MINIMUM WAGE LEGISLATION (P.227/98): SECOND AMENDMENT

Lodged au Greffe on 16th February 1999 by Deputy M.E. Vibert of St. Brelade



STATES OF JERSEY

STATES GREFFE

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MINIMUM WAGE LEGISLATION (P.227/98): SECOND AMENDMENT

For sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph (a) substitute the following -

(i) a minimum wage at an initial hourly rate of not less than £4 and subsequently at such single hourly rate as the States may from time to time prescribe by Regulations;

DEPUTY M.E. VIBERT OF ST. BRELADE

Report

The Employment and Social Security Committee's proposition only asks the States to receive - and not approve - its report accompanying the Minimum Wage Legislation proposition (P.227/98).

The Committee's recommendation of £3.70 per hour as the initial rate for a minimum wage is only included in the report and not the proposition and therefore will not be voted on directly.

I believe it is only fair to both employers and employees that the States give an indication as to what level they believe the initial starting rate for a minimum wage should be by voting for or against a set amount.

My amendment seeks to set that rate at a minimum of £4 per hour, 30p per hour more than the Committee's proposal.

The research commissioned by the Committee into a minimum wage for Jersey, which is summarized in the report to the proposition, in my view supports a starting rate of £4 per hour.

The research concluded low-paid employees worked an average of 38 hours a week. At £4 per hour this equates to a weekly wage of £152 or an annual income of £7,904.