

To the respected brother, His Eminence Jawad Bin Salem Al Arrayed, Deputy Prime Minister
and President of the Ministerial Committee for Legal Affairs

May peace, mercy and blessings of God be upon you,

In reference to the book of the Cabinet's Secretary General No.529/2011 dated 31/10/2011, regarding the request of measures aimed at referring a law project submitted by the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Waqf to the Shura Council and the Council of Representatives, for amending some provisions of the Penal Code promulgated by Law Decree 15 of 1976 in accordance with constitutional procedures and in implementation of the decree No.01-2133 adopted during the Cabinet session No.2133 held on the 23rd of October 2011.

I would like to share with your eminence the following:

- 1- A correspondence addressed by HRH the Prime Minister to His Eminence The Prime Minister
- 2- A decree for referring a law project aimed at amending some provisions of the Penal Code promulgated by Law Decree No.15 of 1976.
- 3- Law project No. () of the year () for amending some provisions of the Penal Code promulgated by Law Decree No.15 of 1976, after being drafted in its legal formulation by the Department.

If your Eminence could adopt the necessary measures for referring the law project to the Council of Representatives to be accompanied with documents reminding the government of the concerned law project.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration
and respect. Abdullah Bin Hassan Al-Buainain

President of the Legislation and Legal Opinion Commission
Copy to the Cabinet's Secretary General

Number:

Date:

The respected Speaker of the Council of Representatives, FIE Khalifa Bin Ahmed Al Dhahrani Greetings,

We are glad to present to your respected council a law project for amending some provisions of the Penal Code promulgated by Law Decree No.15 of 1976 accompanying the royal decree No.() of 2011, in accordance with articles (A/35) and (81) of the Constitution.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration and respect. Prime Minister

Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa

Copy to:

- Minister of Cabinet Affairs
- Minister of Shura Council and Parliament Affairs

Law No.() of 2011

For referring a law project aimed at amending some provisions of the Penal Code
promulgated
by Article No.15 of 1976 to the Council of Representatives

We, Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, the King of Bahrain,

Having examined the Constitution, specifically articles (C/33,

A/35 and 81), And the attached law project,

And upon a presentation by the Prime Minister,

We decided the following:

Article 1

The Prime Minister refers to the Council of Representatives the Law No. () of the
year () for amending some provisions of the Penal Code promulgated by Law
Decree No.15 of 1976, attached to this decree.

Article 2:

This decree is effective from the date of its issuance

King of Bahrain

Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa

Prime Minister

Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa

Issued in the Riffa Palace

Date:

Law project No. () of the year ()

For amending some provisions of the Penal Code promulgated by Law Decree

No.15 of 1976 We, Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of Bahrain,

Having examined the Constitution,

And the Penal Code promulgated by Law Decree No.15 of 1976 and its amendments,

The Shura Council and the Council of Representatives adopted the following law, and we ratified it and published it:

Article 1:

Texts of articles (168) and (169) paragraph 1 of the Penal Code promulgated by Law Decree No.15 of 1976 shall be replaced by the following texts:

Article 168:

Imprisonment for a period of no more than two years and a fine not exceeding BD 200 or either penalty shall be the punishment for any person who deliberately disseminates false reports, statements or rumors, knowing they can cause damage public security, public order, or public health.

The false reports causing damages to the national security and cited in the previous paragraph need to be an incitement for violence or could incite violence or could have a relation with violence.

Article (169) paragraph 1:

A punishment of imprisonment for a period of no more than two years and a fine not exceeding BD 200, or either penalty, shall be inflicted upon any person who publishes

by any method of publication untrue reports, falsified or forged documents or falsely attributed to other persons

should they undermine the public peace or cause damage to the country's supreme interest or to the State's creditworthiness.

Article 2

A new article (69 bis) with the following text shall be added to the Penal Code promulgated by Law Decree No.15 of 1976:

Restraints on the liberty of expression in this law or any other law are explained in the context needed for a democratic community. The practice of the liberty of expression in this frame is exempted from sanctions.

Article 3

Articles (134 bis) and (174) need to be eliminated from the Penal Code promulgated by Law Decree No.15 of 1976

Article 4

The Prime Minister and ministers- each in his specialization- shall implement

provisions of this law effective the next day following its publication in the Official Gazette.