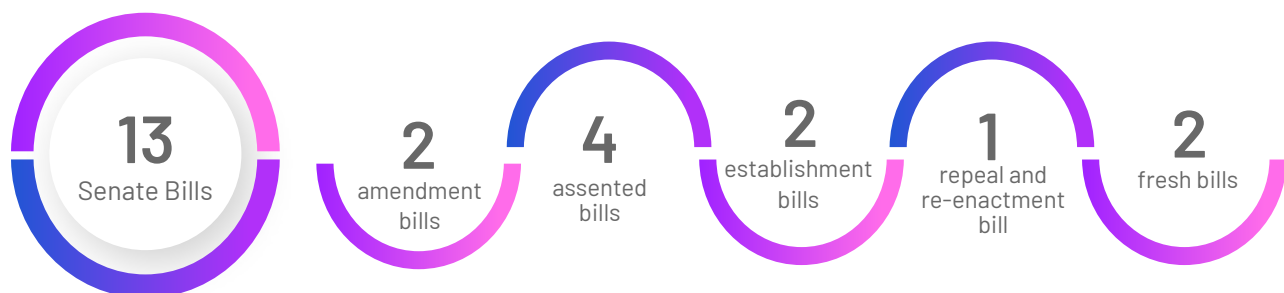
This report provides a comprehensive analysis of legislative developments at the Nigerian National Assembly (NASS) during the second quarter (Q2) of 2025. It highlights key efforts by both the Senate and the House of Representatives (House of Reps.), jointly referred to as the "Assembly") to address critical issues in technology, economics, and business regulation. The report examines significant bills introduced or deliberated upon, focusing on their objectives, status, and potential impacts on Nigeria's socio-economic landscape.

In the Senate, notable bills include amendments to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission Act, the Pension Reform Act, and the establishment of the National Artificial Intelligence Commission. Additionally, bills such as the Ride Hailing and Smart Mobility Bill and the Nigeria Women and Youth Enterprise Equity Fund Bill reflect a proactive approach to fostering innovation, enhancing transparency, and promoting economic inclusion.

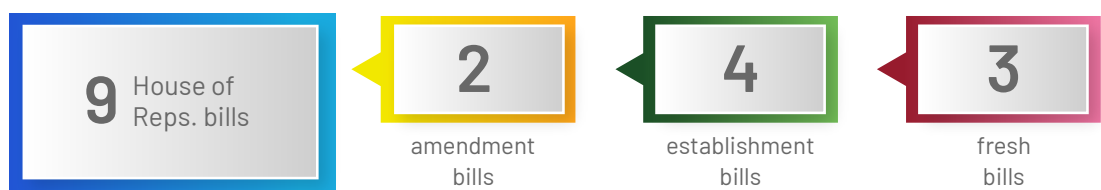
The House of Reps. has been active in proposing and deliberating on bills addressing risk management, freedom of information, professionalisation of information management, establishment of AI and robotics institutions, national identity management, and the regulation of gaming. Furthermore, the House has introduced measures to strengthen governance frameworks, promote digital transformation, and support inclusive economic growth.

Some of our findings from the report include the following:

- The introduction of several bills aimed at regulating and governing the use of artificial intelligence (AI), focusing on ethical standards, innovation promotion, and national security;
- Out of the twelve (13) Senate bills highlighted in this report, there are two (2) amendment bills, four (4) assented bills, four (4) establishment bills, one (1) repeal and re-enactment bill, and two (2) fresh bills;



- Out of the nine (9) House of Representatives bills highlighted in this report, there are two (2) amendment bills, four (4) establishment bills, and three (3) fresh bills;



- Legislative plans to facilitate the harmonisation of identity databases, risk management frameworks, and public reporting requirements, thereby strengthening the integrity of Nigeria's governance ecosystem;
- The President's recent assent to 4 (four) landmark tax bills aims to significantly broaden Nigeria's tax base and comprehensively reform its tax system. Crucially, these new Acts, including the Nigeria Revenue Service (Establishment) Act, 2025, consolidate federal revenue collection mandates into a newly formed, more autonomous agency, the Nigeria Revenue Service (NRS), replacing the former Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and potentially absorbing collection functions from other agencies;
- The development of a legislative bill to provide targeted support for women, youth, and startups by simplifying promoting local content and institutionalising technology incubation; and
- The potential challenges around operational complexity, fiscal sustainability, duplicity of legislative effort, and regulatory enforcement of the bills being moved.

The report concludes by encouraging increased collaboration between lawmakers and stakeholders to ensure legislative initiatives achieve their intended objectives while fostering sustainable growth and inclusivity across Nigeria's evolving digital and economic landscape.



Introduction

The report examines the Assembly's endeavours in technology, economics, and commerce, spotlighting projects designed to accelerate innovation, establish a favourable business climate, and stimulate economic expansion. It offers a balanced summary of legislative actions taken during the second quarter of 2025, evaluating achievements, obstacles, and possible future trajectories.

Bills at the National Assembly

1. Senate

This quarter, the Senate continued its legislative function, deliberating on various bills. This quarter, the Senate deliberated on the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, the Pension Reform Act (Amendment) Bill, among others. A notable trend during the quarter is the leaning of these bills to key ethical principles such as transparency, accountability, and respect for human rights. In this section of the legislative report, we provide an overview of the bills and their potential impacts on the ecosystem.





S/N	Bill title	Current stage	Brief history	Possible impact
1.	Economic and Financial Crimes Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (SB 88)	First reading	The bill seeks to enhance the EFCC's efficiency, promote inter-agency collaboration, and strengthen compliance with human rights standards. It also mandates collaboration and information sharing with other law enforcement agencies and introduces clearer evidentiary standards for investigations. To protect individual rights, the public parading of arrested persons is prohibited unless they have been convicted. Additionally, the EFCC must publish quarterly reports on seized assets and prosecutions, which are to be included in its annual report to the National Assembly.	The amendments in the bill redefine the EFCC's leadership structure, thereby boosting institutional credibility and professionalism. The amendment now formally requires collaboration and information-sharing with other law enforcement agencies, enhancing inter-agency coordination. Human rights protections are reinforced through references to constitutional provisions and international human rights instruments, while suspects are safeguarded from public parading unless convicted. Furthermore, transparency is bolstered through a mandatory quarterly publication of seized asset reports and prosecution updates, alongside provisions to ensure such assets are properly preserved.
2.	Pension Reform Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (SB 777)	First reading	The bill aims to update the Pension Reform Act of 2014 to address the gaps in the existing Act. Key proposed changes are expected to focus on increasing the lump sum retirees can withdraw from their Retirement Savings Accounts (RSAs), streamlining the process for benefit payments, and improving the efficiency and timeliness of pension disbursements. It also seeks to empower Pension Fund	The proposed amendments to the Pension Reform Act of 2014 are likely to enhance efficiency, transparency, and retiree welfare. Increasing the lump sum accessible to retirees from their RSAs from 25% to about 75% would provide greater financial flexibility at the point of retirement, helping to address immediate post-retirement needs. Streamlining benefit payment processes and improving disbursement timelines would reduce bureaucratic delays that have historically led to financial hardship for retirees. Additionally, empowering Pension Fund Administrators (PFAs) to process and



S/N	Bill title	Current stage	Brief history	Possible impact
			Administrators (PFAs) to process and pay out benefits more quickly, reducing delays that have caused hardship for retirees.	pay benefits more swiftly strengthens accountability and service delivery across the sector.
3.	National AI Commission Act (Establishment) Bill (SB. 731)	First Reading	The bill aims to establish a regulatory body to oversee the development, deployment, and responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Nigeria. It seeks to ensure AI technologies align with national interests by setting ethical standards, safeguarding data privacy, and promoting innovation.	The proposed bill represents a novel and critical legislative step for Nigeria, as the nation strives to catch up with the rest of the world in the regulation of Artificial Intelligence. The bill is expected to drive economic growth and innovation by supporting AI research, fostering public-private collaboration, and promoting digital skills and security, mandating strict compliance with national standards and regular audits of AI systems. The Commission will be looking to address risks such as algorithmic bias and ensuring AI technologies are transparent, accountable, and aligned with human rights. Ultimately, the bill positions Nigeria to become a regional leader in responsible and inclusive AI governance while safeguarding societal interests and national security
4.	Ride Hailing and Smart Mobility Bill	First reading	The Ride Hailing and Smart Mobility Bill aims to regulate digital taxi and ride-hailing services in Nigeria by establishing licensing requirements, safety standards, fare regulations, and consumer protections. The bill seeks to formalise the sector, ensuring efficient and secure operations for both service providers and	Before the introduction of this bill, the regulation of ride-hailing services in Nigeria had been a fragmented landscape, primarily governed by individual state laws and regulations, leading to inconsistencies and operational complexities. This new bill provides a national and streamlined legal framework, unifying the regulation of ride-hailing across Nigeria. The bill is expected to facilitate the formalisation of the sector through licensing and safety standards, improving passenger



S/N	Bill title	Current stage	Brief history	Possible impact
			drivers across the country. It also addresses issues such as driver welfare, data privacy, and dispute resolution, promoting a safer and more reliable urban mobility ecosystem.	security, enhancing driver welfare, and boosting digital innovation in urban transport. It promises greater consumer protection, fair fare regulation, and expanded job opportunities for drivers, contributing to economic growth. However, it may result in increased operational costs from regulatory compliance that may raise fares, possible bureaucratic delays affecting service efficiency, and challenges in enforcing regulations uniformly across regions. Additionally, there are concerns about data protection and the risk of marginalising informal transport operators who may struggle to meet new standards.
5.	Nigeria Women and Youth Enterprise Equity Fund Bill 2025(SB. 841)	First Reading	The bill aims to establish a dedicated fund to provide financial support and equity investment opportunities for women and youth entrepreneurs across Nigeria. The bill seeks to address the persistent funding gap and barriers these groups face in accessing capital, thereby promoting economic inclusion and empowerment.	The bill is expected to significantly boost economic inclusion by providing targeted financial support and equity investments to women and youth entrepreneurs, addressing critical funding gaps that limit their business growth and sustainability. This can lead to increased job creation, innovation, and poverty reduction, especially in key sectors like agriculture, technology, and the creative industries, aligning with broader government initiatives that have already allocated substantial resources toward women's economic empowerment.
6.	Nigeria Content in Programmes, Contracts, Science, Engineering, Technology, and Innovation (NOPCESTI) (Establishment) Bill (HB. 1167)	First Reading	The bill seeks to establish a regulatory agency and council to promote and oversee Nigerian content in various sectors. It aims to ensure increased local participation and ownership in programmes	The bill is expected to boost local participation in critical sectors such as technology and manufacturing, foster indigenous innovation, and enhance national capacity in science and technology. It may stimulate job creation, reduce reliance on foreign expertise, and promote sustainable



S/N	Bill title	Current stage	Brief history	Possible impact
			<p>and contracts in infrastructure, technology deployment, manufacturing, and research, fostering national capacity building, research, and development.</p> <p>However, NOTAP oversees and regulates the transfer of foreign technology to Nigerian entities, and registers and supervises contracts and agreements involving technology transfer to ensure fair terms and promote indigenous technology development and adaptation. The responsibilities of the NOPCESTI can be subsumed into NOTAP instead of setting up an entirely new regulatory agency.</p>	<p>economic growth through increased investment in research and development.</p>
7.	Artificial Intelligence Academy Omuo-Ekiti, Ekiti State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 763)	First Reading	<p>The bill seeks to establish a specialised AI Academy in Omuo-Ekiti to advance education, research, and innovation in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and related technologies. This institution aims to provide focused training and skill development for students and professionals, foster industry partnerships, and support Ekiti State's broader digital transformation goals. Aligned with Ekiti State's ongoing efforts to boost</p>	<p>The establishment of the academy will equip residents with advanced AI skills, boosting their employability and competitiveness in the growing digital economy. This workforce development is expected to drive economic growth by attracting investment, encouraging tech startups, and creating high-value jobs in Ekiti State. Additionally, the bill will position Ekiti as a regional leader in AI education and innovation, enhancing the state's technological reputation within Nigeria and West Africa.</p> <p>While the academy is commendable, we reckon that setting up hubs in different regions, higher institutions,</p>



S/N	Bill title	Current stage	Brief history	Possible impact
			digital skills and innovation, the Academy is expected to enhance workforce readiness, attract investments, and stimulate economic growth.	or even the Free Trade Zone will enable the Act achieve its goals on a higher scale.
8.	Ministry of Finance Incorporated Act, Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 844)	First Reading	<p>The bill aims to modernise and strengthen the legal framework governing the Ministry of Finance Incorporated (MOFI). It seeks to update MOFI's structure and operations to reflect current economic realities and global standards, The current structure of MOFI places it as a wholly government-owned entity, with the Federal Government (via the Ministry of Finance) as the sole shareholder. Governance is led by a President-chaired Governing Council and a professionally constituted Board of Directors, focused mainly on asset holding and oversight of government investments.</p> <p>The bill introduces private-sector investment principles, performance-based management, and robust risk management approaches. And aims to modernise MOFI into a centralised sovereign asset manager modeled</p>	The bill will increase revenue and improve the management of public assets, potentially boosting their value. Improved asset management is expected to drive economic growth, attract investment, and support national development. The bill aims to accelerate Nigeria's local and regional economic development by institutionalising technology incubation as a key driver of innovation and entrepreneurship. It supports the country's broader digital economy and startup ecosystem goals, complementing initiatives like the Nigerian Startup Act through funding, training, and regulatory support. By establishing a national framework for technology incubation, its implementation will foster a sustainable ecosystem that nurtures startups, speeds up commercialisation, and generates jobs. Additionally, through its mandate for MOFI to publish annual reports with the first quarter of the year, detailing its activities, asset management performance, and governance practices, the bill will enhance accountability, and transparency.



S/N	Bill title	Current stage	Brief history	Possible impact
			<p>after international best practices, emphasising commercial efficiency, transparency, and stronger governance.</p> <p>The bill also mandates the creation of a national asset register to maintain an accurate inventory of federal assets and empowers the Minister of Finance to guide MOF's investment policies, thereby ensuring greater accountability and strategic management of public resources.</p>	
9.	National Agency for Technology Incubation (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB 1025)	First Reading	<p>The bill proposes the establishment of a federal agency to regulate and promote technology incubation, research, and development throughout Nigeria. While the startup Act already provides for this, the bill also provides that the agency will oversee technology incubators, parks, and innovation clusters. The agency will standardise the operations of incubation centres, ensuring consistent quality and impact, while promoting the commercialisation of research and indigenous technologies. It will facilitate partnerships between universities,</p>	<p>The bill will accelerate Nigeria's local and regional economic development by institutionalising technology incubation as a key driver of innovation and entrepreneurship. It supports the country's broader digital economy and startup ecosystem goals, complementing initiatives like the Nigerian Startup Act through funding, training, and regulatory support. By establishing a national framework for technology incubation, its implementation will foster a sustainable ecosystem that nurtures startups, speeds up commercialisation of indigenous technologies, and generates jobs.</p>



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			research institutions, innovators, and entrepreneurs and has the authority to source funding from various investors and development partners. Governance will be maintained by a supervisory Board responsible for policy direction and oversight. This bill should be merged with the AI Academy Omuo-Ekiti, Ekiti State bill to facilitate wider coverage of the bill and reduce redundancy.	
10.	The Nigeria Tax Act, 2025	Assented	These laws consolidate and modernise Nigeria's tax framework, streamlining tax administration across all government levels, and establishing a new autonomous revenue service. The reforms introduce a unified tax code, simplify compliance, and broaden the tax base while reducing the burden on small businesses and low-income earners. They also enhance intergovernmental coordination and dispute resolution, aiming to boost revenue, attract investment, and foster economic growth	These laws are expected to broaden Nigeria's tax base and improve its revenue collection while easing the tax burdens on small businesses and low-income earners. Also, by establishing a more autonomous Nigeria Revenue Service which will be sole collector of revenue in Nigeria and formalising intergovernmental cooperation, the laws seek to boost efficiency, transparency, and investor confidence.
11.	The Nigeria Tax Administration Act, 2025	Assented		
12.	The Nigeria Revenue Service (Establishment) Act, 2025	Assented		
13.	The Joint Revenue Board (Establishment) Act, 2025	Assented		

2. House of Representatives

The Nigerian House of Representatives, in fulfillment of its legislative responsibilities has introduced and reintroduced several bills in this quarter that are relevant to the Nigerian business and technology ecosystems.

This section considers 9 bills deliberated on by the House of Representatives in the second quarter of 2025. The bills address aspects on Risk Management, Freedom of Information, Chartering Information Professionals, Establishing an Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Robotic Studies, Banking and other Financial Institutions, National Identity Database and the National Identity Management, Private Intelligence and Investigation, Central Gaming, National Science, Technology, Innovation and Research

By analysing the status, objectives, and potential impact of these bills, we aim to provide insights into how the House of Representatives is working to create a legislative framework that supports Nigeria's evolving digital economy and business environment.



S/N	Bill title	Bill Status	Bill Overview	Potential Impact
1.	Chartered Institute of Enterprise Risk Management of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2287)	First Reading	The Bill seeks to institutionalise risk management as a regulated profession in Nigeria. It will establish a Chartered Institute to accredit risk management practitioners, set ethical and technical standards, and promote capacity building. The Bill will also establish a governing	The Bill could significantly strengthen Nigeria's business environment by creating a standardised structure for assessing the credibility of risk assessment practitioners, inspiring investor confidence, and strengthening regulatory compliance. While the bill does not suggest a direct legal requirement for entities in Nigeria to become members of the Institute or to only employ certified members for in-house risk roles.



S/N	Bill title	Current stage	Brief history	Possible impact
			council to oversee certification, discipline, and curriculum development. The bill will ensure that organisations employing enterprise risk management professionals or offering risk management services in Nigeria are registered with the Institute	However, highly regulated sectors—like finance, insurance, and capital market may experience indirect requirements to align with standards or frameworks developed by such an institute.
2.	Freedom of Information Act (Amendment) Bill (HB. 2255)	First Reading	The Bill seeks to update the Freedom of information Act, 2011. It aims to strengthen transparency, enhance public access to data held by public institutions, as well as close operational loopholes present in the principal Act.	The amendment could provide further clarity on the scope of exemptions, particularly around national security, privacy, and commercial confidentiality, to prevent arbitrary denials of public requests made to public institutions. It could also expand the definition of "public interest" to factor in reasonable misgivings concerning a public institution's level of accountability. To improve institutional compliance, the Bill could further provide stricter administrative sanctions for unjustified refusals, delays, or provision of false information.
3.	National Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Robotic Studies (Establishment) Bill (HB 2243)	First Reading	The Bill seeks to establish a national institution dedicated to advancing artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics research, education, and industry applications in Nigeria. Furthermore, the Bill aims to foster innovation, support the development of AI-driven technologies, and bridge the gap between academic research and commercial implementation.	The Bill could centralise Nigeria's AI research and policy, potentially accelerating innovation, standard-setting, and workforce development. Furthermore, it is expected that the Bill will mandate collaboration with universities and industries, support innovation hubs, and foster indigenous technology solutions to improve productivity in sectors like agriculture, health, and security. Nevertheless, the Bill's success will depend on adequate funding, sound governance, effective regulation, and meaningful



S/N	Bill title	Current stage	Brief history	Possible impact
				<p>collaboration with industry and academia.</p> <p>This bill would have a mandate broader than the Artificial Intelligence Academy Omuo-Ekiti, Ekiti State (Establishment) Bill that focuses on AI skill set development, as it covers both AI and robotics research, policy formulation, and possibly higher-level innovation.</p>
4.	Standardised and Mandatory Framework for Risk Management Bill (HB.1951)	Second Reading	The Bill seeks to create a unified national framework for risk governance across the public and private sectors. This is to ensure consistency in identifying, assessing, mitigating, and reporting risks, particularly in critical infrastructure, finance, health, and emerging technologies.	The enactment of this Bill has the potential to institutionalise enterprise-wide risk management across sectors by introducing provisions such as mandatory adoption of risk assessment frameworks for public and private entities, mandating practical periodic risk audits, integration of risk practices into strategic plans, and establishing oversight responsibilities for regulators to improve governance and sustainability across businesses.
5.	Banks and other Financial Institutions Act (Amendment) Bill 2025 (HB 2309)	First Reading	<p>The proposed amendments to Nigeria's banking and financial sector prioritise inclusivity by removing age restrictions and mandating non-discrimination in employment. This is backed by strict enforcement, with fines or license suspensions for banks failing to revise recruitment policies to reflect these fair labor standards.</p> <p>Such measures aim to foster transparency and equitable practices within financial institutions.</p>	<p>The bill could substantially impact the banking sector by mandating revisions to recruitment policies to promote inclusivity and fairness, especially addressing the widespread use of contract staff and age restrictions by commercial banks. This may require banks to restructure operations to comply, while regulators like the CBN may need to enhance oversight to ensure adherence. However, penalties such as fines or license suspensions for non-compliance might lead to legal disputes from affected banks, complicating enforcement efforts.</p> <p>Additionally, the bill's focus on removing age restrictions and regulating contract staff aims to reduce discrimination and</p>



S/N	Bill title	Current stage	Brief history	Possible impact
			While these stringent penalties ensure compliance with the bill's objectives, they might also spark legal challenges from institutions contesting the implementation or impact of these new regulations.	over-dependence on temporary workers, encouraging more stable and legally compliant employment practices. While this could improve employee welfare and operational consistency, it might also impose increased administrative and financial burdens on banks adjusting their staffing models.
6.	National Identity Database and the National Identity Management Commission (Establishment) Bill (HB 1281)	First Reading	The bill aims to establish a comprehensive legal and institutional framework for managing Nigeria's national identity system. It seeks to formalise and strengthen the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) as the central authority responsible for collecting, storing, securing, and verifying citizens' and residents' identity data. At its core, the bill aims to create an inclusive, reliable, and secure national identity database that underpins governance, service delivery, and national security.	The bill in action could strengthen NIMC's regulatory and operational capacity by facilitating the development of interoperable systems with other government agencies and licensed private sector partners, enforcing compliance with identity verification standards, and establishing penalties for fraudulent registrations or data breaches. Furthermore, by consolidating fragmented identity systems, the bill could also potentially improve service delivery efficiency, reduce duplication of efforts, and cut costs associated with maintaining parallel databases. It also promotes trust in digital transactions by enabling secure and reliable online authentication. If effectively implemented, the Bill could become a transformative tool for Nigeria's socio-economic development. It has the potential to facilitate financial inclusion, improve targeting of social programs, enhance national security through better identification of individuals, and support e-governance initiatives.
7.	National Technology Hub and Innovation Ecosystem Bill, 2025 (HB 2104)	First Reading	The Bill is aimed at institutionalising a national framework for fostering innovation, supporting startups, and	If effectively implemented, the bill has the potential to reposition Nigeria as a regional leader in technology innovation. It could significantly increase the survival rate of startups



S/N	Bill title	Current stage	Brief history	Possible impact
			accelerating digital transformation in Nigeria. The bill seeks to establish technology hubs across the country, strategically positioned to serve as innovation clusters for entrepreneurs, researchers, investors, and public agencies.	by reducing barriers to entry, supporting product development, and fostering market access. Moreover, by institutionalising support for innovation, the bill aligns with global best practices and presents a strategic opportunity for Nigeria to harness its youthful population, unlock new jobs, and drive inclusive, sustainable development. Challenges will remain, particularly in ensuring sustained funding, avoiding duplication of efforts with existing agencies, and addressing infrastructural limitations, but the legislative framework lays a strong foundation for long-term growth.
8.	Central Gaming Bill (HB. 2062)	Report Stage	The bill aims to repeal the National Lottery Act of 2005 and its 2017 amendment. The bill seeks to establish the Central Gaming Commission as the national lottery regulatory authority and harmonise the regulatory framework for gaming across Nigeria. The bill aims to increase revenue, promote responsible gaming practices, and align Nigeria's gaming sector with international standards.	It is anticipated that these bills will impose new obligations on gaming platforms. Gaming platforms will now be required to comply with data protection standards, implement age verification measures to ensure that children do not have access to gaming platforms and adopt anti-money laundering measures. If the bill is enacted, the existing licenses issued by the National Lottery Regulatory Commission (NLRC) would be considered a licensed operator of the Commission for the purpose of online aspect of their business. The bill's restriction on the acceptable payment methods in the gaming industry will reduce incidents of money laundering.
9.	National Science, Technology, Innovation and Research Council (Establishment) Bill (HB.727)	Third Reading	The bill proposes a unifying institutional framework to harmonise policies, prioritise strategic research areas, and ensure alignment with national development goals. The	The implementation of this bill will likely create a council empowered to allocate research grants, evaluate project outcomes, and ensure that public funding delivers tangible socio-economic benefits. It would also facilitate the commercialization of research outputs, strengthening










S/N	Bill title	Current stage	Brief history	Possible impact
			council would likely serve as an apex advisory and coordinating body, bridging government ministries, research institutions, universities, and industry players to promote synergy and avoid duplication of efforts. It could also play a regulatory and standard-setting role, ensuring the ethical conduct of research and the safe deployment of new technologies.	intellectual property management frameworks and incentivising private-sector participation in R&D. By using this approach, the council can create a self-sustaining innovation ecosystem that translates research into market-ready solutions which will in turn bolster national competitiveness in the foreign market.

Bills Analysis

Ride-Hailing and Smart Mobility Bill, 2025

The Ride-Hailing and Smart Mobility Bill, 2025, which is currently in its first reading at the Senate, seeks to establish a national regulatory framework for ride-hailing and digital taxi services in Nigeria. Its primary goals are to enforce licensing requirements, set safety and vehicle standards, regulate fares, and protect consumer rights and data, ensuring an efficient and secure operation of digital mobility platforms across the country.

Key Provisions

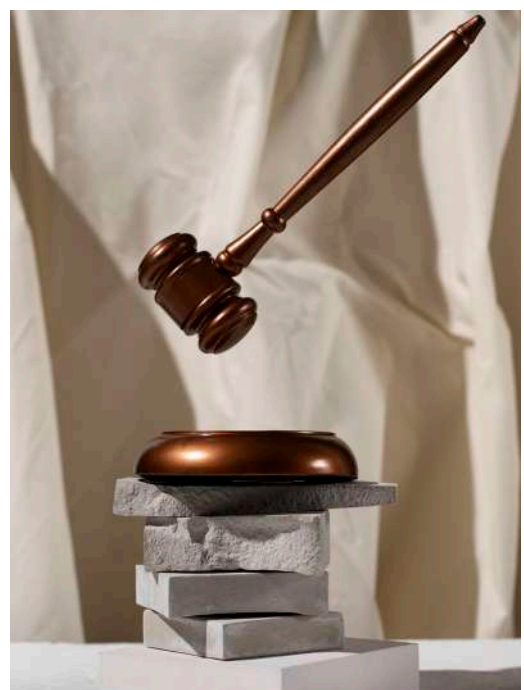
						
Regulatory Authority (Clause 1)	Licensing Requirements (Clause 3 (1)(2))	Vehicle Standards (Clause 5)	Passenger Rights and Responsibilities (Clause 6(1)(2))	Fare Regulation (Clause 7)	Data Protection (Clause 8)	Offences and Penalties (Clause 9)

- **Regulatory Authority (Clause 1):** The Federal Ministry of Transportation is designated as the primary regulator, responsible for issuing licenses, enforcing compliance, and protecting consumer interests.
- **Licensing Requirements (Clause 3 (1)(2)):** The bill mandates that only companies licensed by the Ministry may operate as ride-hailing providers. Requirements include: registration under CAMA, functional digital platform, passenger insurance, and at least 50% software operations domiciled in Nigeria.
- **Vehicle Standards (Clause 5):** The bill mandates all vehicles to undergo annual inspection for roadworthiness, meet Ministry-set safety standards, and be equipped with security tracking and emergency response features.
- **Passenger Rights and Responsibilities (Clause 6(1)(2)):** Passengers are entitled to fair, transparent fares, safe and secure rides, and a process to report driver misconduct. Passengers must also comply with payment, respect drivers/vehicles, and adhere to safety rules.
- **Fare Regulation (Clause 7):** The Ministry regulates fares to prevent excessive pricing. Surge pricing is capped at a percentage limit to be determined by the Ministry.
- **Data Protection (Clause 8):** The bill prohibits the sharing of passenger data without explicit consent. All platforms must comply with the Nigeria Data Protection Act 2023.
- **Offences and Penalties (Clause 9):** The bill requires ride-hailing service providers to apply for a license to operate. And where a ride-hailing service provider operates without a license, they're liable to a fine of ₦10,000,000 or suspension for up to eight months. In addition, drivers operating without a permit face a ₦500,000 fine or up to one year's suspension.

Potential Impact of the Bill

Positives

- **Standardisation and Safety:** The bill sets clear national standards for licensing as against the fragmented State by State requirements and regulations, safety, and operations, improving service quality and passenger safety.
- **Consumer Protection:** The bill strengthens passenger rights, fare transparency, and data protection, fostering greater public trust in digital mobility services.
- **Local Content Development:** The bill's requirement for local software operations may stimulate domestic tech industry growth.



Notable Challenge and Recommendation

A notable challenge identified is the potential for a multiplicity of agencies and overlapping mandates, particularly within the burgeoning Artificial Intelligence sector. While one proposed bill advocates for the creation of an AI Institute in the South Western region to foster research and development, another concurrently calls for the establishment of a broader agency regulating technology and innovation, which also provides for the creation of hubs and clusters nationwide.

We recommend that the merger of these AI and technology and innovation bills be considered to create a more cohesive and efficient regulatory and developmental framework, avoiding fragmentation and optimising resource allocation. However, the ultimate challenge remain in effective implementation, enforcement, and balancing regulatory burdens with sector growth, particularly in emerging industries like AI.

Conclusion

The legislative developments in Q2 2025 demonstrate the National Assembly's commitment to creating a robust legal foundation for Nigeria's technological advancement and economic diversification. By focusing on transparency, accountability, innovation, and inclusion, the Assembly is addressing critical gaps in governance and service delivery.

Notably, the recent assent to the landmark tax reform bills marks a pivotal shift towards a more streamlined and efficient revenue collection system, consolidating mandates into the newly formed Nigeria Revenue Service (NRS) and aiming to broaden the tax base. This bold move is poised to enhance fiscal stability and improve the ease of doing business.

The ongoing legislative process concerning the NIMC (National Identity Management Commission) Amendment Bill at the House of Representatives signals a concerted effort to strengthen Nigeria's foundational digital identity infrastructure. This amendment is crucial for enhancing data integrity, improving service delivery, and bolstering national security, underpinning various digital initiatives.

Moving forward, sustained collaboration between lawmakers, industry stakeholders, and civil society will be essential to realise the full potential of these legislative initiatives.



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