

IN THE SECOND SESSION OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF  
THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA



**REPORT OF THE**  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

**ON THE**

***SPECIAL IMPORT LEVY (AMENDMENT)***  
***BILL, 2014***

December 2014



**REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON THE SPECIAL IMPORT LEVY  
(AMENDMENT) BILL 2014**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The Special Import Levy (Amendment) Bill, 2014 was presented to Parliament on behalf of the Hon. Minister for Finance by the Hon. Deputy Minister for Finance and read for the first time on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2014. The Rt. Hon. Speaker referred the Bill to the Finance Committee for consideration and report in accordance with Article 174(1) of the 1992 Constitution and Order 169 of the Standing Orders of the House. Pursuant to the referral, the Committee met with the Hon. Deputy Minister for Finance, Mr. Cassiel Ato Baah Forson, the Commissioner-General of the Ghana Revenue Authority, Mr. George Blankson, Officials from the Ministry Finance, Attorney General's Department and the Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) and considered the referral.

The Committee is grateful to the Hon. Deputy Minister, the Commissioner-General and Officials for their assistance.

**2.0 REFERENCE**

The Committee referred to the following additional documents during its deliberations:

- The 1992 Constitution of Ghana.
- The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana.
- The Ghana Revenue Authority Act, 2009 (Act 791)
- The Special Import Levy Act, 2013 (Act 861)

### 3.0 BACKGROUND

The Government as part of measures to consolidate fiscal stability and promote growth introduced the Special Import Levy in 2013. The aim of the Levy was to mobilize funds to address the funding gap of about Eight Billion Ghana Cedis in the 2013 budget. The levy was introduced in the second half of 2013 to raise funds to stabilize the economy which was suffering from external shocks. The period for the levy was initially intended to be for eighteen months. It has however, been realised that the factors that necessitated the introduction of the levy still persist. The Government has therefore decided to among others, extend the period of the Special Import Levy from 2014 to 2017.

### 4.0 PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The Bill seeks to amend the Special Import Levy, Act, 2013 (Act 861) to extend the period of application of the levy from 2014 to 2017.

### 5.0 PROVISION OF THE BILL

The Special Import Levy (Amendment) Bill, 2014 amends Section 1 of Act 861 to impose a Special Import Levy on imported goods to be paid at the point of importation and to be computed on the Cost, Insurance and Freight (CIF) value of the goods for the 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 calendar years.

### 6.0 OBSERVATIONS

#### *Expected Revenue*

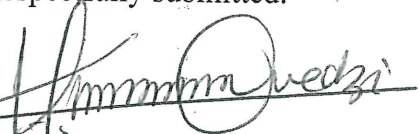
The Deputy Minister informed the Committee that the revenue expected from the imposition of the levy for the 2015 financial year will amount to *Five Hundred and Forty-five Million, Four Hundred and Seventy-one Thousand, Three Hundred and Ninety-two Ghana Cedis and Three Pesewas (GH¢545,471,392.03)*. The Deputy Minister intimated that it is the expectation of government that the expected revenue will among other measures help reduce budget deficit and ensure fiscal stability. Further the revenue will provide resources needed for investment in social services and infrastructure across the country.

The Deputy Minister also informed the Committee that an amount of **GHC374,327,381.03** as against an end of year target of **GHC410,128,862.57** has been realised at the end of November, 2014. The Deputy Minister was however, confident that GRA would be able to collect the difference of **GHC 35,801,281.54** by the end of December 2014.

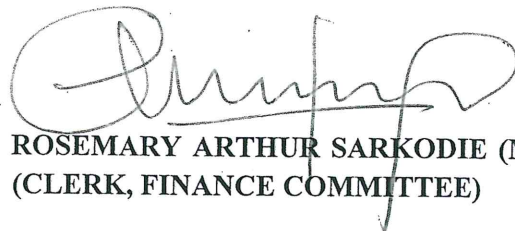
## **8.0 CONCLUSION**

The Committee upon a thorough examination of the Bill is confident that the levy among others, would help raise additional revenue needed to implement projects and programmes outlined in the 2015 Budget and help reduce the budget deficit. The Committee accordingly recommends to the House to adopt its report and take the Special Import Levy Bill through all the stages in accordance with Article 106 (13) of the Constitution and Order 119 of the Standing Orders of the House.

Respectfully submitted.



**HON. JAMES KLUTSE AVEDZI  
(CHAIRMAN, FINANCE COMMITTEE)**



**ROSEMARY ARTHUR SARKODIE (MRS)  
(CLERK, FINANCE COMMITTEE)**

