

STATES OF JERSEY



MINISTER FOR TREASURY AND RESOURCES: REQUEST TO CHIEF MINISTER TO LODGE PROPOSITION FOR DISMISSAL – PETITION (P.16/2011) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 14th February 2011
by the Chief Minister**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

I regret that Deputy Southern has felt the need to bring this Proposition to the States. I can categorically state that I have no intention, whatsoever, of dismissing the Minister for Treasury and Resources. The Minister is doing an excellent job in carrying out the policies, as agreed and endorsed by the States Assembly, to maintain fiscal stability on the Island.

Members will recall that the States comprehensively approved the 2011 Business Plan and the 2011 Budget as recently as September and December last year respectively. Consequently, the Minister for Treasury and Resources is carrying out the democratic will of this Assembly.

It is an unreasonable state of affairs that Deputy Southern is requesting the Chief Minister to dismiss the Minister for Treasury and Resources for implementing policies proposed by the Council of Ministers and subsequently agreed and endorsed by this Assembly.

During 2010 and forward into 2011, difficult decisions have been, and will be, made by the Minister for Treasury and Resources, the Council of Ministers and the States in order to address the predicted deficits caused by the economic downturn.

The strength of our public finances has not been achieved by chance. Prudent decisions made over the course of many years have put Jersey in a strong position and debt free. The outcomes from the 2011 Business Plan and Budget debates, comprehensively approved by States Members, will ensure that we have sustainable public finances into the future.

I strongly urge Members to reject this Proposition and to allow the Minister for Treasury and Resources to implement the democratic will of this Assembly thus ensuring the financial and economic stability and prosperity of the Island.