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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT|SECOND SESSION

THE SENATE

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION,
COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

ON

THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY PRINTER BILL, 2022 (SENATE BILLS
NO. 10 OF 2022)

Rt. Hon. Speaker
You may approve for tabling
J. M. Nyegenye, C.B.S.,
Clerk of the senate/secretary, PSC
Date: 12/04/23

Clerk's Chambers,
Parliament Buildings,
P.O. Box 41842-00100,
NAIROBI.

April 2023

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CoG	Council of Governors
GP	Government Printer
ICT	Information, Communication and Technology
MoICDE	Ministry of Information, Communication and the Digital Economy
MP	Member of Parliament
Sen	Senator

PRELIMINARIES

Establishment of the Committee

The Standing Committee on Information, Communication and Technology is established under standing order 228 and the Second Schedule of the Senate Standing Orders. The Committee is mandated to -

“consider all matters related to technology, engineering and electronic research, information broadcasting and Information Communications Technology development.”

Membership of the Committee

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Sen. Allan Kiprotich Chesang, MP | - Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. Miraj Abdulahi Abdulrahman, MP | - Vice-Chairperson |
| 3. Sen. William Kisang Kipkemoi, MP | - Member |
| 4. Sen. Boy Issa Juma, MP | - Member |
| 5. Sen. Samson Kiprotich Cherarkey, MP | - Member |
| 6. Sen. Shakila Abdalla Mohamed, MP | - Member |
| 7. Sen. Godfrey Atieno Osotsi, MP | - Member |
| 8. Sen. Karen Njeri Nyamu, MP | - Member |
| 9. Sen. Beatrice Akinyi Ogola, MP | - Member |

The mandate of the Committee

Under the provisions of the Fourth Schedule of the Senate Standing Orders, the Standing Committee on Information, Communication and Technology considers all matters related to technology, engineering and electronic research, information broadcasting and Information Communications Technology development.

Standing order 228 (4) specifically provides the functions of committees as to -

- i) investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration and operations of the assigned ministries and departments;

- ii) study the program and policy objectives of ministries and departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- iii) study and review all legislation referred to it;
- iv) the study, assess and analyze the relative success of the ministries and departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
- v) consider the Budget Policy Statement in line with Committee's mandate;
- vi) report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the Senate to approve;
- vii) make reports and recommendations to the Senate as often as possible, including recommendations of proposed legislation;
- viii) consider reports of Commissions and Independent Offices submitted to the Senate according to the provisions of Article 254 of the Constitution;
- ix) examine any statements raised by Senators on a matter within its mandate; and
- x) follow up and report on the status of implementation of resolution within their mandate.

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Office of the County Printer Bill, 2022 (Senate Bill No. 10 of 2022) seeks to establish the office of the County Printer in each of the forty-seven counties. The establishment of the office by the Bill is necessitated by the provisions of the County Governments Act, 2012 which refers to the publication of Bills, Acts and other documentation in a county gazette. However, the Act does not provide for the establishment of the Office of the County Printer that would publish such gazettes.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Office of the County Printer Bill, 2022 (Senate Bills No. 10 of 2022) was read a First Time in the Senate on 16th February, 2023 and thereafter committed to the Senate Standing Committee on Information, Communication and Technology for consideration.

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 118 and standing order 145 (5) of the Senate Standing Orders, the Standing Committee on Information, Communication, Technology invited interested members of the public and Stakeholders to submit memoranda on the Bill. The Committee received written submissions from the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology and the Digital Economy, the National Treasury and Economic Planning, the Council of County Governors and the Government Printer.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee made the following key observations –

- a) That it agrees with the proposal by the Government Printer, the Council of County Governors and the National Treasury and Economic Planning that the establishment of forty-seven (47) county government printers would be too expensive and fiscally imprudent since the offices would not only require employment of skilled officers but also capital investment for purchase of appropriate equipment.
- b) That it may therefore be prudent to consider the establishment of regional offices that would serve a number of counties instead of a printer for each county government.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Arising from the observations, the Committee recommends that –