

**STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY COMMITTEE ON 21st JUNE 2005**

The Employment and Social Security Committee has recently reviewed the States decision to implement an income bar on the Christmas Bonus in light of the forthcoming tax changes and introduction of a new Income Support system. It was decided that it would be more appropriate to put a hold on the introduction of an income bar to the Christmas Bonus until details of the Income Support system have been finalised, subject, of course, to States approval.

The Committee has discussed this matter with the President of the Finance and Economics Committee and he is fully supportive. I appreciate that the States have already approved the primary legislation but would hope that members will support the Employment and Social Security Committee's decision not to proceed with the income bar this year. I know from discussions with the various pensioner groups that this would be greatly appreciated.