

Damascus, SANA

President Bashar Al-Assad issues the LD # 31/2020, amending some articles of the LD# 30 date 03/05/2007, as amended, which contains the Military Service Law.

Legislative Decree # 31

President of the Republic;

Pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution;

Decrees the following:

Article 1:

Articles 13, 26, 95, 97, 99, 100, 105, 107, 113 and 114 of the LD # 30 date 03/05/2007, as amended, which contains the Military Service Law, shall be amended as follows:

1. Art. 13:

I.

A. The one who is subject to compulsory military service and is determined to serve in a non-field service (*khadamat thabiteh*) shall have the right to pay an exemption fee of USD 3,000, or equivalent in Syrian Pounds according to the exchange rate set by Central Bank of Syria (CBoS) on the payment day.

B. The military persons who are performing their compulsory military service shall benefit from the provisions of the foregoing clause.

II. The person who is subject to military service and is residing outside the Syrian Arab Republic (SAR) territory, in an Arab or foreign country, shall have the right to pay exemption fee, in accordance with the following:

- A. USD 7,000 for the one whose residence abroad is no less than four years before or after reaching the age of military enlistment.
- B. USD 8,000 for the one whose residence abroad is no less than three years and has not completed four years before or after reaching the age of military enlistment.
- C. USD 9,000 for the one whose residence abroad is no less than two years and has not completed three years before or after reaching the age of military enlistment.
- D. USD 10,000 for the one whose residence abroad is no less than one year and has not completed two years before or after reaching the age of military enlistment.
- E. USD 3,000 for the one who was born in an Arab or foreign country, and has been living in it, or in another country, permanently and continuously until reaching the age of military enlistment.
- F. USD 6,500 for the one who was born in an Arab or foreign country, and has lived there for 10 years minimum before reaching the age of military enlistment. USD

500 shall be deducted from this sum for each extra year of residence abroad up to 17 years, included.

III.

A. Provisions of Paragraph (II) of this article shall not apply to the one who was awarded a scholarship abroad by a public body.

B. The one who was awarded a scholarship abroad for a post-graduate program and obtained the degree subject of that scholarship -a master's degree minimum- and resided in the country of scholarship for the period defined in scholarship laws and regulations shall have the right to pay an exemption fee of USD 6,000.

IV.

A. The one who is subject to military service, who wants to pay exemption fee and whose residence has exceeded five years after reaching the age of military enlistment shall be fined USD 200 for each year delay.

B. The one who was awarded a scholarship abroad and wants to pay exemption fee shall be fined USD 200 for each year delay after obtaining the degree.

C. A year fraction shall be deemed a full year.

V.

A. The one who is subject to military service and resides outside SAR territory may leave the country of residence for 90 days, maximum, per year.

B. The one who is subject to military service and resides outside SAR territory may remain in the country for additional 60 days above the 90-day period defined in (A) of this paragraph for USD 200. This period shall not be deemed a part of the period needed to pay exemption fee.

VI.

A. A pilot working for the Syrian Airlines, who has been deferred according to Paragraph (II) of Art. 10 of this Law for 5 continuous years, or who has completed five years of actual service for the Syrian Airlines, during which he was practicing his profession, shall have the right to pay an exemption fee of USD 10,000, or equivalent in Syrian Pounds according to the exchange rate set by CBoS on the payment day.

B. All civilian pilots shall have the right to pay an exemption fee of USD 15,000.

2. The following paragraph shall be added at the end of Art. 26:

E. The one who resides permanently outside SAR territory for one year, minimum, after the payment of an exemption fee of USD 5,000.

3. Art. 95: The one who is subject to military service and fails to go through the drafting preparation examinations, without a legitimate excuse shall be fined SYP 15,000 if he resides in SAR territory and USD 100 if he resides abroad.

4. The phrase “or equivalent in Syrian Pounds according to the exchange rate set by CBoS on the payment day” shall replace the phrase “or equivalent in Syrian Pounds as per the exchange rate issued by CBoS” wherever it appears in Art. 97.

5. Art. 99: Anyone who is subject to military service and changes his place of residence that is registered at his Recruitment Office after completing his examinations without informing it of that change within two months of its occurrence shall be fined SYP 25,000.

6. Art. 100: In the following cases, the one who is subject to military service shall be fined SYP 15,000 if he resides in SAR territory and USD 100 if he resides abroad:

A. Failure, without legitimate excuse, to renew his excuse so that his deferment reasons can be checked if they are still valid.

B. Failure to have the drafting preparations checked.

7. Art. 105:

A. Every reservist who fails, without legitimate excuse, to respond to the call-up addressed to him to make sure that his exclusion reasons are still valid or go through the determined examinations shall be fined an amount that is equal to the basic monthly salary of a first-degree soldier.

B. This fine does not terminate the exclusion validity if the exclusion reasons are still there.

8. Art. 107: The one who is discharged from service and fails to approach his Recruitment Office within one month as of his discharge date, without legitimate excuse, shall be fined an amount that is equal to the basic monthly salary of a first-degree soldier.

9. Art. 113: Any draftee who has lost his ID card and has not informed the competent authorities of losing it shall be fined SYP 25,000.

10. Art. 114:

A. The one who loses his military service booklet shall be fined SYP 20,000.

B. The one who causes damage to his military service booklet shall be fined SYP 10,000.

C. The fine shall be collected by his Recruitment Office on behalf of the Treasury; in case he fails to pay, the fine shall be collected according to the Public Funds Collection Law and he shall be given a new booklet.

D. The one who deliberately damages, totally or partially, his or someone else's military service booklet, shall be penalized by imprisonment from three months to two years and a fine of SYP 100,000, and shall be administratively fined SYP 20,000 for the new booklet.

Article 2:

The Recruitment Regulations shall detail the procedures and conditions of approving exemption fees as well as any other amounts provided for in this LD.

Article 3:

CBoS and Syrian Diplomatic Missions may collect in Euros the equivalent of the amounts set in Dollars in this LD as defined by CBoS.

Article 4:

- A. The one who pays exemption fee after the enforcement of this LD according to provisions of Paragraphs (II) and (III) of Art. 13 of the Military Service Law, as amended by virtue of this LD, shall not benefit from the following:
1. Housing subscription or allocation at any public body.
 2. Loans from public banks in SAR for five years starting on the date of payment of the exemption fee.
- B. The one who has completed his compulsory or reserve military service shall be privileged in the contests and selection processes announced by public bodies in accordance with the principles issued by a resolution from the Council of Ministers.

Article 5:

This LD shall be published in the Official Gazette.

Damascus, 08/11/2020

President of the Republic

Bashar Al-Assad