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**Law No. (4) of 2019 amending some provisions of Legislative Decree No. (78) of 2006 regarding Unemployment Insurance**

We, Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Acting King of the Kingdom of Bahrain,

Having reviewed the Constitution, in particular Article (87) thereof;

Legislative Decree No. (78) of 2006 regarding Unemployment Insurance, amended by Law No (43) of 2014;

And Law No. (3) of 2008 regarding the Social Insurance Organization, amended by Law No (33) of 2014;

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

**Article One**

The definition of (Organisation) contained in Article (1), and the texts of Articles (8, paragraph c), (11, first paragraph), (12), (14), (18, first paragraph) and (19), of Legislative Decree No. (78) of 2006 regarding the Unemployment Insurance, shall be replaced by the following texts:

**"Article (1) Definition of (Organisation):**

**3- Organisation:** Social Insurance Organisation.”

**"Article (8) Paragraph (c):**

c- If it appears from the actuary’s report that there is a surplus in the account, this surplus must be transferred to the account’s general reserve account, and it may not be disposed of except by a decision of the Council of Ministers upon the recommendation of the Minister after the approval of the Board of Directors for any of the following purposes:

1- Increasing the minimum and maximum compensation and subsidy - or any of those - in light of the consumer price index.

2- Funding the voluntary retirement programme for one time only, taking into consideration Article (8) Paragraph (e)."

**"Article (11) first paragraph:**

The compensation is paid monthly at the rate of 60% of the insured’s wages based on his average monthly wage during the twelve months preceding his unemployment, and not exceeding an amount of one thousand dinars.”

**"Article** **(12):** (minimum compensation)

The minimum compensation shall not be less than two hundred dinars per month, or the average monthly wage of the insured during the twelve months preceding his unemployment, whichever is less.”

**Article (14):**(maximum period for the compensation disbursement)

a- Subject to the provisions of Paragraph (b) of this Article, the maximum period for disbursing the compensation shall be nine consecutive or intermittent months for each time of the entitlement stipulated in Article (15) of this Law.

b- In all cases, the maximum period for the compensation disbursement is nine months during every twenty-four consecutive months, starting from the date of the first disbursement made during this period."

**"Article (18) first paragraph:**

The subsidy for the unemployed with the university qualifications is at the rate of two hundred dinars per month, and at the rate of one hundred and fifty dinars per month for the other unemployed.”

**Article (19):**(maximum period for subsidy disbursement)

The maximum period for disbursing the subsidy is nine months within a period of twelve consecutive months. In the event that the beneficiary submits an application for unemployment subsidy more than once within a period of twelve months, the subsidy will be disbursed to him during that period for a maximum of nine months.”

**Article Two**

The word (Organisation) shall be replaced by the phrase “the Public Organisation for Pension Fund” mentioned in the text of Article (29) of Legislative Decree No. (78) of 2006 regarding Unemployment Insurance.

**Article three**

The phrase “or with the Public Organisation for Pension Fund” shall be deleted from the definition of the word (Wage) contained in Article (1) of Legislative Decree No. (78) of 2006 regarding the Unemployment Insurance, and the phrase “and the Public Organisation for Pension Fund” mentioned in the text of Article (37) of the same law.

**Article four**

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.

**Acting King of the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa**

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On: 18 Shaaban 1440 A.H.

**Corresponding to:** 23 April 2019