

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

11th December, 2024

Proposition No. P.2024/107

STATES' ASSEMBLY & CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Review of the Rules of Procedure

AMENDMENT

Proposed by: Deputy S Falla
Seconded by: Deputy N Inder

To insert an additional Proposition as follows:

“To insert the following new rule, immediately after Rule 17 of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees:

“Speech Limits

- 17A.** (1) Subject to Rule 3(18) and the following paragraphs of this Rule, a speech by a Member in a debate must not exceed 15 minutes in length.
- (2) The Presiding Officer may, in his or her discretion:
- (a) allow the Member to speak for longer than 15 minutes; or
 - (b) implement a shorter time limit than 15 minutes for speeches made during the entirety of, or parts of, a debate.
- (3) The length of a Member’s speech shall not be taken to include:
- (a) any time required to address a point of order or point of correction under Rule 17(11);
 - (b) any time during which the Member speaking has agreed to give way in accordance with Rule 17(12);
 - (c) any time required during the Member’s speech for questions to be put to, and answer provided by, His Majesty’s Procurer or His Majesty’s Comptroller.
- (4) No time limit shall apply:
- (a) to the opening speech on an original proposition made by any Member referred to in the circumstances described in Rule 17(2) or Rule 28(3);

- (b) to the speech replying to the debate on an original proposition made by any Member referred to in the circumstances described in Rule 17(2) and Rule 28(3)(b);
- (c) in a debate upon a motion of no confidence under Rule 21 or a motion of censure under Rule 22; nor
- (d) to a speech made by a Member who is the subject of a proposition or by the President of a Committee which is the subject of the proposition.”.”.

Rule 4(1) Information

- a) The proposition does contribute to the States’ objectives by seeking to improve the procedures and operations of the States of Deliberation.
- b) In preparing the proposition, the States’ Assembly & Constitution Committee has been consulted.
- c) The proposition has been submitted to His Majesty’s Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.
- d) There are no financial implications to the States of Guernsey in carrying the proposal into effect.

Explanatory Note

This amendment seeks to add an additional rule to the Rules of Procedure to limit the length of speeches to 15 minutes except in specific circumstances or where the Presiding Officer deems no limit, or a short limit, should apply.