

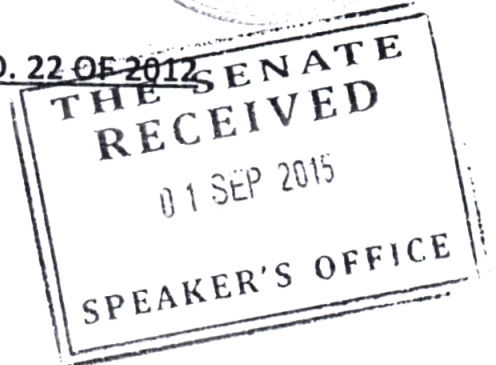
PETITION FOR MANDATORY VOTER REGISTRATION AND COMPULSORY VOTING

THE SENATE,
REPUBLIC OF KENYA,
P.O. BOX 41842-00100,
NAIROBI-KENYA

① DSO/D.LAY
Present this to the Hon. Speaker
for consideration
Senate resumes
3/08/15



REF: PETITION TO PARLIAMENT (PROCEDURES) ACT NO. 22 OF 2012
(REVISED EDITION 2012) CHAPTER 7C LAWS OF KENYA



I, the undersigned citizen of the Republic of Kenya.

Draw the attention of the House to the following:

That there is a general disinterest/apathy by a significant portion of the eligible Kenyan population to participate in the political affairs of the Republic of Kenya through participation in the democratic election of representatives in the various Houses/Assemblies and in the election of Office bearers in the Institutions of the Presidency and County Governments.

This has been shown by the percentage of eligible citizens of the Republic of Kenya who don't get registered as voters and further by the percentage of registered voters who don't actually turn out to vote on Election Day.

In the General Elections of the year 2013, it is estimated that 32 percent of the eligible population had not been registered as voters and of those that were registered, 14 percent did not turn out to vote on the Election Day.

That various reasons and hypotheses have been postulated to explain this state of affairs.

That a democratic government has a duty to facilitate and promote civic participation since it receives legitimacy through the consent of the governed.

② Charles
Please deal
4/9/15

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That the electoral process serves crucial functions, including choosing elected representatives, setting the course for public policy and allowing individuals to express their views on the public issues that impact their lives, families and communities.

That elections don't serve these purposes well if we don't all participate.

That our voter registration system needs to be changed so it's used as a tool, not as barrier, for civic engagement.

That voter registration continues to create significant barriers to getting into the electoral system and to voting on Election Day.

That compulsory voting systems can confer a high degree of political legitimacy because they result in high voter turnout. The victorious candidate represents a majority of the population, not just the politically motivated individuals who would vote without compulsion.

That other advantages of compulsory voting are the stimulation of broader interest politics, as a sort of civil education and political stimulation, which creates a better informed population.

That there is a correlation between compulsory voting, when enforced strictly, and improved income distribution, as measured by the Gini coefficient and the bottom income quintiles of the population.

That compulsory voting also prevents disenfranchisement of the socially disadvantaged. If everybody must vote restrictions on voting are easily identified and steps are taken to remove them.

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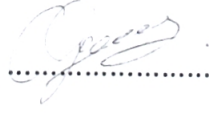
That the Parliament of the Republic of Kenya consisting of the National Assembly and the Senate are charged with the responsibility of legislation as well as representation.

That the issues in respect of which the petition is made are not pending before any Court of law or Constitutional or legal body that is within my knowledge.

HEREFORE your humble Petitioner Prays that parliament:-

- (i) Introduces legislation for enactment that will make it mandatory for every eligible Kenyan to be registered as a voter and thus shift the burden of voter registration from the individual to the state.
- (ii) Introduces legislation for enactment that will make it obligatory for all eligible persons of the Republic of Kenya to vote.

And your **PETITIONER** will ever pray.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FULL ADDRESS</u>	<u>NAT. ID NO.</u>	<u>SIGN</u>
David O. Gesicho	P.O. Box 1838-50100 Kakamega Kenya	5617488	

DATED THIS 28th DAY OF AUGUST 2015