

STATES OF JERSEY



DRAFT ELECTIONS (APPOINTED DAY) (JERSEY) ACT 202- (P.17/2025): AMENDMENT (P.17/2025 AMD.) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 28th March 2025
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

Deputy Moore has lodged an amendment ([P.17/2025 Amd.](#)) to the [Draft Elections \(Appointed Day\) \(Jersey\) Act 202- \(P.17/2025\)](#) that gives Members a choice between 7th June 2026 (PPC's proposal) and 26th April 2026 (the Deputy's proposal) for the next elections to the States Assembly.

PPC recognises that, in broad terms, the April election day proposed by Deputy Moore would allow for more time following the election for a new Council of Ministers to be selected and for new Scrutiny Panels to be formed before the Summer recess. It would also allow more time for the new Council to draft its Common Strategic Policy and its first Government Plan. An April date would also allow for the States Assembly to hold standard meetings (with questions, debates etc) before the Summer recess. An April date would see the election take place before the school exam period.

However, an April date would require campaigning and hustings for the election to take place over the Easter period, including during school periods. Easter in 2026 will fall on Sunday 5th April 2026 and the school holidays in Jersey are scheduled to run from Wednesday 1st April 2026 until Monday 20th April 2026. An April date would also evidently bring forward the deadline for the current Assembly, Council of Ministers and other bodies to complete their work before the Pre-Election Period began.

The [Elections \(Jersey\) Law 2002](#), the [States of Jersey Law 2005](#) and the [Standing Orders of the States of Jersey](#) all contain provisions that govern the timetable for elections to the States Assembly, the Pre-Election Period and the impact on States Assembly proceedings (for example, the selection of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers). Those provisions are as follows –

Event	Timeframe	Notes
Pre-Election Period	From 2 months before the first day of the Nomination Period until election day	Standing Order 19A – No propositions may be lodged during this period unless the Bailiff considers them urgent and of public importance
Prohibition on States Meetings	From the week before the week in which candidates nominated for election are announced until election day	Standing Order 7
Nomination Period	No more than 7 weeks and no less than 6 weeks before election day	Article 17C, Elections Law – The Nomination Period is determined by the Jersey Electoral Authority

Selection of Chief Minister designate	Within 19 days following election day	Standing Order 112 – Nominations must be provided to the Greffier 5 clear working days before the meeting
Selection of Ministers and Committee and Panel Chairs	5 clear days after the meeting at which the Chief Minister designate is selected	Standing Order 112
Selection of Panel and Committee members	Not prescribed	Standing Order 112
Lodging of Common Strategic Policy	Within 4 months of the appointment of the Council of Ministers	States of Jersey Law, Article 18 – The first Government Plan of a new Council of Ministers is lodged at the same time

The implications of these provisions for either of the proposed election days before the Assembly (26th April and 7th June 2026) are as follows:

Event	PPC's Proposal (7th June 2026)	Deputy Moore's Proposal (26th April 2026)
Prohibition on Lodging	Earliest: 19th February 2026 Latest: 26th February 2026	Earliest: 8th January 2026 Latest: 15th January 2026
Last States Meeting	Earliest: Week beginning 6th April 2026 Latest: Week beginning 13th April 2026	Earliest: Week beginning 23rd February 2026 Latest: Week beginning 2nd March 2026
Nomination Period	Earliest start: 19th April 2026	Earliest start: 8th March 2026

	Latest start: 26th April 2026	Latest start: 15th March 2026
Election Day	Sunday 7th June 2026	Sunday 26th April 2026
Selection of Chief Minister designate	No later than 26th June 2026	No later than 15th May 2026
Selection of Ministers and Panel and Committees Chairs	Last possible start date: 2nd July 2026	Last possible start date: 21st May 2026