



11 February 2026

Mahama Ayariga, MP
Hon Majority Leader & Leader of Government Business
Parliament House
Accra, Ghana

Osahen Alexander Kwamina Afenyo-Markin, MP
Hon Minority Leader
Parliament House
Accra, Ghana

Dear Honourable Leaders,

Invitation to Jointly Sponsor Private Members' Bill on Criminalising Misconduct in Internal Party Elections

We write to urgently submit for your joint consideration the attached draft Bill, which proposes simultaneous amendments to the **Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29)**, the **Representation of the People Act, 1992 (PNDCL 284)**, the **Office of the Special Prosecutor Act, 2017 (Act 969)**, and the **Vigilantism and Related Offences Act, 2019 (Act 999)**, to expressly criminalise misconduct in and surrounding internal political party elections.

As we have previously drawn to your attention in our letters of 9 October 2023 and 9 February 2026, section 3(5) of Act 29 defines '*public elections*' in a manner that excludes internal party elections, including primaries and the election of party executives. This statutory gap has created a permissive space for vote buying, inducements, intimidation and related malpractices to flourish at the very foundation of our democratic system.

Internal party elections are not private matters. They determine who leads political parties at every level and, critically, who ultimately presents themselves to the Ghanaian electorate as candidates for public office. When corruption takes root at this formative stage, the integrity of national elections is compromised even before the public casts a single ballot.

The draft Bill addresses this defect by expanding the definition of '*public elections*' to include internal political party elections, thereby subjecting electoral offences committed in those contexts to the same criminal sanctions applicable to national and local government elections. It further proposes to vest primary prosecutorial authority in the Office of the Special Prosecutor to ensure independence and credibility in enforcement.

Given the cross-partisan importance of safeguarding democratic integrity at this critical stage of our democratic journey, we respectfully invite you, as Leaders of the Parliamentary Majority and Parliamentary Minority, to jointly sponsor this Bill as a Private Members' Bill. A united initiative from all the sides of the House would send a clear and powerful message that the protection of Ghana's democracy rises above party interest.

We respectfully urge you to prioritise this matter and to consider collaborating to introduce and steer this Bill through Parliament without delay. We remain ready to provide any technical assistance required to facilitate its refinement and passage.

We thank you for your leadership and look forward to your favourable consideration.

Yours in the service of God and Country,



OccupyGhana

Encl.: Draft Bill – Criminal Offences (Amendment) (Internal Political Party Elections) Bill, 2026

cc.

Rt Hon Alban Bagbin
Speaker
Parliament House
Accra

Dr Dominic Ayine, MP
Hon Attorney-General & Minister for Justice
Office of the Attorney-General & Ministry of Justice
Accra, Ghana

Dr Justice Srem Sai
Hon Deputy Attorney-General & Minister of Justice
Accra, Ghana

Bernard Ahiafor, MP
Hon First Deputy Speaker
Parliament House
Accra

Andrew Asiamah Amoako, MP
Hon Second Deputy Speaker
Parliament House
Accra

Kweku Ricketts-Hagan, MP
Hon Deputy Majority Leader
Parliament House
Accra

Patricia Agyei, MP
Hon Deputy Minority Leader
Parliament House
Accra

Rockson-Nelson Dafeamekpor, MP
Hon Majority Chief Whip
Parliament House
Accra

Frank Annor-Dompreh, MP
Hon Minority Chief Whip
Parliament House
Accra

Comfort Doyoe Cudjoe-Ghansah, MP
Hon First Deputy Majority Whip
Parliament House
Accra

Habib Iddrissu, MP
Hon First Deputy Minority Whip
Parliament House
Accra

Richard Acheampong, MP
Hon Second Deputy Majority Whip
Parliament House
Accra

Jerry Ahmed Shaib, MP
Hon Second Deputy Minority Chief Whip
Parliament House
Accra

Mrs Jean Mensa
Chair
Electoral Commission
Accra

Kissi Agyebeng
Special Prosecutor
Office of the Special Prosecutor
Accra

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