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**Law No. (39) of 2014 amending certain provisions of Criminal Procedures Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (46) of 2002**

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

Having reviewed the Constitution;

And the Criminal Procedures Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No.(46) of 2002, as amended;

The Shura Council and the Council of Representatives have approved the following law, which we have ratified and enacted:

**Article One**

The provisions of Articles (147), (148) and (149) of the Criminal Procedures Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No.(46) of 2002 shall be replaced with the following texts:

**Article (147)**

The detention order issued by the Public Prosecution shall not be effective except for the seven days following handing the accused over to it. If the Public Prosecution decides to extend the precautionary detention, before the expiry of the seven-day period, the papers shall be presented to the judge of the lower court to issue his order after hearing the statements of the Public Prosecution and the accused to extend the detention for a period or consecutive periods not exceeding thirty days in total, provided that one period does not exceed fifteen days or by releasing the accused with or without bail.

In the crimes stipulated in Part One of the Special Section of the Penal Code, the Public Prosecution has the powers of the lower court judge stipulated in the previous paragraph

**Article (148)**

If the investigation is not completed and the Public Prosecution decides to extend the precautionary detention beyond what is prescribed in the previous article, the papers must be referred to in the counselling room of the Higher Criminal Court, before the expiration of the aforementioned period, to issue its order after hearing the statements of the Public Prosecution and the accused to extend the detention for successive periods, each not exceeding thirty days if the interest of the investigation requires that, or by releasing the accused with or without bail.

Nevertheless, the matter shall be referred to the Public Prosecutor if three months have elapsed since the suspect was remanded in custody, in order to take the measures he deems sufficient to complete the investigation.

In all cases, the period of precautionary detention may not exceed six months, unless the accused was notified of his referral to the competent court before the expiration of this period, if the charge attributed to the accused is a felony, the period of precautionary detention may not exceed six months except after obtaining, before its expiry, an order from the competent court to extend the detention for a period not exceeding thirty days, renewable for other similar periods, otherwise the accused must be released.

**Article (149)**

The Public Prosecution may order the temporary release of the precautionary confined suspect at any time on its own initiative, provided that the accused undertakes to appear whenever he is required to do so and not to flee from the execution of the sentence that may be issued against him.

The accused may request the competent prosecution to release him, and if his request is denied, he may complain to the Attorney General, then to the first Attorney General, then to the Attorney General, provided that they decide on the grievance within three days from the date of its submission, and the passage of the three-day period without deciding on the grievance, shall be considered as a rejection, which entails automatic referral of the grievance to the higher authority.

**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 the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

**King of the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa,**

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On: 8 Dhu al-Qi'dah 1435 A.H.

Corresponding to: 3 September 2014