



# HONOURABLE MAHAMA AYARIGA

Member of Parliament  
Bawku Central Constituency

The Rt. Hon Speaker,  
Office of Parliament,  
Parliament House,  
Victoriaborg, Accra

Rt. Honourable Speaker,

## ORDER 50 – MOTION ON SPECIFIC MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

I congratulate you on your assumption of the Office of Speaker of the 8<sup>th</sup> Parliament of the Republic of Ghana and wish you success and good health.

### *Request for Prior Approval*

I write to seek your prior approval to move a motion pursuant to Order 50(1) in the following terms;

*“That this House Resolves to request the President of the Republic of Ghana to take urgent steps to suspend the payment of admission fees by new entrants into public tertiary education institutions and continuing students of those institutions for the 2021 academic year as part of the national COVID relief programmes being implemented by Government”*

### *Condition of Urgent Public Importance*

The urgency of this matter is dictated by the fact that public tertiary institutions are reopening now and students who have been offered admission are requested to make payments before they are admitted and will lose the opportunity if they do not pay. Continuing students must also pay.

This is important to the public because many people have lost their jobs due to the economic consequences of the outbreak of COVID 19, which has necessitated government granting subsidies in the provision of water and electricity. The hospitality sector has been hard hit. Workers of private schools in the education sector have not earned income in close to a year. Border towns like Bawku have suffered economically from the restrictions in cross-border movement and trading. Most parents and students have not been able to work to save funds to be able to pay fees. Remittances from abroad have drastically shrunk. The banking sector crisis caused many jobs to be lost.

The Fees and Charges (Miscellaneous Provisions) Instrument, 2019 (LI 2386) has set out the various fees and charges to be paid by students of public tertiary institutions.

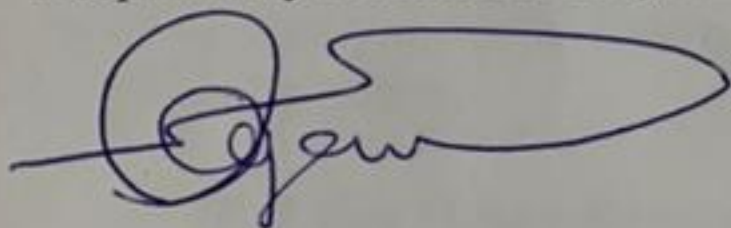


The economic conditions of the country at the time Parliament approved the fees have radically changed in the light of the devastation to household incomes engendered by COVID and other factors. Parliament and the President will obviously not insist on these fees in the light of the prevailing economic circumstances. Essential components of the public tertiary institutions can function without many of the fees and charges requested from students in LI 2386. Student bursaries will only kick in to support students only after they have been able to pay admission fees and entered the universities.

Order 50(3) - The application of the Fees and Charges (Miscellaneous Provisions) Instrument, 2019 (LI 2386), being a financial legislation, can only be suspended by an amendment introduced on behalf of the President.

None of the conditions stipulated in Order 50(4) stand in the way of the admissibility of this Motion.

Respectfully submitted for your prior approval in terms of Order 50(2)(3)(4).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mahama Ayariga', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

**Mahama Ayariga MP**  
**Bawku Central**  
15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

CC: Deputy Speakers  
Leadership  
Clerk to Parliament