

**STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL
SECURITY COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY, 4th FEBRUARY 2003**

Members are aware that the previous Employment and Social Security Committee lodged the **Draft Employment (Jersey) Law 200- (P.187)** last October, with subsequent amendments lodged on 5th November 2002. However, there was not enough time to debate them as a result of the build-up of States' business towards the end of the last session.

The new Committee is currently familiarising itself with the draft Law and has been considering some additional comments from the Attorney General. As a result, the Committee will want to make further drafting amendments: although these may be minor, they are important from a legal perspective.

There will therefore be a short delay whilst the Committee considers the issues raised. Accordingly, today the Committee has withdrawn **Project 187** and will lodge an amended version within the next two months so that the debate may proceed in an orderly way.

I give members my assurance that there is no intention to change the purpose of this draft legislation in any substantive way at this point, nor will it stop progress on work being carried out behind the scenes on the subordinate legislation, including research by the Employment Forum into the minimum wage rate and also a new Employee Relations Law.

This short delay will enable all members to familiarise themselves with the draft legislation and - to this end - a further presentation will be arranged for the benefit of members prior to the debate.