

# **STATES OF JERSEY**



## **DISCRIMINATION LAW AND DELAY ON PENSION REFORM (P.118/2011): COMMENTS**

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**Presented to the States on 18th July 2011  
by the Council of Ministers**

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**STATES GREFFE**

## COMMENTS

The amendment of the Council of Ministers to P.118/2011 clearly shows that Ministers are committed to the principle of introducing a Discrimination Law for Jersey.

However, the Council of Ministers does not support part (c) of the proposition of Deputy G.P. Southern of St. Helier and rejects any suggestion that changes to pension age legislation should be delayed until such time as discrimination legislation is in place.

Given the Council's commitment to prioritise discrimination legislation and to give both disability and age discrimination a high priority, it is neither necessary nor appropriate to rescind the previous decision of the States.

Ministers strongly believe that raising the pension age is a responsible and logical step to take in dealing with the ageing population issues affecting Jersey, and will maintain its relevance to an ageing society.

Deputy Southern's proposal to remove the commitment to bring forward changes to the pension age legislation would therefore be counter-productive, create uncertainty and remove the pressure to pursue the other changes that are necessary to meet the challenges in dealing with an ageing population.

The Council of Ministers endorses the comments of the Minister for Social Security and urges States members to reject part (c) of the proposition.

### **Statement under Standing Order 37A [Presentation of comment relating to a proposition]**

The Council of Ministers was unable to approve the comments before the deadline as a result of the States Sitting beginning on Monday 18th July.