

DRAFT AMENDMENT (No. 21) OF THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE STATES OF JERSEY

**Lodged au Greffe on 24th October 2000
by the House Committee**



STATES OF JERSEY

STATES GREFFE

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Report

The question of the arrangement of additional meetings has been considered by the House Committee, as indeed it was by the previous Committee and set out in P.145/99 withdrawn today.

Committee meetings have now been arranged on a four weekly cycle, omitting Tuesday meetings. The Committee believes that, in order not to disrupt these scheduled meetings, the States should, when possible, agree that additional meetings of the States should be convened on Tuesdays, between regular States meetings, rather than any other day of the week.

It is perfectly possible to arrange additional meetings within the provisions of the present Standing Orders, but it would require an individual member to raise the matter on every occasion. In order to make the position more definite, the Committee proposes to change Standing Orders in the following ways -

- (a) to express formally the present practice that the normal closing time of States meetings is not later than 5.30 p.m., although a discretion will remain to continue beyond that time if it appears that consideration of certain or all of the matters listed on the Order Paper can be completed within a reasonable time;
- (b) to provide that, if the States do not complete their business in due time, they have a choice of adjourning the items to the next scheduled meeting of the States, in whatever order they propose, or of convening an additional meeting (normally the following Tuesday) to complete the outstanding business;

It should be noted that the responsibilities of the Greffier of the States, under Standing Order No. 17(1A) to consult with the Bailiff, Presidents of Committees and others to produce “a reasonably full day’s work at each meeting” will remain.

In addition, in response to concern expressed in the States on 12th September 2000, the Committee considers that it would be of assistance to Members for the Assembly to be able to agree at the last meeting of a session items for consideration at the first meeting of the ensuing session.

The House Committee recommends the States to make the proposed Amendments and to agree that the new arrangements should have immediate effect. The proposition has no financial or manpower implications.

Explanatory Note

These are further amendments of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey.

Amendment 1 amends Standing Order No. 5 (Adjournment of the States and suspension of meetings) by setting out formally the present practice whereby the States normally adjourn at 5.30 p.m. unless the business set down for the day is concluded earlier, or the States resolve to continue the meeting beyond 5.30 p.m. if it appears that consideration of certain or all of the matters set down for that meeting can be concluded within a reasonable time.

It also sets out a revised procedure to be adopted when the States are unable to conclude their business in the allotted time. In those circumstances, the States will have two choices -

- (a) as at present, to carry forward the business to the next scheduled meeting of the Assembly, but in such order as the States may determine; or
- (b) to re-convene on the following Tuesday, or other named day, to conclude the outstanding business.

Amendment 2 amends Standing Order No. 17 (Arrangement of public business) by inserting a proviso that at the last meeting of a session, items for consideration at the first meeting of the ensuing session may be set down for consideration and inscribed in the Minutes.

The Amendments are to come into force forthwith.

States of Jersey Law 1966

AMENDMENT (No. 21) OF THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE STATES OF JERSEY

STATES OF JERSEY

The day of 2000

THE STATES, in pursuance of Article 27 of the States of Jersey Law 1966,^[1] as amended, have made the following amendments of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey^[2] -

1. For Standing Order 5(1) there shall be substituted the following paragraphs -

“(1) Unless the States otherwise resolve, the Bailiff shall adjourn any meeting of the States at 5.30 p.m. on the day the meeting commences or, if earlier, as soon as consideration of all the matters for which notice has been given for that meeting has been completed.

(1A) The States may resolve that a meeting shall continue beyond 5.30 p.m. until consideration of certain or all of the matters of which notice has been given for that meeting has been completed, if it appears to the Assembly that consideration of them could be completed within a reasonable time.

(1B) The States may resolve ‘That the States do now adjourn’ notwithstanding that consideration of matters of which notice has been given for a meeting has not been completed.

(1C) If, at any meeting of the States, the consideration of matters of which notice has been given for that meeting has not been completed at the time appointed or resolved for the adjournment of the meeting, the States may resolve -

(a) that any item of business not disposed of shall be included on the order paper for the next scheduled meeting of the States in such order as the States may determine; or

(b) that the States be re-convened to meet on the following Tuesday, or other named day, to complete the consideration of those matters.

(1D) A proposition for a resolution or amendment thereof under this Standing Order may be moved by any member and shall not require notice.”.

2. In Standing Order 17(3), after the words “next meeting” there shall be inserted the following proviso -

“Provided that at the last meeting of a session, items for consideration at the first meeting of the ensuing session may be set down for consideration and inscribed in the Minutes, in accordance with these Standing Orders.”.

3. These Amendments may be cited as Amendment (No. 21) of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey and shall come into force forthwith.

^[1] Recueil des Lois, Volume 1966-1967, page 15.

^[2] Nos. 4858 and 8630.