

**Twelfth Parliament**

**Second Session**

**(No.008)**

**(040)**

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

**TWELFTH PARLIAMENT – SECOND SESSION**

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2018**

1. The House assembled at thirty minutes past Two O'clock
2. The Proceedings were opened with Prayer
3. **Presiding** – the Speaker
4. **MESSAGE FROM H.E. THE PRESIDENT**

The Speaker conveyed the following Message – **Approval of nominee for appointment as Solicitor-General**

**(No.008)**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2018**

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**5. PETITION**

The Speaker conveyed the following Petition – **Proposed amendment to Article 231(4) of the Constitution**

“Honourable Members,

Pursuant to Standing Order 225 (2) (b), I wish to convey to the House a Petition signed by three citizens namely; **Edward Nyakeriga, Jackline Kageha and Zachariah Momanyi** on behalf of Republican Liberty Party. The Petitioners are praying that in accordance with Article 256 (1) of the Constitution on amendment of the Constitution through parliamentary initiative, the National Assembly introduces a Bill to amend the Constitution.

The Petitioner is praying that the National Assembly amends Article 231(4) of the Constitution, which provides that *“Notes and coins issued by the Central Bank of Kenya may bear images that depict or symbolize Kenya or an aspect of Kenya but shall not bear the portrait of any individual”*. The Petitioners contends that the manner in which Article 231 is framed is ambiguous. The Petitioners cite a number of jurisdictions whose currencies have portraits of their founding leaders and individuals, as an honour for their outstanding contribution to their countries.

Honourable Members, the Petitioners affirms that the portrait of the first President of the Republic of Kenya meets the exclusive standard to depict or symbolize Kenya or any aspect of our country. Further, they propose that the reverse side of the currency should bear the image of the National Parliament and Coat of Arms as the two images exhaustively depict the country’s key features.

Honourable Members, the Petitioners are therefore praying that the National Assembly, through the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning initiate the process of amending Article 231 of the Constitution by deleting Sub-Article 4 and substituting therefore with the following text: *“Notes and coins issued by the Central Bank of Kenya may bear the portrait of the First President of the Republic of Kenya while the back of the Notes shall bear the image of the Parliament and the Coat of Arms”*.

Honourable Members, you may wish to note that there was a similar Petition to this House in the last Parliament but whose consideration by the relevant Committee was not concluded by the end of the term of the House. The Petition now stands committed to the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning for consideration. The Committee is at liberty to introduce a Bill proposing to amend the Constitution as prayed by the Petitioners or make such recommendation(s) as it may deem fit.

Thank you”