

# STATES OF JERSEY



## **ELECTED SPEAKER OF THE STATES (P.160/2013): AMENDMENT (P.160/2013 Amd.) – AMENDMENT**

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Lodged au Greffe on 23rd April 2014  
by Deputy R.G. Le Hérisier of St. Saviour

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**STATES GREFFE**

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After the words “President of the States?” ” insert the words “provided that the referendum shall not be held unless the States have already adopted legislation to give effect to the change which contains a commencement provision which specifies that the legislation shall automatically come into force if the change is supported by a majority of those voting in the referendum (subject to a minimum turnout threshold to be specified in the legislation) and shall not come into force if it is not”.

DEPUTY R.G. LE HÉRISSIER OF ST. SAVIOUR

## **REPORT**

In the event that both the main proposition and the first amendment are approved, it is imperative that the public know the precise terms of engagement of a referendum. I have already moved a proposition asking PPC to make these terms clear, given the promised referendum in October on the subject of acceptance or otherwise of the Clothier Report recommendations and the issue of the retention of the Connétables in the States.

There is already deep disillusionment amongst the electorate as a result of the handling of the last referendum, and I see acceptance of my amendment as an important step in regaining the trust of the electorate.

My amendment seeks to mirror the manner in which the UK Parliament handled the Alternative Vote referendum in 2011. In that case, Parliament passed legislation that gave effect to the introduction of AV but which also contained a commencement provision specifying that the relevant section of the Act would be brought into effect automatically if AV was supported in the referendum. This avoided the need for any further parliamentary debate and effectively made the referendum binding.

### **Financial and manpower implications**

There should be no additional costs other than the States' time in debating the matter.