

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY SENATOR B.E. SHENTON**

ANSWER TO BE TABLE ON TUESDAY, 13th FEBRUARY 2007

Question

Would the Chief Minister explain the rationale behind the decision to select Senator M.E. Vibert as a member of the States Employment Board and state whether any conflicts of interest arise in relation to this appointment?

Answer

Senator M.E. Vibert was a natural choice as a member of the States Employment Board. Not only does he possess past experience as a trade union negotiator, but he has formerly sat as a member of the Human Resources Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee and served, as an Employer nominee, on the Manual Workers' Joint Council and the Committee of Management of the Public Employees Contributory Retirement Scheme. He is also Minister for the States' second largest employing department.

Senator Vibert declared to the Board at the outset that his wife was an employee of the States – a teacher – and this was acknowledged by other members of the Board as not posing a problem. He regularly reminds the Board of this, especially when an item pertaining to teachers is discussed, and he takes no part in such discussions.