

STATES OF JERSEY



MINISTERIAL GOVERNMENT: REFERENDUM (P.94/2016) – AMENDMENT

Lodged au Greffe on 1st November 2016
by Deputy J.A. Martin of St. Helier

STATES GREFFE

PAGE 2, PARAGRAPH (a) –

- (1) Delete paragraph (b) and renumber the subsequent paragraph accordingly.
- (2) In renumbered paragraph (b) after the words “for approval the” insert the words –
“text of the referendum question (having received appropriate independent advice and undertaken consultation thereon), and the”.

DEPUTY J.A. MARTIN OF ST. HELIER

Note: In full form this will mean that the proposition as amended would read as follows:

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion –

- (a) to agree that a referendum under the Referendum (Jersey) Law 2002 should be held on the day of the 2018 general election with a single Yes/No question to ask voters whether they agree that the States Assembly should continue with a Ministerial form of Government;
- (b) to request the Privileges and Procedures Committee to bring forward for approval the **text of the referendum question (having received appropriate independent advice and undertaken consultation thereon) and the** necessary Referendum Act to enable the referendum to take place.

REPORT

This is just a short report explaining why I have felt the need to amend my proposition on having a referendum to ask the Public of Jersey if Ministerial Government should remain.

The Privileges and Procedures Committee are in the final stages of working with the Law Draftsman's Office in preparing a draft Law for lodging which will replace the current Referendum (Jersey) Law 2002 and provide for the holding of referenda in Jersey, and for the designation of lead campaign groups by a Commission. The Commission will address all things to do with holding a referendum, including the drafting of a suitable question which will then be put to the Public. However, I feel that it is important at this time to agree that the question should be asked, and to leave the wording of the question to this body or someone independent after they have done the proper consultation. I emphasize 'or someone independent', as I would not want the States to be in the position of having agreed that the question should be asked, only to find that there is some time delay getting the Commission set up in time for the next General Election in May 2018.

Financial and manpower implications

There are no additional financial or manpower implications for the States arising from the adoption of this amendment.