

STATES OF JERSEY



DRAFT STATES OF JERSEY (AMENDMENT No. 8) LAW 201- (P.33/2014): COMMENTS

Presented to the States on 17th April 2014
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The Chief Minister's proposition arises out of a lengthy review of the machinery of government. An initial review was undertaken by the Machinery of Government Review Sub-Committee, which presented its interim report to the States in April 2013 ([R.39/2013](#)) and its final report in September 2013 ([R.105/2013](#)).

Following an in-Committee debate of the Sub-Committee's recommendations, a Steering Group was established, consisting of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Privileges and Procedures Committee, the President of the Chairmen's Committee and the Chief Minister, to take the recommendations forward. The Steering Group considered which of the recommendations had received the broad support of the States and, following further consultation with States members, put forward a proposed package of changes to the Privileges and Procedures Committee on 6th March 2014. The Committee did not feel that it was in a position to take the proposed changes to the States, and the Chief Minister agreed to take the matter forward.

The Chief Minister's proposition makes some amendments to the draft considered by the Committee in March, including an amendment to the process for the appointment of the Council of Ministers. It had originally been proposed that the Chief Minister designate would be able to propose his or her Council of Ministers as a slate on 3 occasions and, if all 3 proposals were rejected, the Chief Minister would cease to hold office and the States would elect a new Chief Minister. Under the Chief Minister's proposal, if all 3 slates were rejected by the States, the Chief Minister would appoint a Council of Ministers without seeking the approval of the States Assembly. In addition, a new amendment has been proposed to Articles 48 and 49 of the Law relating to Scrutiny. The amendment removes the prescribed Panel structure from the Law, and instead requires that provisions for the conduct of Scrutiny are set out in Standing Orders.