

STATES OF JERSEY



DRAFT SHOPS (REGULATION OF OPENING AND DELIVERIES) (JERSEY) LAW 200- (P.111/2009): SECOND AMENDMENT (P.111/2009 Amd.(2)) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 2nd November 2009
by the Minister for Economic Development**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

Part (a)

If Part (a) of this amendment is adopted, Christmas Day will remain a 'Sunday' under the Law, but there will be no power for Connétables to grant permits for shops to trade. Virtually all shops will be closed – even those with Sunday trading permits. Pubs, restaurants and cafes will be permitted to open if they wish – as these are regulated by other laws, as would shops exempt under the Law.

There tends to be very limited opening on Christmas Day, most of it catering to shoppers obtaining household essentials in the morning. Some small convenience stores historically trade on Christmas Day, usually for a few hours in the morning. These are primarily family-run shops and some of the Spar chain. These will be forced to close.

Economic Development does not feel that it would be appropriate to limit the operation of small local shops on this day, as there is little demand and it is anecdotally understood that the shops that do open would be unable to do so without the agreement of the staff (often family members). These shops would not open without some demand from the public, who are often looking for essential or overlooked Christmas necessities.

In any event regulations can be made under the Law to restrict the size or type of shop which might be allowed to open on Christmas Day.

Accordingly, Economic Development considers that this Part of the amendment should be rejected.

Part (b)

If Part (b) of this amendment is adopted Good Friday and Liberation Day could not be designated by the Minister for Economic Development as special occasions under the Law, so there would be no opportunity for Connétables to grant a blanket permit to allow shops without Sunday trading permits to trade on those days.

Economic Development has no fundamental objection to this Part of the amendment, as such a situation is highly unlikely to occur.