

STATES OF JERSEY

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STATES MEMBERS' REMUNERATION: INCREASES FOR 2004 – RESCINDMENT (P.11/2004) – SECOND AMENDMENT (P.11/2004 Amd.(2)) – COMMENTS

Presented to the States on 27th April 2004
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The Privileges and Procedures Committee does not support this amendment. The Committee has already presented its comments on the proposition of Deputy Le Main and, if adopted, the amendment of Senator Shenton would cause members' remuneration to fall even further in real terms. The Committee believes this would be totally unacceptable and does not feel that members who rely on the remuneration should be penalised or required to make a 'sacrifice' as suggested in the Senator's report.

The Committee is also extremely concerned with the proposed rescindment of the decision to allow the independent States Members Remuneration Body to make recommendations on the 2005 levels of remuneration for members. The proposition of Senator E.P. Vibert to establish the Body was welcomed by a vast majority of members who felt that the Body would at last bring an independent view to the difficult and sensitive issue of States members' remuneration.

The Committee has advertised for membership of the Body and has now selected 4 persons willing to serve on it. The proposition seeking the consent of the States to the appointments would have been lodged if Senator Shenton had not brought this amendment but the Committee concluded that it was not fair on those persons who had put their name forward to be drawn into the political debate on the Body and decided to defer lodging the proposition until the debate on Senator Shenton's amendment was concluded. The Committee regrets this delay which has occurred for reasons outside its control. If the amendment is defeated the Committee will lodge the proposition immediately so that the appointments can be made and the Body can begin work.

The Committee urges members to reject the amendment.