

STATES OF JERSEY



DRAFT REFERENDUM (COMPOSITION OF THE STATES ASSEMBLY) (JERSEY) ACT 201- (P.118/2014): THIRD AMENDMENT

**Lodged au Greffe on 14th July 2014
by Senator P.F.C. Ozouf**

STATES GREFFE

DRAFT REFERENDUM (COMPOSITION OF THE STATES ASSEMBLY)
(JERSEY) ACT 201- (P.118/2014): THIRD AMENDMENT

1 PAGE 20, ARTICLE 6 –

In Article 6, for paragraphs (5) and (6) substitute the following paragraphs and renumber the remaining paragraphs accordingly –

- “(5) A voter may record a vote for or against a question in the referendum by making a cross in the blank square next to either “Yes” or “No” opposite the question on the ballot paper.
- (6) A voter’s ballot paper is not invalid by reason that the voter does not record a vote in respect of all of the questions on the ballot paper.
- (7) The Judicial Greffier, having added the votes for or against each of the questions in the referendum in the electoral districts, shall inform the Greffier of the States of the results of the referendum.”.

2 PAGE 22, SCHEDULE –

For the ballot paper set out in the Schedule, substitute the following ballot paper –

BALLOT PAPER

ANSWER ‘YES’ OR ‘NO’ TO EACH OF THE 4 QUESTIONS

1.	Should the number of elected States members be reduced to 42?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
2.	Should a minimum of 8 Senators elected on an island-wide basis continue to be members of the States?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Should the Constables continue to be members of the States by virtue of their office?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
4.	Should Deputies be elected on an equal and proportionate basis in larger districts to be determined by an Electoral Boundaries Commission?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

SENATOR P.F.C. OZOUF

REPORT

Like many members, I cannot agree with the PPC Referendum proposal. The question posed by PPC is partial and if the Public votes against the proposal, the future Assembly will be no further advanced on how to reform the composition of the States.

A number of constructive amendments have been submitted which aim to add important questions about reform that should be asked.

Over the weekend I have considered the amendments and concluded that there remain a number of gaps, and the wording of the proposed questions could be regarded as unfairly leading.

This amendment is designed to find the most fair, reasonable and workable solution.

The amendment seeks to ask the 4 key questions which need to be answered to find a solution to reform –

1. A reduction in States members.
2. Whether Senators should be retained.
3. Whether Constables should be retained as members of the States.
4. Whether the way Deputies are elected should be reformed on the basis of voter equality and fair distribution.

It has proven to be extremely difficult to find fairly balanced questions that fairly cover all the issues of the questions that need to be asked. This amendment attempts to do just that.

Whatever members' views of reform, it is vital that the Public has an opportunity to answer all the questions that need to be answered, so that the issue of reform can be progressed by the next Assembly with more certainty.

Financial and manpower implications

There are no financial or manpower implications arising from this amendment beyond those contained in the original Referendum Act.