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**Legislative Decree No. (58) of 2014 amending some provisions of Legislative Decree No. (3) of 2002 regarding the System of Electing Municipal Council Members**

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

Having reviewed the Constitution;

Municipalities Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (35) of 2001, as amended;

Legislative Decree No. (3) of 2002 regarding the System for Electing Members of Municipal Councils, as amended;

Legislative Decree No. (14) of 2002 regarding the Exercise of Political Rights, as amended;

And Legislative Decree No. (17) of 2002 regarding the Governorates System, 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**

The texts of Articles Five, Eight (clauses (b) and (d)), Eleven (third paragraph), Thirteen, Seventeen (first paragraph), Eighteen (last paragraph), Twenty-One, and Twenty-Two of Legislative Decree No. (3) of 2002 regarding the System for Electing Members of Municipal Councils shall be replaced with the following texts:

**Article Five:**

Without prejudice to the provisions of Legislative Decree No. (14) of 2002 regarding the Exercise of Political Rights and the royal decrees issued in accordance with its provisions, and Law No. (24) of 2014 amending certain provisions of the Municipalities Law, the Kingdom of Bahrain shall be divided into several municipal electoral districts for the application of the provisions of this law. Each governorate shall constitute an electoral municipal district, each of which shall include a number of electoral constituencies, and one member shall be elected for each electoral constituency.

A decision shall be issued by the Prime Minister to determine the electoral constituencies and their boundaries, as well as the number of necessary subcommittees for conducting the polling and vote counting processes.

**Article Eight (Clauses b, d):**

(b) The lists shall include the names of the voters who meet the conditions stipulated in Article Two of this law, taking into account their previous participation in the electoral process based on records. The voter shall not be deprived or exempted from exercising the right to vote at the time of preparing the lists or during the specified period for their correction.

The registration shall include the voter's name, personal identification number, and ordinary place of residence.

(d) The lists shall be prepared and displayed for a period of seven days at the municipality headquarters and other designated locations determined by the municipality administration, all of which shall be done at least forty-five days before the scheduled date for the municipal council elections.

**Article Eleven (Third Paragraph):**

The committee shall issue its decision on this request within three days from the date of its submission. In the event of a decision to reject the request, the person concerned shall have the right to appeal this decision before the Civil Division of the Court of Cassation within a maximum period of three days from the date of its issuance. The court shall rule on such appeals within seven days from the date of filing the lawsuit, and the judgement rendered by the court shall be final and not subject to appeal. The voter lists shall be modified in accordance with the provisions or final decisions.

**Article Thirteen:**

The date of the election of municipal council members shall be determined by a decision from the Prime Minister, which includes the date of opening and closing the candidacy process. This decision shall be published in the Official Gazette at least forty-five days before the scheduled date for the elections.

**Article Seventeen (First Paragraph):**

The candidate may withdraw their candidature by notifying the designated committee mentioned in Article Seven of this law in writing at least ten days before the day of the election. The withdrawal shall be confirmed in front of their name on the candidate list in the constituency, and this withdrawal shall be announced on the door of the election committee headquarters in the constituency where the candidate is nominated.

**Article Eighteen (Last Paragraph):**

Each candidate may select a voter from those registered on the electoral roll of the constituency where they are nominated to act as their representative before the voting and sorting committee specific to this constituency. The candidate must submit the name of their representative to the committee specified in Article Seven of this law at least seven days before the election date.

**Article Twenty-One:**

The electoral process continues from eight o’clock in the morning until eight o’clock in the evening. However, if there are voters present at the polling and counting committee headquarters at Eight p.m. who have not cast their votes, the committee shall prepare a list with their names, and the electoral process shall continue until these voters have cast their votes. If all registered voters have cast their votes before the designated end time for the election, the president shall declare the end of the voting process after the last voter has cast their vote.

**Article Twenty-Two:**

Every voter must present proof of their identity, such as a passport or any other approved official document, when casting their vote.

The voter's participation in voting shall be manually or electronically marked in the voter list, indicating that they have cast their vote, or by any other means approved by the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Waqf that confirms the casting of their vote.

**Article Two**

The Prime Minister and the ministers -each within his jurisdiction- shall implement this Law, and it shall come into force from the day following its publication in the official gazette.

**King of the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa**

**Prime Minister**

**Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa**

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On: 27 Dhu al-Qi'dah 1435 A.H.

Corresponding to: 22 September 2014