

STATES OF JERSEY



DRAFT SHOPS (REGULATION OF OPENING AND DELIVERIES) (JERSEY) LAW 200- (P.111/2009): THIRD AMENDMENT

Lodged au Greffe on 16th October 2009
by Deputy A.K.F. Green of St. Helier

STATES GREFFE

DRAFT SHOPS (REGULATION OF OPENING AND DELIVERIES) (JERSEY)
LAW 200- (P.111/2009): THIRD AMENDMENT

1 PAGE 34, ARTICLE 2 –

In paragraph (1) after the words “Christmas Day” insert the words “, 26th December”

2 PAGE 35, ARTICLE 4 –

(a) in paragraph (1) after the words “Christmas Day” insert the words “, 26th December”;

(b) after paragraph (2) insert the following paragraph and renumber the remaining paragraphs accordingly and any internal cross-references accordingly –

“(3) Regulations made under paragraph (1) may not include provision empowering the Minister, by Order, to designate 26th December as a special occasion for the purposes of this Law.”.

DEPUTY A.K.F. GREEN OF ST. HELIER

REPORT

Recently the Assembly voted to move the public holiday Boxing Day to the 28th December 2009. This now means that the real Boxing Day 26th December becomes for many a normal working day, for example post will be delivered and shops will open. I believe that this was not understood by many members!

The advice given to the Chief Minister is given by people who only understand Monday to Friday working arrangements, for those who work Monday to Friday the arrangement agreed on Thursday October 8th will effectively give them a long weekend, whilst those who work any 5 days from 7 including weekends, for example shop workers and postal workers and many service industry providers, will have to work the real Boxing Day. The problem with this is that more families than necessary will be forced to spend the real Boxing Day apart; this is in my view totally unacceptable and will lead to further deterioration of family life. In the Draft Public Holidays and Bank Holidays (Jersey) Act 200- (P.151/2009) lodged by the Chief Minister, the Assembly was advised that consultation has taken place with the Chamber of Commerce through the Economic Development Department. I suggest that had wider consultations taken place, including the Dean and Trades Unions, a truer and more fully representative opinion may have been obtained.

Clearly it is too late to make changes in time for December 26th 2009, but in order to prevent a similar situation recurring in the future, I suggest that the Assembly should agree to designate the 26th December as a limited trading day which will allow limited shop opening, but does not allow the Minister for Economic Development to designate the 26th of December a special day under the law, thus preventing the general opening of shops on the 26th December when the Boxing Day holiday is designated to an alternative day.

Financial and manpower implications

There are no manpower or financial implications for the States.