

THE 10TH SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

**REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
THE REVIEW OF THE 1999 CONSTITUTION**

ON

**A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
STATE POLICE**

JUNE, 2026

REPORT ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ALTER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, 1999 TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE POLICE; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2026

1. Introduction

At its plenary on Tuesday, 23rd June, 2026, the Senate read an Executive Bill seeking to alter the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, to provide for the establishment of State Police Services and for related matters, for the first and second times. After a debate on the general principles, it was referred to the Committee on the Review of the 1999 Constitution, to report back at the next sitting.

2. Membership of the Committee

1. Senator Jibrin Barau - DSP/Chairman
2. Senator Bamidele Opeyemi- Vice Chairman
3. Senator Mohammed T. Monguno- Member
4. Senator Yisa Ashiru Oyetola - “
5. Senator Nwaebonyi Onyekachi - “
6. Senator Abba Moro - “
7. Senator Tony Nwoye - “
8. Senator Oyewumi Kamorudeen Olalere - “
9. Senator Sani H. Rufa’i - “
10. Senator Adamu M. Aliero - “
11. Senator Ali Ndume - “

12. Senator Ngwu Osita - “
13. Senator Ahmed Lawan - “
14. Senator Enyinnaya Abaribe - “
15. Senator Danjuma Goje - “
16. Senator Sahabi Alhaji Ya’u - “
17. Senator Aliyu M. Wamakko - “
18. Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi - “
19. Senator Shuaibu Isa Lau - “
20. Senator Abdulfatai Buhari - “
21. Senator Orji Uzor Kalu - “
22. Senator Aminu Waziri Tambuwal - “
23. Senator Adenigba F. Fadahunsi - “
24. Senator Bomai I. Mohammed - “
25. Senator Umar Sadiq Suleiman - “
26. Senator Isah Jibrin - “
27. Senator Abiru Adetokunbo - “
28. Senator Mohammed S. Musa - “
29. Senator Adeola S. Olamilekan - “
30. Senator Osita B. Izunaso - “
31. Senator Seriake Dickson - “
32. Senator Abdul Ningi - “
33. Senator Agom Jarigbe Jarigbe - “
34. Senator Binos Dauda Yaroe - “
35. Senator Victor Umeh - “
36. Senator Bassejy Aniekan Etim - “

37. Senator Chinedu Munir Nwoko - “
38. Senator Adams A. Oshiomole - “
39. Senator Mallam-Madori Abdulhamid - “
40. Senator Ibrahim M. Khalid - “
41. Senator Dandutse M. Mohammed - “
42. Senator Natasha Akpoti-Udu - “
43. Senator Adebule I. Oluranti - “
44. Senator Adeniyi A. Adegbonmire - “
45. Senator Simon Bako Lalong - “
46. Senator Irete H. Kingibe - “
47. Senator Ipalibo H. Banigo - “
48. Senator Pam Mwadkon Dachungyang - “

Dr. Innocent Mebiri - Clerk to the Committee

3.0 Committee Action

The bill represents one of the most significant institutional reforms proposed in the current constitutional review cycle. Its core objective is to move Nigeria from a unitary policing structure to a federal policing model that allows states to create their own police services, subject to national minimum standards, constitutional safeguards, and federal oversight in defined exceptional circumstances.

It is important to highlight that restructuring national security and policing frameworks is a key thematic area the Committee has presented to Nigerians as a matter of serious national importance, in fulfilling its mandate to propose constitutional amendments that enhance national security and promote effective governance.

Nigerians acknowledged the security concerns and actively participated in the process by submitting hundreds of memoranda to the Committee. They also delivered passionate oral presentations during the public hearings that the Committee held in the country's six geopolitical zones on July 4th, 5th, 26th, and 27th, 2005. Furthermore, the Committee engaged with numerous stakeholders and consulted subject-matter experts to gather insights into policing within a federal system characterised by socio-cultural diversity.

Throughout the process, a dual policing structure has been widely proposed by both citizens and security experts as a vital solution to Nigeria's intractable security challenges. Proponents argue that the current highly centralised federal system is structurally overstretched and ill-equipped to address localised threats such as banditry, kidnapping, and communal clashes. By establishing concurrent jurisdiction through the formal creation of state police services alongside the existing Nigeria Police, this decentralised framework aligns with the core principles of true federalism. It empowers subnational authorities with local knowledge and cultural competence necessary for rapid response and effective intelligence gathering. While experts acknowledge concerns regarding potential abuse

and varying fiscal capacities across subnational governments, the prevailing consensus underscores that statutory decentralisation remains an imperative mechanism to bridge enforcement gaps, enhance public safety, and restore long-term stability across the federation.

4.0 Key Highlights of the Bill

The Committee has thoroughly reviewed the Bill on a clause-by-clause basis, and it aligns with the Committee's perspectives on structure, safeguards, and oversight mechanisms. Accordingly, highlights of the Bill include:

- i. Replacing the current Nigeria Police Force framework with the Federal Police Service and State Police Services;
- ii. Creating a constitutional basis for state-level policing, including state police commissions;
- iii. Preserving the federal police in every state until a state police service is operational;
- iv. Giving the federal police responsibility for federal crimes, the FCT, national security, inter-state and organised crime matters;
- v. Giving the state police responsibility for local law enforcement, public order and protection within the state;
- vi. Setting rules for appointments, oversights, discipline and removal of the Inspector General of Police and the Commander of a State Police;
- vii. Allowing federal intervention in a state police service in limited cases like breakdown of order, incapacity and national security threats; and

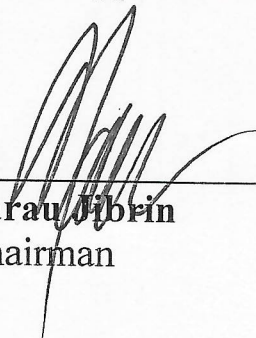
- viii. Updating legislative powers, schedules and definitions throughout the Constitution to fit the new structure.

5.0 Recommendations


Having regard to the provisions of the Bill and its potential institutional benefits, the Committee recommends that the Bill be passed as set out in the attached report. This recommendation is premised on the Bill, which establishes a constitutional basis for a more responsive policing system that better reflects local security needs while preserving a federal police service for national responsibilities. It also incorporates safeguards and oversight mechanisms, including national minimum standards, judicial review and time-bound federal intervention.

6.0 Conclusion

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank the President of the Senate and my colleagues, Distinguished Senators and members of the Committee for their cooperation in the processing of this Bill. I hope and believe that this bill will receive expeditious passage. I also wish to use this opportunity to encourage Distinguished Senators to reach out to members of State Houses of Assembly in their respective Senatorial districts to support this Bill when it is transmitted to them.



Sen. Barau Jibrin
DSP/Chairman



Dr. Innocent Mebiri
Clerk to the Committee