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**Published on the website on May 2024**

**Law No. (42) of 2014 amending certain provisions of Law for Building Regulation, promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (13) of 1977**

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

Having reviewed the Constitution;

Penal Code promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (15) of 1976, as amended,

Legislative Decree No. (13) of 1977 promulgating the Building Regulation Law, as amended by Legislative Decree No. (15) of 1993;

And the Legislative Decree No.(17) of 1982 regarding Regulating the Practice of Engineering Professions, as amended;

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

**Article One**

The texts of Articles (2), (23), and (24) of Building Regulation Law, promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (13) of 1977shall be replaced with the following texts:

**Article (2)**

The municipality shall administratively suspend any construction or work carried out under this law without a licence or in violation of the terms of the granted permit, and a justified decision of the suspension shall be issued and notified to the owner or the licensee and the engineer supervising the implementation or the contractor - if any. If the in person notification to each of them is impossible, then they shall be notified by a registered letter with an acknowledgement of receipt to their last place of residence known to the municipality, and the minutes on the violations shall be recorded and sent to the public prosecution. The municipality shall put up a sign in a visible place on the real estate site indicating the illegal construction or work and the measures or decisions taken in this regard, and the aforementioned concerned parties shall keep this sign in its place with clear information until the illegal construction or work is corrected, completed or removed. Without prejudice to criminal liability, the municipality may issue a reasoned decision to remove what has been stopped within a maximum of fifteen days from the notification of the decision to cease the offending construction or works, if the offending construction or works have been established without authorisation or contrary to the provisions of the authorisation issued, whenever it is detrimental to public health or the safety of local residents, passers-by or neighbours, and to the persons concerned referred to in this decision shall be notified by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt, and they shall proceed with the execution of the decision rendered by the municipality within the appropriate period set by the latter. If they refrain from the execution or the period expires, the municipality will enforce the decision by administrative and coercive means, and the offender will bear all costs.

**Article (23)**

A fine of not less than one thousand dinars and not more than ten thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who establishes an establishment or work without having obtained a licence from the local authority in accordance with the provisions of this law.

A fine of not less than five hundred dinars and not more than five thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who establishes a building or work in breach of the conditions on the basis of which the licence was granted.

It is considered an aggravating circumstance for the violator to resume what was previously suspended by administrative means, despite being notified. If the one who resumed the violating construction or work is a person other than the violator, he shall be punished with the same penalty stipulated for the violator in the two previous paragraphs. In all cases, the court shall rule to correct, complete or remove the violating building or the work at the expense of the violator.

A fine not exceeding one thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who violates the provisions of articles (4.2 first paragraph, 5 first paragraph, 8.6 first paragraph, 12 second paragraph, 13) of this law or of the decisions taken in implementation thereof, and the penalties shall be multiplied according to the number of offences.

In all cases, the Committee for the Practice of the Engineering Professions shall be notified of the decisions issued against the engineers in accordance with the provisions of this law, in order to take necessary action against them.

**Article (24)**

The violator shall be subjected to a fine not exceeding ten dinars for each day he refrains from implementing the final judgement or decision of the municipality regarding the correction, completion or removal of the violating construction or work, after the expiry of the specified period for implementing the judgement or decision.

The provisions of the aforementioned fine shall also apply in case of resumption of the suspended construction or work, for each day starting from the day following the notification of the suspension decision to the concerned parties.

**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