PERSONAL STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY SENATOR E.P.VIBERT ON 19th APRIL 2005

I wish to announce to the States of Jersey that I have now sold the websites which I owned - and which caused so much angst to members of this Assembly - back to their former owner.

I wish to make it clear that this is in no way connected with the proposition approved by the States at the last meeting but is simply because the former owner's employers have given all their staff three months notice following the rejection by the Jersey Financial Services Commission (JFSC) of their application for a licence. The former owner is therefore free to act without any constraint by his employer.

As a result of this sale, I now have no responsibility for what appears on the four web-sites-jfsc.com; jerseyfsc.com; jerseyfsc.net; and jfsc.co.uk.

With respect to my own website, tedvibert.com, I am removing any reference to the Director General of the JFSC, the JFSC and its employees, again not because of the decision of this Assembly but because it simply is a dead story and there is nothing as dead as yesterday's news.

The history of the possible sale of the websites to the JFSC was explained by the Deputy of St. John who has made his position very clear on this. He approached me and asked me if I would meet Senator Walker and Mr. Colin Powell on the day before the States debate to discuss the purchase of the sites. I agreed to attend even though it was a last minute request and when I arrived Deputy Voisin was also there.

I made the point to them that the agreement I had with the former owner was that I would not sell on the sites without his authority and he would set the value of them. These are active sites, not just domain names similar to those purchased recently by the JFSC, but have a real commercial value for advertising and so on. I made it clear to all that any monies paid for these sites would go to the original owner.