

# STATES OF JERSEY



## COMPOSITION AND ELECTION OF THE STATES: SINGLE ELECTION DAY EACH YEAR (P.109/2009) – COMMENTS

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Presented to the States on 14th July 2009  
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee

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STATES GREFFE

## COMMENTS

The Privileges and Procedures Committee supports the concept of a single election day in each year but, as set out in its own proposition, Composition and election of the States: revised structure (P.72/2009), believes that this should be achieved through a general election when the entire membership of the Assembly is renewed on one single day every 4 years.

PPC does not consider that it would be appropriate for Deputy Le Fondré's proposition to be debated before P.72/2009 as he has requested. Until the future composition of the Assembly has been agreed, it will not be possible for members to have a meaningful debate about the feasibility of holding all elections on one single election day. Some members may be content to have a single election day every year if there are only one or 2 categories of elected members, but not if the current 3 categories remain. Without knowing what decisions will be taken about the future composition, it will be impossible for members to decide how to vote on Deputy Le Fondré's proposition.

PPC has already had initial discussions with representatives of the Jurats and Judicial Greffe to discuss any problems encountered with the administration of the 2008 elections, and this work will be continued over the coming months. One topic already highlighted for further discussion was the number of elections which should be held at any one time, and PPC does not support a proposition which deals solely with this aspect of the elections without having undertaken any consultation as to the possible ramifications.

PPC is hopeful that members will support P.72/2009 and, if that proposition is adopted (with or without the amendment of the Deputy of St. Martin), Deputy Le Fondré's proposition would become superfluous and fall away. If P.72/2009 was rejected, members would need to make a political decision on whether they thought it was feasible and/or desirable, as would be the consequence of Deputy Le Fondré's proposition in these circumstances, to hold elections for 6 Senators, 29 Deputies and 12 Connétables on one single day every 3 years (without addressing the position of the 6 remaining Senators who would not be elected on that day).