

2.9 Deputy R.G. Le Herissier of the Minister for Housing regarding whether legislation to be brought to protect tenants' deposits:

Will the Minister be bringing legislation to the States for the protection of tenants' deposits, and if so, when?

Senator T.J. Le Main (The Minister for Housing):

The answer is yes, Sir. The protection of tenants' deposits will be enshrined in the new tenancy law which is in its final stages awaiting to be signed off by the Attorney General.

2.9.1 The Deputy of St. Martin:

Will the Minister remind the House how long the process has taken to get this security of tenure legislation to the House?

Senator T.J. Le Main:

Yes, Sir, the States approved P.257 in May 1999 and it has taken all this time and it could be several months yet before it is finally laid before this Assembly.

2.9.2 Deputy R.G. Le Hérisier:

Given what the Minister has said, can he give us the target date he is working towards for its actual introduction as a policy?

Senator T.J. Le Main:

No, I cannot give a date, Sir. It is a really complex piece of legislation which is in the hands of the Attorney General. The Attorney General, as we all know, is unwell at the moment recuperating and I am certainly not going to be pushing the Attorney General because of his health problems to bring urgency or pressurise him. I await - and the Attorney General is awaiting - to sign it off and he will do it as soon as he is able.