

Extract from the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey relating to petitions.

SCHEDULE 1

(Standing Orders 62 and 163)

Petitions by Members of the Public

1 Contents of petition

- (1) A petition must state the action or remedy which the petitioners seek from the States.
- (2) The action or remedy sought must be one for which the States are responsible.
- (3) A petition must contain a statement of the reasons for, or the background to, the petition.
- (4) A petition must be respectful and temperate in its language.
- (5) A petition must be legible.
- (6) A petition may be in any language.
- (7) A petition cannot have any other document attached to it.

2 The petitioners

- (1) There must be at least one petitioner.
- (2) Each petitioner must sign the petition.
- (3) A petitioner who is a body corporate must affix the body's common seal to the petition, instead of signing it.
- (4) The full name and address of a petitioner must be set out in the petition opposite the petitioner's signature or seal.
- (5) If a petitioner cannot write, another person may sign on his or her behalf, certifying, in the petition, that he or she is authorized by the petitioner to do so.
- (6) A signature or seal must not be pasted or transferred in any other way to a petition.
- (7) If there is more than one page of signatures, the action or remedy sought must be repeated at the top of each page.
- (8) A petition may name a person or body who is responsible for the petition.

3 Example of form of petition

The following form is an example of a petition –

PETITION		
TO THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE STATES OF JERSEY		
Name of person(s) or body responsible for this petition –		
These are the reasons for this petition – (<i>or</i> The background to this petition is as follows –)		
We, the undersigned, petition the States of Jersey as follows – (<i>Set out the action or remedy that the petitioners are seeking from the States</i>)		
Full name (please print)	Full postal address	Signature

4 Depositing petition with Greffier

- (1) An elected member cannot deposit and submit a petition on his or her own behalf or on behalf of another member of the States.
- (2) The elected member who will submit the petition to the States must deposit it with the Greffier at least 4 clear days before the meeting day on which he or she is to submit it.
- (3) A petition which is not in English or French must be accompanied, when deposited, by a translation into English which the elected member has certified as accurate.
- (4) The Greffier must count the number of petitioners.
- (5) In doing so, he or she will disregard any signatures or seals which do not conform to the requirements of standing orders.
- (6) The Greffier must then enter the number of petitioners on the face of the petition.
- (7) The elected member who will submit the petition must countersign the number.

5 Submitting petition to the States

- (1) A petition must be submitted to the States by the elected member who deposited it.
- (2) An elected member, when submitting a petition, may make a brief statement about the petitioners, the number of petitioners and the action or remedy sought.
- (3) The presiding officer shall not allow any discussion or debate on the statement.

(4) Before or when submitting the petition, the elected member submitting it must lodge a proposition relating to the action or remedy sought in the petition, unless such a proposition has already been lodged.

(5) The States shall refer the petition and the proposition relating to the action or remedy sought in it to the Minister or Ministers assigned responsibility for the matter to which the petition relates.

(6) A Minister to whom a petition and proposition are referred must present a report on them within 8 weeks of the referral.

(7) If a petition relates to a personal grievance for which there may be an urgent need to take immediate action or provide an immediate remedy the States may decide not to refer the petition and proposition to any Minister for a report.