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# BUNGOMA LEGISLATOR

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## DIGITAL

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# County Assembly Approves The Bungoma County Livestock Sale Yard Bill, 2025

By Rosemary Wachiye

The County Assembly of Bungoma on Thursday, November 6, 2025, unanimously approved the Bungoma County Livestock Sale yard Bill, 2025, marking a significant milestone in the regulation and modernization of livestock marketing infrastructure in the county.

The legislation, which gives effect to Clause 1(b) of Part 2 of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution, provides a comprehensive legal framework for the development and management of livestock sale yards and related matters within Bungoma County.

The Bill was introduced on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, when it received its first reading. Following this, the Bill was committed to the Sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development for consideration and reporting to the House in accordance with Standing Order No. 141(1).

In fulfillment of constitutional requirements for public participation, the Committee conducted stakeholder consultations on July 28, 2025, at the County Assembly precincts. The engagement brought together diverse voices from across the county, including livestock farmers, traders, market operators, youth, women, and persons with disabilities.

The public participation process yielded several critical recommendations that were incorporated



**File Photo:** Members of the County Assembly of Bungoma during a plenary session

into the Bill, including: the replacement of the Director of Livestock with the Chief Officer for Livestock Production as Committee Chairperson, ensuring representation of youth, women, and persons with disabilities, subjecting the designation of sale yards to public participation, extension of movement permits validity to three days and allocating 40% of sale yard revenue for their management and improvement.

Presenting the Committee's report before the Assembly, Chairperson Hon. Wafula Waiti emphasized that the Bill is firmly anchored on Article 185 of the Constitution and the Fourth Schedule, which devolves the function of livestock sale yards to County Governments.

"This legislation will enable the County to perform this devolved function more effectively, improve

market infrastructure, ensure animal health standards, promote transparency in livestock trading, and enhance County revenue," Hon. Waiti stated.

The Bill establishes a structured legal framework with clear objectives: promoting livestock marketing, improving operational efficiency, enhancing revenue collection, strengthening disease control, and ensuring livestock traceability.

Hon. Waiti noted that the Bill directly addresses challenges facing livestock sale yards in Bungoma County, including poor infrastructure, inadequate sanitation, insufficient facilities, and lack of inclusivity in management structures.

"The Bill provides a structured, transparent, and accountable system for market operations and

disease surveillance, which is crucial for both the economic wellbeing of our farmers and the health of our livestock population," he added.

The Bill underwent its second reading on November 5, 2025, before being committed to the Committee of the Whole House, where various amendments were deliberated upon and adopted.

On behalf of the Sectoral Committee Chairperson, Hon. Bernard Kikechi moved the motion for the Bill to be committed to third reading—a motion that was seconded by Hon. Sudi Busolo. The Bill was subsequently adopted through a voice vote, receiving overwhelming support from Members.

Following its passage, the Speaker and Clerk of the County Assembly will forward the certified Bill to the Governor for assent within 14 days, as required by law. Upon the Governor's assent, the Bill will become law and set in motion the transformation of livestock marketing infrastructure across Bungoma County.

The adoption of this Bill demonstrates the County Assembly's commitment to creating enabling legal frameworks that support agricultural productivity, improve farmers' livelihoods, and enhance food security in the county.

# County Assembly Schedules A Week Of Intensive Legislative Activity Ahead

By Erick Ngobilo

**T**he County Assembly of Bungoma has lined up an active week of legislative business beginning Tuesday, 11th November through Thursday, 13th November, 2025. The week's sittings will focus on key reports from various Sectoral Committees, reflecting the Assembly's continued oversight and commitment to effective delivery of work.

Kicking off the week's business on Tuesday afternoon, Members will debate the report of the Sectoral Committee on Youth Affairs and Sports on the completion status of the Chemoge High Altitude Training Centre. The report seeks to evaluate the progress and readiness of the facility intended to nurture athletic talent within the county and the wider Western region.

Additionally, the day's Order Paper includes the tabling of reports by the Sectoral Committees on Education and Vocational Training, and Tourism, Environment, Water, and Natural Resources. The reports review financial allocations and performance for the 2024/2025 financial year, signaling the Assembly's emphasis on accountability and prudent resource utilization.

On Wednesday morning, Members will focus on the Kshs. 90 million allocated to the Department of Education and Vocational Training during the first Supplementary Budget of FY 2024/25. The debate will review how the funds have been applied in improving learning infrastructure and training institutions. Later in the same sitting, the

House will consider the report of the Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources Committee on financial statements for the period ended 30th June 2025.

In the afternoon sitting, the Assembly will deliberate on the report of the Sectoral Committee on Gender, Culture, and Social Welfare regarding the performance of the Bungoma County Executive in the Kenya Inter-County Sports and Cultural Association (KICOSCA) Games 2024, and the County's preparedness for the 2025 edition.

The week's business will conclude on Thursday, 13th November, 2025, with a focus on urban development. The Sectoral Com-

mittee on Lands, Urban, Physical Planning, and Housing will table and move the adoption of its report on the financial statements for the Department of Lands, Housing, and Municipalities for the year ending 30th June, 2025.

The Assembly will also consider reports from the Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation, and Cooperative Development Committee and the Education and Vocational Training Committee on quarterly financial statements. As per Standing Order 47(2)(a), the House Business Committee will issue a statement informing Members of the upcoming business scheduled for the week of 18th to 20th November, 2025.

## Bungoma County Assembly Shines in National Ombudsman Performance Awards

By Erick Ngobilo

**T**he County Assembly of Bungoma has once again demonstrated its commitment to excellence in governance, accountability, and service delivery after being recognized by the Commission on Administrative Justice (CAJ), popularly known as the Office of the Ombudsman.

In the latest Public Institutions Performance Evaluation Report (2024/2025), the County Assembly of Bungoma emerged among the top-performing County Assemblies in Kenya, earning an impressive overall score of 99 percent and a "Very Good" rating.

This recognition underscores the Assembly's strong performance in upholding the principles of good governance, transparency, and administrative justice — key tenets championed by the Ombudsman. The evaluation assesses compliance with constitutional values, responsiveness to public complaints, efficiency in service delivery, and adherence to integrity and fairness standards.

The award by the Ombudsman adds to the growing list of milestones achieved by the County Assembly through its Performance Management Framework and Quality Management System (QMS), both aimed at strengthening institutional efficiency and accountability.

As Bungoma County Assembly continues to implement reforms in legislative operations and public participation, this national recognition reaffirms its position as one of the most progressive and best-performing assemblies in Kenya.

# County Assembly Of Bungoma Gears Up For CASA 2025 Games In Meru

By Mash Misiko

The County Assembly of Bungoma is gearing up for the 6th edition of the County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) Games set to take place in Meru County from November 22nd to 28, 2025.

The CASA Games bring together Members of County Assemblies (MCAs) and staff from across Kenya to compete in various sporting and cultural activities aimed at fostering teamwork, fitness, and unity among County governments.

The event was initially scheduled for October 24 to 31, 2025, but was rescheduled to November 22 to 28, 2025, following the passing of former Prime Minister Hon. Raila Odinga. The postponement allowed the nation and participants time to mourn the respected leader before resuming preparations for the games.

Bungoma County proudly hosted the 2024 CASA Games, which were hailed as one of the most successful editions in the association's history. During that event, Bungoma County Assembly emerged as the defending champion in several categories, including football, volleyball (both men and women), tug of war, dance, and choir cementing its reputation as

one of the strongest assemblies in sports and culture.

As the new games draw closer, Bungoma County Assembly has intensified its training across different venues. The football and tug of war teams are training at KMTC Bungoma volleyball, pool, darts teams and table tennis at the Members Club and track and field events at Kanduyi Stadium

Other indoor activities such as Choir, Dance, Ajua, Chess, and Scrabble are being practiced within the County Assembly premises, ensuring that participants are well-prepared to defend their titles in Meru.

The CASA Games have become a major annual event that promotes national cohesion, cultural exchange, and healthy competition among County assemblies. The 6th edition in Meru is expected to be vibrant and colorful, featuring exciting competitions and cultural showcases supported by the County Government of Meru

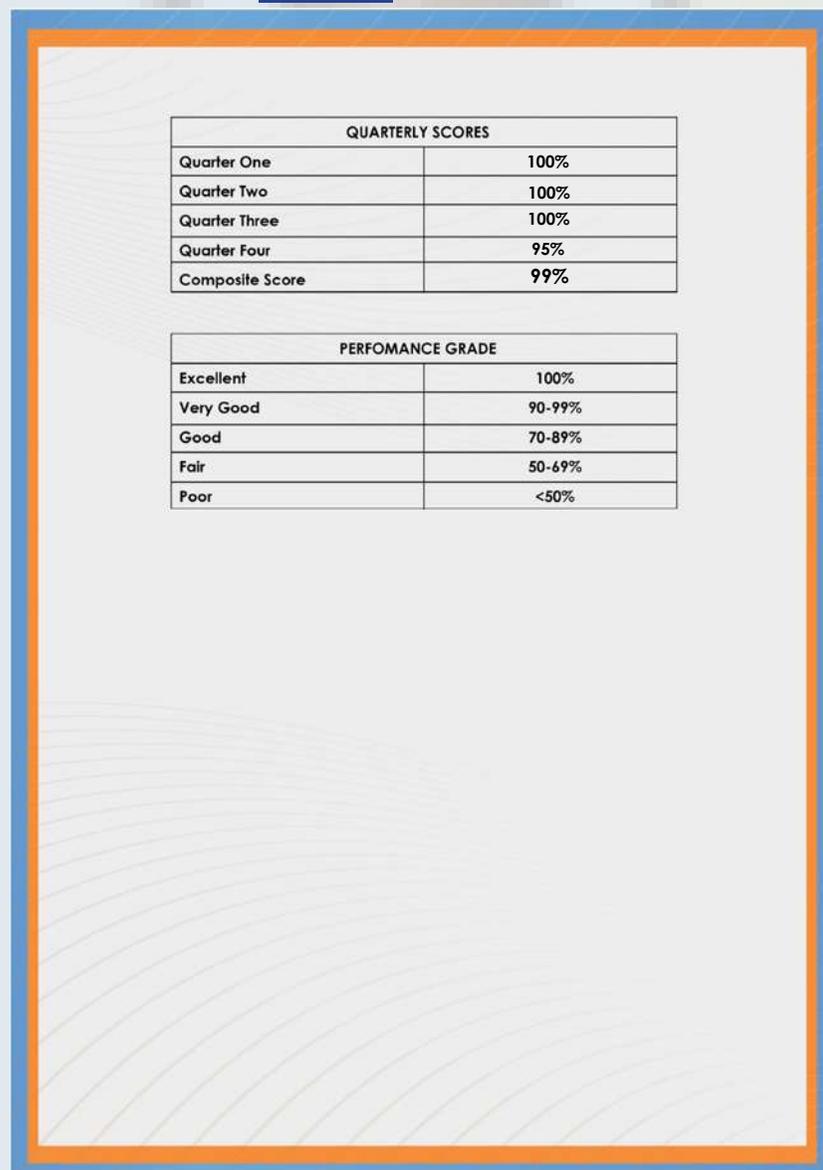
With intense training underway and a proud record of championship success, Bungoma County Assembly is confident of putting up a strong defense and once again flying the county's flag high on the national stage.



County Assembly of Bungoma football team pauses for a photo during a football training at the Masinde Muliro Stadium, Bungoma, ahead of the CASA games to be held in Meru County



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# Legislative Supremacy: The Cornerstone Of Parliamentary Democracy

By Werunga Elvis

In any democratic system, the legislature stands as the cornerstone of governance, the organ that shapes society through the laws it enacts. The principle of legislative supremacy, also known as parliamentary sovereignty, embodies this authority. It underscores the notion that Parliament holds the ultimate law-making power within its jurisdiction, free from subordination to any other institution.

At the heart of legislative supremacy lies a powerful assertion: Parliament can create, amend, or repeal any law. This principle ensures that the legislative branch remains dynamic and responsive to the evolving needs of the society it represents. Through this power, Parliament acts as the true voice of the people, converting public will into binding legal frameworks that govern the nation.

## Parliament Is Not Bound by Its Predecessors

One of the defining features of legislative supremacy is that no Parliament can bind its successor. This means that each new legislative body begins its mandate with full and unrestrained authority to make or unmake laws. The wisdom—or error—of previous Parliaments does not confine future ones. This ensures continuity in democratic freedom, preventing any generation from imposing permanent legal fetters on those that follow.

This autonomy fosters a living, breathing legal system, one that grows and transforms alongside the society it serves. Legislative supremacy, therefore, is not merely a doctrine of power, but a safeguard of democratic adaptability.

## The Freedom of Future Parliaments

Legislative supremacy also means that no Parliament can limit the legislative power of future Parliaments. This feature preserves the legislature's ultimate independence. For example, even if a law declares itself "irreversible" or "permanent," a future Parliament retains the authority to repeal or alter it. Such flexibility is essential in ensuring that governance reflects contemporary realities rather than being shackled by outdated statutes.

By preventing legislative stagnation, this principle promotes accountability and ensures that laws remain relevant and aligned with the nation's progress.

## Courts Cannot Invalidate Parliamentary Laws

Within the doctrine of legislative supremacy, the judiciary cannot invalidate laws passed by Parliament, provided they fall within its constitutional jurisdiction. The courts may interpret and apply legislation, but they cannot question the legitimacy of laws enacted through proper parliamentary procedure. This establishes Parliament as the supreme legal authority—the ultimate source from which all laws derive their validity.

While judicial interpretation plays a vital role in ensuring fairness and consistency, it operates within the framework set by Parliament. This balance preserves the separation of powers while maintaining legislative preeminence.

It is important to note that Kenya operates under a supreme Constitution adopted in 2010. While legislative supremacy empowers Parliament to make laws, this

power is not absolute—it must be exercised within constitutional bounds. The Constitution serves as the fundamental law, and any legislation that contravenes its provisions can be challenged in court through judicial review.

This constitutional framework does not diminish legislative authority but rather channels it within democratic guardrails that protect fundamental rights and freedoms. Parliament remains supreme in its legislative function, but the Constitution remains supreme over all organs of government.

## The Responsibility to Legislate Wisely

With great power comes great responsibility. Legislative supremacy carries the duty to enact laws that are just, equitable, and reflective of the public good. A Parliament's moral authority rests not merely in its legal sovereignty but in the quality of the laws it creates. Therefore, legislative supremacy is not an invitation to arbitrary power but a call to responsible governance guided by national interest and democratic values.

Legislators must remember that they exercise power on behalf of the people. Their mandate is derived from public trust, and their laws must serve the common good. This includes robust public participation, thorough deliberation, and consideration of diverse perspectives before enacting legislation.

## Devolution and Legislative Authority

In Kenya's devolved system of governance, legislative supremacy extends to County Assemblies within their functional mandate. County assemblies possess the

power to make laws on matters listed under Schedule Four of the Constitution. This distribution of legislative power brings governance closer to the people and allows for laws that are responsive to local contexts and needs.

County assemblies, like Parliament, exercise their legislative authority within constitutional limits and must ensure their legislation aligns with national values, principles of governance, and the Bill of Rights.

Legislative supremacy remains one of the defining principles of parliamentary democracy. It empowers Parliament to craft the legal architecture of a nation, unconstrained by judicial invalidation—within constitutional bounds—or the decisions of past assemblies. It guarantees that the law evolves with the people and that each generation retains the freedom to determine its own legal destiny within the framework of constitutional democracy.

In essence, legislative supremacy is not just a doctrine of power—it is a testament to democratic sovereignty, the enduring authority of the people through their elected representatives who in this context are Members of the County Assembly (MCAs). When exercised responsibly and as stipulated in the constitution, it becomes the engine of progressive governance and social transformation.

As we strengthen our democratic institutions, let us remember that legislative supremacy is both a privilege and a profound responsibility—one that demands wisdom, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to the public good.

*Mr. Werunga Elvis is the Principal Administrative Officer at the County Assembly of Bungoma. The views expressed are his own and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the County Assembly.*

# County Assembly Of Bungoma Joins National Leaders In Paying Tribute To The Late Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga

By Rosemary Wachiye



*Members of the County Assembly of Bungoma and staff pay their last respects to the late Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga at his home in Opoda farm, Siaya County*

**O**n Wednesday October 29, 2025, a delegation from the County Assembly of Bungoma joined leaders from the Western region and dignitaries from across Kenya and the African continent in paying their final respects to former Prime Minister, the late Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, at Kang'o Ka Jaramogi and later at his Opoda Farm in Bondo, Siaya County.

The County Assembly delegation, led by Hon. Hentry Nyongesa, MCA for Bumula Ward and Chairperson of the Committee on Labour Relations, Members Services and Facilities, honored

the memory of the late statesman, referring to him as the father of devolution.

Despite heavy rainfall, the team arrived at the gravesite where they held a solemn moment of prayer before signing the condolence book in memory of Baba, as he was affectionately known by millions of Kenyans.

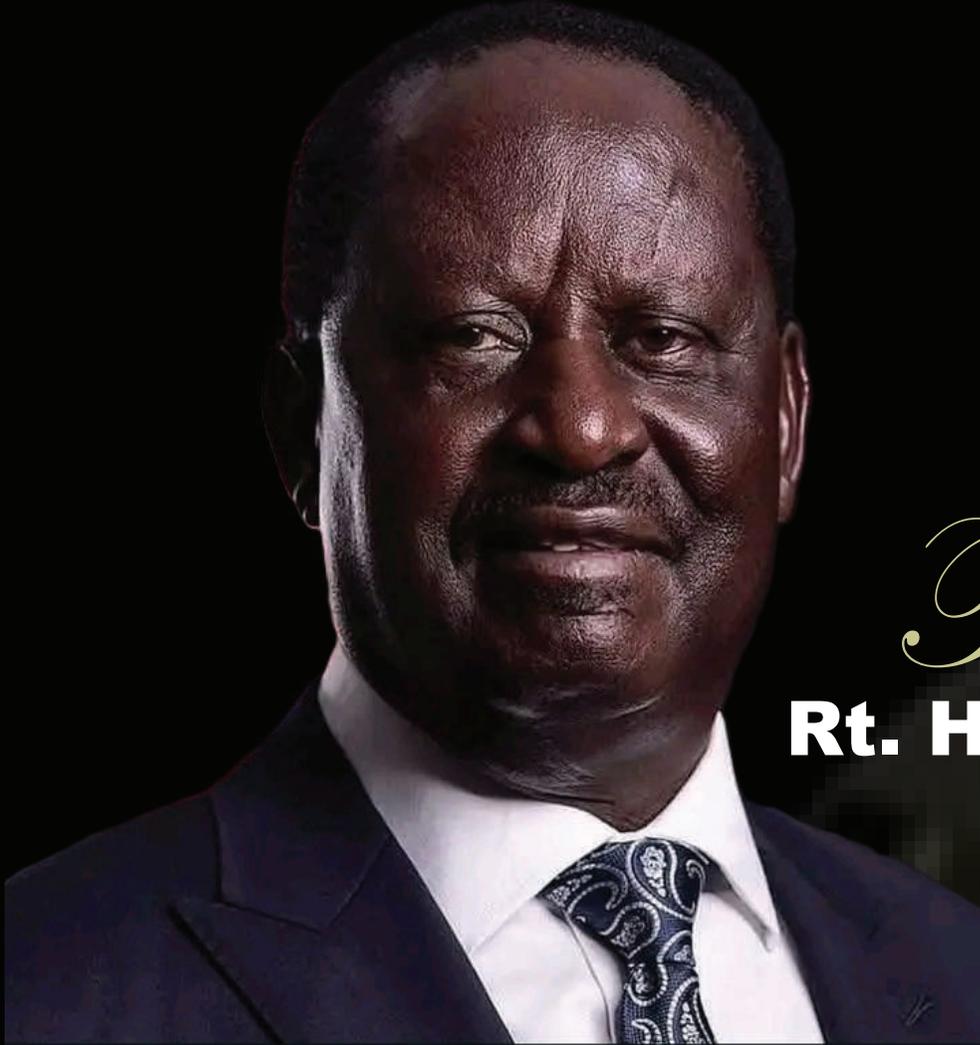
As beneficiaries of devolved governance in Bungoma County, the delegation owed a debt of gratitude to his vision and determination. Noting that devolution stood as one of his most enduring legacies which was a testament to

his belief that power and resources must be brought closer to the people.

In attendance were former President of Ghana H.E Nana Akufo-Addo, Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. Moses Wetangula, Prime Cabinet Secretary Hon. Musalia Mudavadi, Cooperatives CS Dr. Wycliffe Oparanya, CS for Environment, Climate Change & Forestry Deborah Mulongo, COTU Secretary General Francis Atwoli, Governors led by the host H.E James Orengo and H.E Dr. Paul Otuoma, KANU Chairperson Hon. Gideon Moi, MPs, MCAs and other leaders.

The Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga, who passed away on October 15, 2025, served as Kenya's second Prime Minister and was a towering figure in the country's democratic journey. His relentless advocacy for constitutional reforms and good governance transformed Kenya's political landscape and left an indelible mark on the nation's history.

The entire County Assembly of Bungoma fraternity extends its deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolences to Mama Ida Odinga, Rosemary Odinga, Raila Junior, Winnie Odinga, Hon. Oburu Odinga, and the entire Odinga family during this difficult time. May they find strength and solace in the knowledge that his legacy will continue to inspire generations of Kenyans.



*Fare thee Well*

**Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga**  
**1945-2025**

It is with profound grief and deep sorrow that I, on behalf of the Honourable Members and staff of the County Assembly of Bungoma, convey our heartfelt condolences on the passing of the Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya.

The news of his demise this morning has left our nation in mourning. Kenya has lost a political colossus, a tireless freedom fighter, and an unwavering champion of democracy whose legacy will forever be etched in the annals of our nation's history.

Baba, as he was fondly known, or Agwambo as many referred to him, dedicated his entire life to the service of the Kenyan people. He was a beacon of hope for the marginalized, a voice for the voiceless, and a relentless advocate for social justice and equity. His political journey, spanning over five decades, was marked by courage, resilience, and an unyielding commitment to democratic ideals.

The late Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga will be remembered for his steadfast dedication to the fight for democracy and good governance in Kenya. From his days as a political detainee during the struggle for multiparty democracy to his role as Kenya's second Prime Minister in the Grand Coalition Government, his contributions have shaped the very fabric of our nation.

He was a true champion of democracy who never wavered in his pursuit of justice and constitutional reform. His five bids for the Presidency profoundly shaped Kenyan politics, galvanized millions of citizens, and gave a powerful voice to the opposition. Through his leadership, he demonstrated that democracy thrives on robust debate, accountability, and the courage to challenge the status quo.

Raila Odinga fought tirelessly for the rights of ordinary Kenyans. His unwavering support for devolution bore fruit, and today we witness its fruition across all 47 counties. As beneficiaries of devolved governance in Bungoma County, we owe a debt of gratitude to his vision and determination. Devolution stands as one of his most enduring legacies—a testament to his belief that power and resources must be brought closer to the people.

Beyond politics, Baba was a unifying figure who transcended ethnic and regional boundaries. He built bridges across communities and inspired a generation of young leaders to engage in nation-building. His passion for infrastructure development, economic transformation, and Pan-African unity positioned Kenya as a key player on the continental stage.

As we mourn this irreplaceable loss, we take solace in the knowledge that Raila Odinga's legacy will live on through the democratic institutions he helped build, the devolved system of governance he championed, and the millions of Kenyans whose lives he touched with his compassion and leadership.

To his wife, Mama Ida Odinga, his children, the entire Odinga family, the Orange Democratic Movement fraternity, and all Kenyans, we extend our deepest sympathies during this difficult time. May the Almighty God grant you strength, comfort, and peace as you navigate this profound loss.

**Rest in Eternal Peace, Baba. Kenya will forever honor your memory.**

**HON. EMMANUEL M. SITUMA,**  
**SPEAKER OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA.**





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