

Fast-track Al Hajar dialysis centre, councillor urges

High demand for dialysis drives call to fast-track Al Hajar centre

- Councillor urges quick approval of new kidney and dialysis centre
- Facility to ease hospital strain and reduce patient travel
- Built-in parking to ensure safe, convenient access

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Municipal Councillor Tareq Al Farsani has called on health authorities to fast-track the new kidney treatment and dialysis centre in Al Hajar, Block 463, and to include well-organised parking as part of the project. He highlighted that patients with kidney failure currently face long waits and overcrowded wards in public hospitals, with demand

for regular dialysis increasing each year. While the Ministry of Health has said the centre is part of future plans, Al Farsani stressed that the pressure on existing services means the project cannot wait. Locating the centre close to local homes, he said, would reduce the strain on hospital emergency rooms and dialysis units and make it easier for patients to access specialist care through nearby primary services. Al Farsani also called for built-in,

clearly marked parking, which would improve traffic flow, prevent unsafe stopping, and make it easier and safer for patients and their families to reach the centre. He added that the new facility would save residents from long drives to larger hospitals and the stress of finding available dialysis slots, especially for those on fixed treatment schedules. The councillor urged the relevant authorities to approve the project quickly and prioritise its construction, saying its



Dialysis is a medical treatment that removes waste and excess fluid from the blood when the kidneys can no longer perform this function naturally. It is typically required several times a week for patients with kidney failure.

benefits for local health-care are obvious.

Tareq Al Farsani,
Northern Municipal
Council member

Turning sentences into second chances

Parliament reviews reform bill

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

In response to concerns raised by the International Labour Organization (ILO) over compulsory work alongside imprisonment, Bahrain has drafted an amendment requiring most inmates to take part in rehabilitation and training programmes instead of being assigned “employment” duties. The proposal, issued under Royal Decree No. 68 of 2025 at Riffa Palace, has been referred to Parliament. The Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee will review it as the main committee, with the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee providing comments. The revised text makes rehabilitation and training compulsory for all inmates, except for remanded detainees or those unable to participate due to health reasons. Programmes should, where possible, match an

inmate’s existing skills or profession. Executive regulations will outline the programmes, maximum hours, allowances, eligibility conditions, and rules for external training in coordination with relevant bodies. The draft also addresses civil liability for occupational injuries and professional diseases arising from participation in the programmes. The Cabinet endorsed the draft for parliamentary referral on 17 November 2025. The amendment also modernises Penal Code terminology, replacing references to “prison” and “prisons” with Reformation and Rehabilitation Centres, while focusing on preparing inmates for social reintegration and aligning Bahrain’s penal system with international labour standards.



Hassan
BuKhammas,
Chairman of
Parliament's
Foreign Affairs,
Defence and
National
Security
Committee

Parliament may get three months to finalise accounts



Parliament's Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee

- The proposal seeks to amend Article 219 of Decree-Law 54 of 2002 on the Council's Rules of Procedure
- The Financial and Economic Affairs Committee said the extra time would allow for more accurate audited figures

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Lawmakers in Bahrain may extend the Council of Representatives’ deadline for closing its accounts from 30 days to three months if a new bill tabled on Tuesday is approved. The proposal seeks to amend

Article 219 of Decree-Law 54 of 2002 on the Council’s Rules of Procedure. The General Secretariat would prepare the chamber’s final account, have it audited, and submit it to the Speaker within three months of the financial year’s end. The Speaker would then refer it to the Bureau, which may pass it to the Financial and Economic Affairs Committee before presenting it to the full chamber for discussion and approval. The Financial and Economic Affairs Committee said the extra time would allow for more accurate audited figures, reduce the workload on the General Secretariat, and give the National Audit Office adequate time to complete its review. In a written opinion, the government expressed support, noting the proposal aligns with constitutional and legal

requirements. Article 113 of the Constitution requires the state’s final account to be submitted to the Council within five months of year-end and approved by both chambers before publication. The amendment would also harmonise the Council’s schedule with other financial laws, including the state budget law (Decree-Law 39 of 2002), the Unemployment Insurance Fund, the Future Generations Reserve, and the Central Bank of Bahrain, and mirrors a recent Shura Council amendment. The Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee examined the draft, backing the title, preamble, and new wording of Article 219. It recommends approval in principle, with the law to take effect the day after publication in the Official Gazette, keeping both chambers aligned in managing public accounts.

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