

## **RASSED for Parliamentary Monitoring Program 4<sup>th</sup> Weekly Report on the Performance of the Parliament During the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Session December 19, 2015**

- RASSED applauds the “noble” initiative in passing the proposed Medical Accountability Law

RASSED: The lack of a quorum during the legislative and monitoring sittings of the House of Representatives has recurred.

Amman - RASSED for Parliamentary Monitoring Program, emerging from Al Hayat Center for Civil Society Development, mentioned that the most notable remarks of the fourth week from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Session, is the recurring lack of the quorum in the House of Representatives meetings.

In its weekly statement, RASSED applauded the approval of the Senate on the proposed Medical Accountability Law according to a recommendation by the Council from the Health and Environment and Population Committee, which included the rationale for issuing a number of recommendations.

The current quorum of the meetings of the House of Representatives is considered as a phenomenon that the Council should fix instantly. The Council should put an end to the recurring lack of attendance for the sessions in order to deal with the coming legislative meetings to discuss necessary laws related to political, economic, and social reform.

The fourth week of work saw the supervisory level deliver about 28 deputies asked to put confidence in the government in accordance to the

provisions of Article 53 of the Constitution. Furthermore the Finance Committee began reviewing the draft state budget law and the draft law for the budgets of independent government units.

RASED called on the Council to monitor the implementation of the budget. Moreover, the Finance Committee was called to involve the parliamentary committees in discussing and understanding the state budget, with the help of experts to facilitate studying, analyzing, and monitoring its content using modern methods.

The number of parliamentary blocs that have been registered in the General Secretariat of the House of Representatives is currently seven, which include: Reform, Reconciliation, Homeland, Initiative, National Union, Renaissance, and the Islamic Center. Previously, there were eight parliamentary blocs.

With regards to the parliamentary committee meetings, the most notable resolution lies in the support of the Education Commission in deciding the Ministry of Education to hold the General Secondary Certificate Examination (Tawjihi) once every academic year, contrary to the previous parliamentary committee's decision that has developed reviews on this matter. The second observation is on the high number of resignations of within parliamentary committee membership, which opens the question about the sources of conflict for committee members, and the amount of time wasted during resignation. This can also indicate the absence of a quorum in committee meetings, which is considered to be a serious issue, provided that these committees have been only been elected for a few days.