

Dated: 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2021

Mwalimu Muthisya,  
Nairobi.  
Email: [mwalimumuthisya@gmail.com](mailto:mwalimumuthisya@gmail.com)  
Mobile No. 0720 502 965 956

① Ag. Jir - Departmental Committee  
This relates to the Pharmacy & Poisons (Amendment) Bill, 2021 (No. 2 of 2021), which is awaiting 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. Kindly refer to the House Committee as per the Memorandum in the Bill. We have also requested to give status to the Bill.  
Mjomba  
22.2.21

**TO:**

The Speaker Of The National Assembly,  
Parliament Building  
P.O Box 41842 - 00100,  
Nairobi.

**ATTENTION:**

The Chair,  
Parliamentary Health Committee,  
Kenya National Assembly,  
Nairobi.

Dear Sir,

**RE: PETITION AGAINST THE HON. KETER'S HEALTH BILL 2021.**

I am writing in response to the Bill that was initiated and tabled by Hon. Alfred Keter to the National Assembly. This pertains to the practice of pharmacy both in government and private practice.

I hold a Diploma in Pharmaceutical Technology and a Higher National Diploma in Pharmacy Clinical Pharmacy option both from The Kenya Medical Training College (K.M.T.C.) - Nairobi.

As the Pharmacists and Medical Officers busy themselves with fighting the Diploma Holders in Pharmacy, they have and for long left a fertile ground for the real quacks to open dispensing chemists/pharmacies all over the country. It is true to say that the quacks own a bigger number of these drugs outlets than both the Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Technologists combined.

② Mr. Jago, Sir  
Pis draft a reply to WA's signature, explaining to how the rule of pharmacy is being affected by the Bill, and the petition to the committee so that we may be contacted through...  
Mjomba  
22/2/21

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
RECEIVED  
22 FEB 2021  
SPEAKER'S OFFICE  
P. O. Box 41842, NAIROBI.

Of interest to note is the fact that the many untrained people opening and running illegal chemists get their supplies from properly registered drugs wholesalers and retailers shops which are owned by the Pharmacists. Noting this, I am right to say that it is the Pharmacists who have made the private pharmacy practice go to the dogs. As a result of this, there are chemists/pharmacies all over the place. On the same, they are the same people who have opened branches of their pharmacies in all towns in Kenya after saturating the CBD space.

Adding to this, the Medical Officers who are running Medical Clinics have fully stocked pharmacies which even sell drugs to the public and obviously against the law. The changes as prescribed in the Bill are only fertile with business competition. The fact that there are many well trained and properly skilled Diploma Holders in Pharmacy is giving the Pharmacists and the Medical Officers of Health a big worry as far as private business is concerned. This is the root cause of the Bill in front of the Hon. Members of Parliament. The Bill has nothing to streamline the pharmacy practice but it is business competition taken to the highest level.

To bring sanity in the private practice of Pharmacy in Kenya, the Pharmacists should stop selling drugs to people who are not qualified (not trained). The issue of rescheduling the schedule of drugs is only aimed at limiting the Diploma Holders from dealing with all classes of drugs. It is important to note that such terrible change is only aiming to chase the said Diploma Holders out of business leaving the pharmacists and Medical Officers of Health to control the practice.

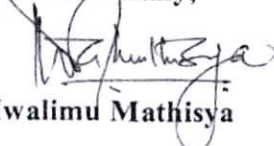
I am challenging the Members of National Assembly to tell Kenyans where the many trained Diploma Holders in Pharmacy will go in absence of not practicing. Does the government have any plan and capacity to employ all of them? Given that there are many of them who are already running their private pharmacies as their way of earning a living, what are they expected to do?

Lastly and not final, why is the government training the diploma holders in Pharmacy if they are incompetent as Hon. Alfred Keter is trying to insinuate? Where does the government expect them to go after being barred from practicing? Why has the Ministry of Health and The Pharmacy and Poisons Board allowed untrained people to open and run dispensing chemists/pharmacies all over the country? Why does the Ministry of Health as the PPB allow those running medical clinics to have fully equipped pharmacies in their units? Why do the Pharmacists sell drugs to untrained people thereby encouraging the mushrooming of many illegal pharmacies?

In trying to get an answer to the above raised questions, you will find out that the Bill is only malicious and is a continuation of the business war by the pharmacists as it has been since 1980s. Sir, reading through each of the raised issue, you will be convinced that this Bill does not even need to waste precious time for the Hon. Members in discussing it and the best thing is to stop it from being tabled, that is, I pray that it should be opposed and rejected in its totality.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,



Mwalimu Mathisya

**C.C:**

The Cabinet Secretary,  
Ministry of Health, Afya House,  
P.O Box 30016 – 00100,  
NAIROBI.

The Principal Secretary,  
Ministry of Health, Afya House  
P.O Box 30016 – 00100,  
Nairobi.

The Registrar,  
Pharmacy and Poisons Board,  
P.O Box 27663 – 00506,  
Nairobi.