

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 4th June 2024

The Assembly met at 10:15 a.m.

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai) in the Chair]

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Honourable members, I want to recognize the presence of students from Vidhu Ramji secondary school in Township ward in Murang'a town; the ward that is led by none other than the chairperson Budget and Appropriations Committee, Hon. Charles Machigo. Students you are welcome to the Assembly.

PAPERS

**REPORT OF LAND, HOUSING, PHYSICAL PLANNING AND SETTLEMENT
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON THE MURANG'A COUNTY
VALUATION FOR RATING BILL, 2023**

Hon. Charles Machigo: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am a member of Lands and Housing Committee. Before I lay the Paper, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the students of Vidhu Ramji secondary school to this honourable House. Vidhu Ramji is the best performing day school in terms of performance and population in my township ward. The students with us here are form fours and we wish them all the best as they complete their secondary life. I beg to lay the following Paper;-

That, pursuant to Standing Order 134 (4) the Report of the sectoral Committee on Land, Housing, Physical Planning and Settlement of public participation on the Murang'a County Valuation for Rating Bill, 2023, CA Bill No.4 of 2023 be laid on the Table of the Assembly today.

(Hon. Charles Machigo laid the Paper on the Table)

REPORT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE ON THE
MURANG'A COUNTY RIGHT TO FOOD POLICY FOR THE PERIOD 2024 - 2032

Hon. Caroline Njoroge: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I wish to lay the following Paper; -

That, the Report of the sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on the Murang'a County Right to Food Policy for the period 2024 – 2032.

(Hon. Caroline Njoroge laid the Paper on the Table)

REPORT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE ON THE
STATUS OF SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND ABATTOIRS IN MURANG'A COUNTY

Hon. Caroline Njoroge: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would wish to lay the following Paper;-
the Report of the Sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on the Status of Slaughter Houses and Abattoirs in Murang'a County.

(Hon. Caroline Njoroge laid the Paper on the Table)

NOTICES OF MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES
COMMITTEE ON THE MURANG'A COUNTY RIGHT TO FOOD POLICY FOR THE
PERIOD 2024 - 2032

Hon. Liz Mbugua: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of Motion;-

That, this Assembly adopts the Report of sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on the Murang'a County Right to Food Policy for the period 2024 - 2032, laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday 4th June 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES
COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND ABATTOIRS IN
MURANG'A COUNTY

Hon. Liz Mbugua: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of Motion on the following; -

That, this Assembly adopts a report of the Sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on the Status of Slaughter Houses and Abattoirs in Murang'a County, laid on the Table of the Assembly today Tuesday 4th June 2024.

BILLS

THE MURANG'A COUNTY VALUATION FOR RATING BILL (NO.4 OF 2023)

Hon. Gerald Wambugu: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion; -

That, the Murang'a County Valuation for Rating Bill, 2023 be read for a second time.

The Report contain deliberations during the public participation of Murang'a County Valuation for Rating Bill 2023 that is county Assembly Bill No.4 of 2023 which was published on 14th June 2023 and read for the first time on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 and committed to Land, Housing and Physical Planning Committee according to Standing Order 134 (1).

The Bill proposes to establish the legal framework for land valuation for rating and rating process by the county executive. Following the placement of advert requesting for comments on the Bill from public and relevant stakeholders according to Article 196 (b) and 201 (a) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and Standing Order 134 (3), the Committee did not receive any memoranda of the public.

The Committee is grateful to office of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly for logistical and technical support accorded to it during its sittings. The Committee appreciates members of the public and the stake holders for their input. On behalf of the sectoral Committee on Land, Housing and Physical Planning and according to provisions of Standing Order 204 (5) (g), it is my pleasant privilege and honour to report back to the County Assembly with the recommendation that the Bill should be approved with amendments.

Mr. Speaker, provisions of Standing Order No. 204 (5) establishes the sectoral Committee on Land, Housing and Physical Planning with the following mandate;

- 1) To investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned ministries and departments;
- 2) To study the program and policy objectives of ministries and departments and the effectiveness of their implementation;
- 3) To study and review all the legislation referred to it;
- 4) To study, assess and analyse the relative success of the ministries and departments measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives.
- 5) To make reports and recommendations to the Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.
- 6) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned department as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the Assembly;
- 7) To vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the Assembly to approve except understanding Order 198 (Committee on Appointments).
- 8) Make reports and recommendations to the Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

Mr. Speaker, during the public participation activity and the process of coming up with the Bill, we had the following guidelines; to conduct a public participation exercise on the Bill. To report on the observations of the public participation exercise on the Bill. To recommend that the County Assembly approves the Bill with or without amendments as proposed in the schedule.

This Bill provides for the legal framework for land valuation for rating and the process of rating by the county executive in addition it seeks to promote transparency and efficiency in the land valuation and rating process. The Bill has been prepared in accordance with the national standards and policies related to valuation and rating.

Part I of the Bill deals with preliminary matters. The Part sets out the purpose of the Bill which includes ensuring effective, efficient, and transparent administration of the valuation of land for rating and rating, ensuring equity and fairness in the valuation and rating process.

Part II of the Bill provides for an administration framework. It provides for the functions of the department which includes dealing with relevant matters related to valuation and rating. It also establishes the office of the director of valuation and rating.

Part III of the Bill provides for the process of valuation of land for rating. It provides for the preparation of the valuation roll, the content of the valuation roll and the process of preparation of the valuation roll.

Part IV of the Bill provides for the rating process. It provides for the levying of rates, the forms of rating, the methods of area rating, the process of collecting the rate, payment of rates and the appeal mechanisms where disputes arise in relation to rating.

Part V of the Bill provides for enforcement mechanisms.

Part VI of the Bill provides for general provisions which includes the powers of the Executive to make Regulations as well as the transition mechanisms.

The enactment of the Bill typically stems from several key reasons related to national and county public policies and economic management of County resources.

Here are some of the primary reasons:

1. **Equitable Taxation:** The Bill seeks to ensure property taxes (rates) are levied fairly and equitably across the County. By standardizing the valuation process, all property owners are taxed based on the accurate market value of their properties, ensuring that no one is unfairly over or under-taxed.
2. **Revenue generation for the County Government:** the county executive relies substantially on property taxes as a significant source of Own Source Revenue (OSR). If enacted the Act would aid in accurately assessing property values, ensuring that the county treasury can generate predictable and sufficient revenue to fund various services.
3. **Transparency and consistency:** enacting a standardized valuation process increases transparency and consistency in how property values are assessed in the County. This helps to build trust among property owners and reduces disputes over assessments.
4. **Economic efficiency:** accurate property valuations reflect the current market conditions, leading to more efficient allocation of resources. When property values are assessed correctly, it can influence better decision-making regarding land use planning.
5. **Legal and regulatory compliance:** The Bill ensures compliance with legal and regulatory frameworks. This is important for maintaining the integrity of the

property taxation system and ensures alignment with broader economic and fiscal policies of both the national and county governments.

6. Addressing inflation and market changes: property markets across the County are dynamic, from municipalities to rural towns, multinational companies doing large-scale farming to small-scale farmers, commercial centres, industrial parks, and residential associations thus value in property prices can change due to inflation, economic conditions, and other factors. Regular and systematic valuation as proposed in the bill ensures that property taxes remain fair and relevant to the current market conditions.

The next reason Mr. Speaker is encouraging development and investments; a fair and transparent evaluation system can encourage property development and investment across the County and in particular the first County government that is Delmonte land. Investors are more likely to invest where the tax system is predictable and perceived as fair.

The next reason Mr. Speaker, it is on litigation. A clear and standardized valuation process can reduce the number of litigations that can be launched before the valuation tribunal to be set up to address cases related to property tax assessment. Thus, saves time for both property owners and the County government.

The next reason Mr. Speaker is on urban planning and development. Accurate property valuation are essential for effective urban planning development. They provide necessary data for planning infrastructure, public service and other community needs.

Mr. Speaker the last reason is on reflecting changes on property use and development. This Bill ensures that changes in property use e.g. residential to commercial and development. e.g. building and renovations are accurately reflected in valuation process ensuring appropriate taxation levels.

Mr. Speaker, the Murang'a County Valuation Bill 2023 seeks to provide a legal framework for implementation of Article 209 (3) (a) of the constitution and for valuing and rating land. And ensure efficiency, accountability and transparency in administration of valuation of land for rating. Two, it will promote economic development. Three, it will ensure equitable and fairness of land valuation and rating system. The last one is it will ensure compliance with payment of rates related to land.

Mr. Speaker, the Bill have four clauses and are divided into six parts as follows. Part one of Bill provides for preliminary matters including short title, commencement and interpretation of words and expressions used in the Bill and objects and purpose of the Bill and includes the following sections; Section one to three it provides for preliminary matters. That is the short title under section one. Section two interpretation of words. Section three objects and purpose of the Act.

Part two of the Bill is on administration; the part of the Bill provides for an administration framework. It provides for function of the department which includes dealing with relevant matters related to valuation and ratings. It also establishes the office of Director of valuation and ratings. It comprises the following sections Mr. Speaker, one----the department Mr. Speaker is responsible for the following;

- 1) Conducting valuation and rating of land.
- 2) Preparing the valuation roll.
- 3) Administering the valuation roll.
- 4) Subject to the approval by the County Assembly, imposing rates on rateable properties.
- 5) Determining the applicable rates for the area rating.
- 6) To provide schedule of rates.

And last one is to advice the Executive Member on the appropriate method of rating applicable under this Act.

Mr. Speaker, the fifth section of the Bill is on director of valuation and rating. There shall be a director of valuation and rating. The County Public Service Board shall appoint the director in consultation with Executive Member. The director will have the following powers; he will have the power to value land for rating. He will also prepare the valuation roll. He will also alter or amend the valuation roll in accordance with the Act or any written law. He will also carry out any function related to better carrying out of this Act. The director may delegate his powers under this section to any valuer or person in writing.

Mr. Speaker the seventh section is on officers. The County Public Service Board shall ensure that the department is resourced with sufficient valuers and other necessary officers to effectively carry out responsibilities under this Act.

Part three of the Bill Mr. Speaker is on valuation. This part provides for the process of valuation of land for rating. It includes the preparation of valuation roll, the content of valuation roll and the process of preparation. The valuation falls under section eight of the Bill that is preparation of valuation roll. Section nine, amendments on valuation roll. Section ten powers on entry and inspection. Section 11 contents of valuation roll. 12 basis of valuation. Section 13 participation of rateable owners. Section 14 objections. Section 15 Mr. Speaker, approval of valuation roll. Section 16 Mr. Speaker, public notice and inspection. Section 17 coming into force. Section 18 alteration of valuation roll. Section 19 Mr. Speaker is on valuation of public land. Section 20 Mr. Speaker is on exemption of valuation.

Part six of the Bill Mr. Speaker provides the rating process, levying of rates, the forms of rating, the methods of rating, the process of collecting rates, payments of rates, the appeal mechanism where disputes concerning rates are arising.

Mr. Speaker under this section or the ratings falls under section 21 that is on levying of rates, section 22 forms of rating, section 23 alternative methods of area rating, section 24 site valuation and improvement of rates, section 25 Mr. Speaker is on supplementary rates, section 26 uniformity of rates, section 27 is on equitable distribution of rates. Section 28 is on due date for rates, Section 29 is payment of rates and interest, Section 30 is Rates chargeable on property, section 31 is on discount of rates, Section 32 is on statement of payment of rates and other charges, Section 33 is on exemption from, and remission of rates Section 34 is on Contribution in lieu of rates, Section 35 is publication and service of notices, etc.

The next part is on enforcement. This part provides for the rating process. It provides for the levying of rates, the forms of rating, the methods of area rating, the process of collecting the rate, payment of rates, and the appeal mechanisms where disputes arise in relation to rating. It has the following sections; Section 36 on enforcement of the payment of rates, Section 37 recovery of rates from tenants or occupiers. The other section is on general provisions, which falls under Section 38 regulations, section 39 Saving and section 40 repeals.

Following the call of memoranda from the public through placement of adverts in the print media requesting for comments from the public on the Bill, the Committee did not receive any memoranda. However, during the public participation exercise, the following submissions were received we have the provision and the recommendations, we have clause 2 on interpretation, the members of the public said that the clause should be deleted from the Bill. Clause 3 Purpose of

this Act, the recommendations were Clause 3 is amended by inserting the word “the” immediately after the words “framework for” and deleting “for” after the words “provide” and “in order” immediately after the word “land” In order to read- The purpose of this Act is to provide a legal framework for the implementation of Article 209 (3) (a) of the Constitution and for valuing and rating land to

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Honourable member, I think now you are touching on how we will do amendments in the Committee of the Whole House, just touch on the highlights, what you are now tackling is what you will do in the afternoon. Just wind up.

Hon Gerald Wambugu: Thank you Mr. Speaker, we have the Committee observations of the Bill; having considered the Bill, the Committee observed that the Valuation for Rating Bill sparked various observations from members of the public, reflecting a range of opinions and concerns. Here's a summary of the key points raised; one, transparency, residents within the County emphasized the need for transparency on how property valuations will be conducted. Having noted from the past where the majority of town councils in Murang'a unilaterally raised land rates based on the Valuations and Rating Act Cap 266 and Rating Act Cap 267 enacted in 1956 and 1964 respectively, which lacked provisions for public participation thus impacting heavily on the financial burden on residents, Committee Members were requested to ensure that, there is clear, accessible information on the criteria and methods used to assess property values in the County and failure to do so will be viewed as an overreach or lack of accountability, leading to residents discontent and possible political repercussions for Hon. Members

Two, fairness; concerns were raised about the fairness of the valuation process, particularly on how it impacts different types of properties and neighbourhoods. Some fear that certain areas or property types may be unfairly targeted, undervalued or overvalued.

On impact on property owners, residents living in high density areas and informal settlements expressed worries about the potential financial impact of new valuations on their property taxes. There is anxiety that higher valuations could lead to a significant increase in tax burdens, which might be challenging for those on fixed incomes or with limited financial resources.

Commercial property owners for those in Murang'a, Kenol, and Kangari municipalities also voiced their concerns about the implications for business costs. Higher property valuations

could translate into increased operational expenses, potentially affecting profitability and economic sustainability.

We have appeals process; residential associations and large commercial property owners questioned the efficiency and accessibility of the appeals process. They wanted assurance that they could easily challenge valuations they believe are inaccurate, excessive, or unfair without facing excessive bureaucratic hurdles. They offered suggestions such as simplifying the appeals process, by providing standardized procedures and documentation and setting and enforcing strict timelines for each stage of the appeals process. This includes deadlines for filing, review periods, and final decisions to ensure the process is prompt and efficient.

The other concern was on consultation and engagement; there is a strong call for more meaningful public consultation and engagement throughout the valuation process. Residents want opportunities to provide input and feedback, ensuring that the system reflects the needs and concerns of all stakeholders across the County. The County Assembly was challenged to legislate on allocating one percent of the Murang'a County budget for the FY 2024/2025 to Civic Education. Section 100 of the County Government Act, provides for civic education in order for County residents to participate more.

The Committee had the following recommendations; the Committee having reviewed the Murang'a County Valuation for Rating Bill 2023, (County Assembly Bill No 4. Of 2023) recommends that the County Assembly approves the Bill with amendments as proposed in the schedule. I now call upon my vice chair to second the Motion.

Hon. Chefman Njoroge: Thank you very much Mr. speaker. I rise to support the Bill and urge the Members. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Members I think now the Floor now is open for debate and I am sure the Mover has elaborated widely and it is clear now the Members can be able to debate. Hon Members the Floor is open for debate.

(No debate arose)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Silence means that the Mover was able to elaborate at length and I think the Members have understood. The Mover can respond.

Hon. Gerald Wambugu: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to thank the Members of the County Assembly for Murang'a for trusting my Committee on Land, Housing and Physical Planning because this was a noble task Mr. Speaker. We need valuation roll and this is why we have to enact these Bill. It has been long time due because all the revenues that we've been collecting Mr. Speaker if I may say so they were being collected illegally. But now with our valuation roll Mr. Speaker we will adhere or we ensure that the County Government of Murang'a will adhere to the law. Mr. Speaker thank you very much, Members thank you for supporting the Bill. *Asanteni* (Thank you)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): I think Hon. Members silence means consent and I am sure what Hon. Member of that Committee has said, it is true, that they have been illegally collecting the rates.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Next Order.

[SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER]

NOTICE OF MOTION

(Hon. Moses Muchiri rose on a point of Order)

Hon. Moses Muchiri: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I am Standing on a of Order, part four of our Standing Orders, on order of the Business, that is Standing Order --- it states that supplementary Order Paper Should be brought to the House one hour before the commencement of the House sitting. Hon. Speaker, it is to my knowledge as that of every other Member that the supplementary Order Paper was brought to this House as the Business of the Assembly was continuing. So, with that I consider it illegal and it is unprocedural Hon. speaker and also all the orders of today's business. They were not published as required by the law because they were supposed to publish on a County Assembly website 12 hours before the commencement of this

House. No order, no Business of this House since January has been published and so everything that we have been doing in this House it is illegal and I want every Member to understand that, I want every resident of Murang'a County and Kenyans to understand that we do not have a website where we publish all those before they are brought to this House. Everything that we have been doing in this House is illegal and unprocedural so---

(Hon. Morris Ngunu Thuku rose on a point of order)

Hon. Morris Ngunu Thuku: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I want with your guidance; I think it is important for Hon. Member for Muguru to quote the Standing Order that he is referring to for guidance.

Hon. Moses Muchiri: Hon. Speaker, I want the Whip to understand may be he does not understand, he is a Whip who doesn't understand the orders, don't you understand the order of the Business, you are serving your second term, we are serving our first term yet we know----

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Hon. Member address the Chair, don't address the Member straight.

Hon. Moses Muchiri: I have read it, he can read it if he has a copy and I have quoted it that is part 4, part 8 of our Standing Order on order of the Business. Everybody knows the supplementary Order Paper was supposed to be brought to this House one hour before the commencement of the House. Who doesn't understand? Even those students who are there they understand, they know because they study history, they know the law---

(Hon. Grace Nduta rose on a point of order)

Hon. Grace Nduta: Thank you Hon. speaker I want to raise a question if Hon. Moses is properly dressed for the House?

Hon. Moses Muchiri: Let him state the Standing Order which he is standing on.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Order! Order! Order! Order! Hon. Members I think the Hon Member for Muguru has raised a very good concern about the website and I want to give the direction now. Hon. Members as you know we have the Information Communication and Technology (ICT) department in this Assembly and the mode of

communication is regarded through the website or through the hard copies which has been provided for. Standing Order No.1 of our Standing Orders say, “There there is no provision, the presiding Chair shall decide” that is the Standing Order no. 1 and I want to quote that Standing Order.

Standing Order no. 1, “*It says in cases where matters are not expressly provided for by this Standing Orders or by any Standing Order of the Assembly the separate procedural questions shall be directed by the Speaker*”

So Hon. Members I want to make a ruling because I cannot sit here and stamp that what we done, we have just concluded the debate about a very important Business, the Bill that was before this House, I cannot just sit here and declare that what we were doing is illegal. That one I cannot allow, because every Member kept quiet and the reason as to why Members kept quiet it's because silence means consent. So the Bill that was before us has been read and debated for the second time and this afternoon we shall be waiting for the Committee of the Whole House to do the amendments that have been proposed by the Committee. Hon. Members this Honourable House we cannot go that direction and I now direct now the clerk to read the orders. I understand that the supplementary Order Paper was laid to this Assembly and I wish to continue. Go ahead.

Hon. Moses Muchiri: Yeah Hon. Speaker... *(inaudible)*

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Order! Hon. Member, Hon. Member I have ruled you out of order and I have given reason as to why. There is no way Hon. Member----

Hon. Moses Muchiri: I cannot sit in this House ... *(inaudible)*.....

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Serjeant- At- Arms just help this Hon. Member to leave the chamber. Help the Hon. Member for Muguru to leave the chamber. Go ahead.

Hon. Moses Muchiri: I am leaving. Wait until I leave the House.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Order! Clerk, continue.

NOTICE OF MOTION

REVIEW OF PLACEMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES OF THE ASSEMBLY

(inaudible)

Hon. Kibe Wasary: Hon. Speaker I beg to give the following notice of Motion; -

That, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 165 (1) (f) and Standing Order 166 (1) this Assembly approves review of placement of Members of the Assembly to the House Business and Rules and Committee of Selection as enumerated below.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Yes, next order.

MOTION

REVIEW OF PLACEMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES OF THE ASSEMBLY

Hon. Kibe Wasary: Hon. Speaker I beg to move the following Motion;-

That, pursuant to provision of Standing Orders 165 (1) (f) and Standing Order 166 (1) this Assembly approves review of placement of members of the Assembly to House Business and Rules Committee and Committee on Selection as enumerated below. HBC enumerated and Selection enumerated. Hon. Speaker I call Hon. Liz to second.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Before you second, for purposes of Hansard, just read out the names.

Hon. Kibe Wasary: Thank you Hon. Speaker. House Business and Rules Committee

1. Hon. Johnson Mukuha
2. Hon. Moses Gachui
3. Hon. Francis Kibe
4. Hon. Morris Thuku
5. Hon. Liz Muthoni
6. Hon. Steven Muigai
7. Hon. Elizabeth Wambui
8. Hon. John Kamwaga
9. Hon. Antony Marubu
10. Hon. Hanna Wairimu
11. Hon. Grace Nduta
12. Hon. Peter Murigi
13. Hon. Esther Kamindo
14. Hon. Pauline Njeri
15. Hon. Mark Gicheru

16. Hon. Julian Njiri

17. Hon. Priscilla Njeri Mwangi

Committee on Selection Hon. Speaker;

1. Hon. Chefman Isaac Njoroge
2. Hon. Grace Nduta
3. Hon. Steven Muigai
4. Hon. Charles Machigo Karina
5. Hon. Gerald Wambugu Mwangi
6. Hon. Alex Ndunda Makau
7. Hon. Simon Mwaura Wamwea
8. Hon. Liz Muthoni Mbugua
9. Hon. Morris Gathoni
10. Hon. Francis Kibe

I call Hon. Liz Muthoni to second.

Hon. Liz Mbugua: Thank you Chair, I stand to support the Motion, to second the Motion sorry.

(Question proposed)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Yes, Hon. Member for Kagunduni.

Hon. Samson Ngigi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I stand to support the motion and this is the legal right that our Leader of Majority has to do but I think I should take this opportunity to be well heard and understood and also be on the Hansard. We are all aware of what has been happening in our Assembly, we are all aware of what we have been fighting for and I do not think this is a move to suppress those who have been fighting for their rights. And I know our leader of majority is a God-fearing man and there is no at any point should stand on the way for their brother when they are advocating for their right. We have three years in this Assembly and I think whatever we will do from now until the day we will depart from here, we shall do what will be just and Godly. Nature judges and we should do what is right always.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Thank you, Hon. Member for Gitugi.

Hon. Edwin Wairagu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I stand here to support the Motion as it is in entirety. Hon. Speaker it is high time for us to call ourselves to reasoning. Let us be rational. There are so many things happening here up and down, up-close and all those things. This is not expected of an Honourable House like this one. Therefore, as I stand here, as a member of Gitugi, I would say that let us have this wisdom, let us have knowledge and what has been granted to us, let it be utilized as such. As I stand here as I support the Motion from our leader of majority, and he is a Christian as I am, I would say let us avoid the probate and reprobate escalations whereby that we are assuming in some instances like demi-gods let me say and I will say that in this institution, there is no seniority. That tells me that we are all equal in the eyes of God and even in the eyes of Murang'a people, and therefore if the Leader of Majority had all the wisdom to do what he did, we say, that since we elected him as the Leader of Majority, he has all what it takes to lead us. But also, a rider like this, if at all whatever made him do these placements was directed by some instincts, that is where the evil is. But if there were no instincts guiding him to do what he has done, then we call it home and dry.

Hon. Speaker, again, I would say that let us not have unnecessary fear, let us not have unnecessary, you know, cloud of animosity, we are creating animosity for no apparent reasons. We are creating things. We are creating mountains out of an anthill. We are taking a hammer to kill a mosquito. This should not be the way. It is the high time for us to sit down and reason as it started, so that we can move progressively. We can put our Assembly in the right, you know, in the right, in a positive trajectory.

By saying so, if I seek your leave here, I will suggest that let this House also embrace prayers because I can see now here, we need a lot of prayers. We need to go back to our maker, because the things that are happening here are really reasonable, and therefore, as I stand let us give whoever who has been given that mandate to lead us in a positive way and we avoid instincts, we avoid using our adrenaline in a way that is not, you know, beneficial. And as I sit down, we also want we look at the sitting arrangement, because that is why even the confusion is coming. Where is the Leader of Majority, where is his seat? If you look at the Whip, where is his seat? We

are also getting confused. Therefore, make the sitting arrangement in order, so that the House will be House of order. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Ho. Gachui Mungai): Hon. Leader of Majority, it has been noted that take your rightful position. That is a very good observation that the Hon. Member for Gitugi has said, has noted, let us, yes take the right--- or you want to donate some powers to the Hon. Member for Kakuzi?

Hon. Steven Muigai: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, allow me to also thank you because for a while, I have enjoyed the warmth of the seat of the Leader of Majority and now that I am back, I realize that the Hon. Member seated next to my seat has decided to dine on what was supposed to belong to me. Nevertheless, I stand to support the Motion and the wisdom behind the God-fearing man, the Leader of Majority of this Assembly. The names that have been read here are of dignified and Hon. Members who can serve and will serve this Committee and will serve these Committees and I think with a lot of God-fearing, I mean with a lot of ability as it has been called out, we have a lot of trust in them. You will allow me to just mention or say out a saying that was once said that, once you prepare a bed, you must prepare to lay on it. Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Yes Hon. Member for Mugumo-ini.

Hon. Alex Wanyoike: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to make my contribution. I stand to support the Motion. For harmony and progress to be in existence, it calls for serious decisions, and for decisions to be made, there must be someone leading and making that decision. Meaning therefore, there must be someone who is taking responsibility for decision. Allow me to define the term responsibility. Responsibility means, a state or a fact of having a duty to deal with something or having control on someone. Two important terms that I wish to use, number one something, and number two someone.

The Leader of Majority has the duty to deal with something and something which is before us is the placement. The Leader of Majority has a duty to deal with someone, that someone is the Members. The thing is done, someone is done. The Members present and the Members listed on this paper, both House Business and Rules Committee (HBRC) and Committee of Selection, I do not see any name of anybody among them who is not up to the task of doing the responsibility given to them. To my estimation therefore, that the Leader of Majority has done exactly what is in his business, what is in his responsibility, and this is what we would term, Solomonic wisdom. I stand to support. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Priscilla I saw your mic; you want to contribute? Yes, go ahead.

Hon. Priscilla Mwangi: *Bwana Spika, nasimama kuunga mkono hio hoja, ya kwamba Mr. Kibe Wasary ambaye ni kiongozi wetu, amefanya kazi yake na amefanya kazi njema. Katika kila serikali hata serikali kuu, , kunafanywa kitu kinachoitwa reshuffle. Ya kwamba, hawa viongozi walikuwa katika uongozi, wanabadilishwa sababu tunahitaji wazo mpya, tunahitaji hekima mpya. Tulikuwa nayo hiyo miaka iliyopita na sasa tunataka hekima ingine, mawazo ingine ya watu wapya. Ata kwenye committee zetu, kukiwezekana, tunapaswa kuchaguana tena, ili yule mtu, pengine amechoka, unaweza pewa uongozi na uchoke, na ukichoka unapaswa kusaidiwa na wengine sababu sisi sote ni viongozi. Na kila mmoja aliye hapa ako na hekima yake, yuko na masomo yake, yuko na ujuzi wake ambao unatakikana ili tuweze kukuza Murang'a yetu. Kwa hivyo, nimesimama tena kuunga mkono hoja hiyo na nishukuru kiongozi wetu, Kibe Wasary.*

(Mr. Speaker, I stand to support the Motion by Hon. Kibe who is our leader, he has done a good job in all governments , even the national government, there is something called a reshuffle) that those who were in leadership are being changed because we need new ideas, new wisdom. We had it in the past, but now we want wisdom and ideas from new people. Even in our committees if possible, we need to elections again, so that the person who is maybe tired; you can be given leadership and get tired, and when you get tired, you need to be assisted by others because all of us are leaders, and all who are here has their own wisdom, education , experience required so that we ca grow our Murang'a. So, I stand up to support that motion and thank our leader Kibe Wasary)

Hon. John Munyua: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I rise to oppose the Motion. For one, I fight for my rights, I fight for my freedom and it is given. I will say, you who think that you are victimizing others, your time will come very soon and to say someone is godly, if you are not godly you are not. If your mind is not godly, you are not godly. It is clear that it is now a race that has been opened, let us not continue and this is not the only ground, there are other grounds out there, we will meet. Life is not a show of one year or two years, so Mr. Speaker, you have made a ruling as we may say, it is clear in our Standing Orders and it is for sure, if someone goes to a Court of law to challenge what has been happening here, it will be ruled void, it is clear. When we do things, it will turn around.

So, Members I just wanted to make that point and say when people think victimizing you is the biggest deal they will get out here, I am clear in my mind and I know what is in law, what I am fighting for. I stand to oppose the Motion because there are members who have been left with three Committees while others have four and others I can see they have been rewarded to have six Committees, because they are loyal and they think by laughing at others they will get satisfied but that is not how life is. We will get there; we will meet out there. So, Hon. Speaker, I will say, there is no way I can support when rights and freedoms are being suppressed and that must be clear to all of us. So, it is your day, every dog has got its own day, that is what I will say, and the struggle continues and God has His own way of rewarding His people. We

keep going and I will never support archaic and barbaric actions, never! Hon. Speaker, I oppose the Motion and I will say, God is for us all. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): I now call the mover to respond.

Hon. Kibe Wasary: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I now take this opportunity to thank all the members who have supported this Motion and also Hon. Munyua for opposing the Motion. Hon. Speaker, the aim of this Motion or doing the placement once more was not to suppress the members.

Hon. Speaker I was guided by the Standing Order, that we should review the House Business and Rules Committee annually, so I was guided by that Standing Order. Number two, Hon. Speaker, there are members who for a whole year had no opportunity to be in these Committees, I want to pick one member like Hon. Priscilla Njeri Mwangi, she was not in any of these Committee; Hon. Julian, Hon. Mark, Hon. Pauline , Hon. Esther and we had members like Hon. Munyua who was in that Committee, so when we make a small change to replace with the one who was not there, Hon. Speaker, there is no harm. I urge the Hon. members to support the motion.

(Question put and Agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Hon. Members before we adjourn, I want to remind Hon. members we will be having a Committee of the Whole. For the purposes of continuing in learning it is good for the members to come in the afternoon as many as possible so that we can continue and support the Hon. member for Kamacharia who has that Bill.

This House now stands adjourned until today 4th June 2024 at 2 p.m.

The House rose at 11:20 a.m.