

Disclaimer: The official version of the law and any amendments thereto is published in Arabic in the Official Gazette. This version of the law, including amendments thereto, is provided for guidance and easy reference purposes. The Legislation & Legal Opinion Commission does not accept any liability for any discrepancy between this version and the official version as published in the Official Gazette and / or any inaccuracy or errors in the translation. For any corrections, remarks, or suggestions, kindly contact us on translate@lloc.gov.bh

Published on the website on May 2024

**Legislative Decree No. (50) of 2018 amending some provisions of
the Legislative Decree No. (55) of 2002 regarding the Internal
Regulation of the Shura Council**

We, Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Having reviewed the Constitution, in particular Articles (38 and 91) thereof;

Legislative Decree No. (15) of 2002 regarding the Shura Council and the Council of Representatives, as amended;

And Legislative Decree No. (54) of 2002 regarding Internal Regulation of the Council of Representatives, as amended;

Legislative Decree No. (55) of 2002 regarding Internal Regulation of the Shura Council, as amended;

And upon the submission of the Prime Minister;

And after the approval of the Council of Ministers,

Hereby Decree the following Law:

Article One:

A new Section titled (Questions) shall be added to Chapter Two of Section Four of the Legislative Decree No. (55) of 2002 regarding the Internal Regulation of the Shura Council and it shall include new articles numbered (127), (128), (129), (130), (131), (132), and (133), with the following texts:

Article (127):

Each member of the Shura Council shall be entitled to address written questions to the ministers, determining the subject matter, in order to seek clarification on matters within their jurisdiction or to inquire about any matter of which the member is unaware or to verify the occurrence of an event brought to their attention.

The question may not be signed by more than one member, and it may only be directed to one minister.

Article (128):

The question shall be signed by the questioner, written as clearly and concisely as possible, and specific to a matter of public importance, it shall not be related to the personal interests of the inquirer, his relatives up to the fourth degree, or any of their clients. The question shall focus on the matters intended for inquiry without commentary. It should not contain inappropriate language, insult the dignity of individuals, authorities or public institutions, harm public order, national interest or civil peace, incite hatred, discrimination or sectarianism. It shall not be related to matters outside the minister's jurisdiction or refer to a matter that has been previously resolved legislatively, unless the subject of the question remains ongoing during the legislative session in which the question is addressed. It should not request information or statistics unrelated to the subject of the question.

If the question does not meet these conditions, the Speaker may exclude it and inform the member accordingly. If the member is not satisfied with the Speaker's decision and objects to it in writing within one week from the date of notification, the matter shall be referred to the Council's office for consideration, and its decision in this regard is final.

Article (129):

Requests to direct questions are recorded according to their dates in a special register, and the Speaker of the Council shall notify the minister to whom the question is addressed within ten days from the date of its submission, taking into account the provisions of the previous article.

The minister shall respond to the question in writing within a maximum period of fifteen days from the date of notification.

Article (130):

The Speaker shall inform the questioner of the answer as soon as it is received, and the question and answer shall be included in the agenda of the first following session of the Council for information, without discussion.

The minister may request a postponement of the answer to a date not exceeding seven days, and his request shall be granted. It shall not be permissible to postpone for more than this period except by a decision of the Council.

Article (131):

It shall not be permissible to direct questions related to referred subjects to the Council's committees before the committee presents its report to the Council, and the questions shall not be forwarded to those addressed until the government's work program is approved.

A member shall only be allowed to submit one question within a single month.

The questions submitted on one subject or closely related subjects shall be combined when notifying the minister for simultaneous answering.

It shall not be permissible to submit a question that has already been presented by another member in the same session.

Article (132):

A member may withdraw his question at any time.

Article (133):

The question shall be nullified by the loss of the status of the presenter or the addressee, or by the end of the legislative session during which the question has been submitted.

Article Two

The Prime Minister and the Ministers - each within his jurisdiction- shall implement provisions of this Law, and it shall come into force from the day following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

King of Kingdom of Bahrain

Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

Prime Minister

Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On: 20 Rabi' Al-Awwal 1440 A.H.

Corresponding to: 28 November 2018