



Jersey

REFERENDUM (JERSEY) LAW 2017

Official Consolidated Version

This is an official version of consolidated legislation compiled and issued under the authority of the Legislation (Jersey) Law 2021.

Showing the law from 20 January 2022 to 23 March 2026



Jersey

REFERENDUM (JERSEY) LAW 2017

Contents

Article

PART 1	4
INTERPRETATION	4
1 Interpretation	4
PART 2	4
REFERENDUM COMMISSION	4
2 Appointment of referendum commission	4
3 Functions and procedures of commission	5
4 Costs of referendum and commission	5
5 Exclusion of liability	6
PART 3	6
CONDUCT OF REFERENDUM	6
6 Act for holding of a referendum	6
7 Commission to designate lead campaign groups	7
8 Arrangements for publication of campaign material	8
9 Lead campaign groups to be given access to electoral registers	9
10 Persons entitled to vote	9
11 Exclusion of legal proceedings	10
PART 4	10
CAMPAIGN SPENDING	10
12 Interpretation	10
13 Application of this Part and power to make other provision by Act	10
14 Restriction on lead campaign group's referendum expenses	11
15 Restriction on third party's referendum expenses	12
16 Prohibition of campaigner keeping anonymous donation	12
17 Requirement for campaigner to make declaration following referendum	12
18 Verification of expenses	13
19 Requirement to provide information and documents to lead campaign group	14
20 Treatment of documents received by responsible officer	14
21 Limitation period for offences under this Part	14

PART 5	14
MISCELLANEOUS AND FINAL	14
22 Offences by bodies corporate and others	14
23 Citation	15
SCHEDULE	16
THIRD PARTIES, REFERENDUM EXPENSES, DONATIONS AND OTHER TERMS DEFINED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PART 4	16
1 Third party and campaigner	16
2 Referendum expenses	16
3 Expenses: direct and notional	17
4 Donation: money	17
5 Donation: goods and services	18
6 Value attributable to donation of loans, goods or services	18
7 Anonymous donations	19
8 Donation: exception for services provided on equal terms by or for commission, States or parishes	19
9 Donation: exception for services of individual volunteers	19
10 Donation: exception for newspapers and broadcasts	19
11 Donation and expenses: exception for re-used goods	20
ENDNOTES	21
Table of Legislation History	21
Table of Renumbered Provisions	21
Table of Endnote References	21



Jersey

REFERENDUM (JERSEY) LAW 2017

A **LAW** to provide for the holding of referendums, for the establishment of a commission to advise on referendum questions and designate lead campaign groups, for the control of referendum expenses, and for related purposes

Commencement [[see endnotes](#)]

PART 1

INTERPRETATION

1 Interpretation¹

In this Law, unless the context otherwise requires –

- “commission” means the commission appointed under Article 2;
- “commissioner” means a member of the commission (including the chairman);
- “Elections Law” means the [Elections \(Jersey\) Law 2002](#);
- “electoral register” means an electoral register kept under the Elections Law;
- “lead campaign group” means a lead campaign group designated under Article 7 in relation to a referendum;
- “referendum Act” means an Act under Article 6 resolving to hold a referendum;
- “responsible officer” has the meaning given by Article 17.

PART 2

REFERENDUM COMMISSION

2 Appointment of referendum commission

- (1) A referendum commission is to be appointed.
- (2) The commission is to consist of –
 - (a) a chairman; and
 - (b) 4 other commissioners,
appointed under paragraph (3).

- (3) The chairman and each of the other commissioners are to be appointed –
 - (a) by the Privileges and Procedures Committee established under Article 48(2) of the [States of Jersey Law 2005](#) (the “PPC”);
 - (b) for no more than 5 years in the first instance, renewable to a total of no more than 10 years; and
 - (c) on such other terms and conditions, including as to termination of service and as to expenses, but not including remuneration, as may be agreed between the PPC and the person appointed.
- (4) The PPC must not appoint a person unless that person has been recommended to the PPC by a panel comprising –
 - (a) the Greffier of the States; and
 - (b) 2 other persons nominated by the PPC.
- (5) The PPC must not appoint a person if that person –
 - (a) is a member of the States;
 - (b) holds any paid office or employment in the service of the States or of any administration of the States; or
 - (c) holds any paid office or employment in the service of a parochial authority.
- (6) The PPC must, at least 2 weeks before making an appointment, present to the States a notice of the PPC’s intention to make the appointment.

3 Functions and procedures of commission

- (1) The principal functions of the commission are –
 - (a) to consider and give an opinion on the wording of a proposed referendum question, and of an amendment to such a question, for the purposes of Article 6(3) and (5); and
 - (b) to designate the lead campaign groups in relation to a referendum.
- (2) A referendum Act may confer supplementary functions on the commission for the purpose of the referendum to which that Act relates.
- (3) The performance of the functions of the commission is not affected by any vacancy in its membership.
- (4) Each commissioner has one vote.
- (5) The quorum for a meeting of the commission is 3 members.
- (6) Except as otherwise provided by this Law or by the referendum Act, the commission may regulate its own procedure.

4 Costs of referendum and commission

- (1) This Article applies to the extent that a referendum Act does not prescribe otherwise in relation to a particular referendum.
- (2) The following costs are to be met by the States –
 - (a) the costs of the holding of the referendum, subject to paragraph (3);
 - (b) the costs of the operation of the commission; and
 - (c) the payment of the expenses of the commissioners.

- (3) The costs of setting up in a parish, incurred for the holding of the referendum in that parish, are to be met by that parish.

5 Exclusion of liability

- (1) A person is not liable in damages for any act in the performance or purported performance of a function of that person under –
- (a) this Law; or
 - (b) a referendum Act.
- (2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to a person who is –
- (a) a lead campaign group;
 - (b) an applicant group, within the meaning of Article 7;
 - (c) a third party, within the meaning of the Schedule;
 - (d) a person who is a member of, or is acting on behalf of, such a lead campaign group, applicant group or third party;
 - (e) any other person on whom a duty is imposed by Article 19, in respect of the performance of that duty.
- (3) Paragraph (1) does not apply –
- (a) if it is shown that the act was in bad faith; or
 - (b) so as to prevent an award of damages made in respect of an act on the ground that the act was unlawful as a result of Article 7(1) of the [Human Rights \(Jersey\) Law 2000](#).

PART 3

CONDUCT OF REFERENDUM

6 Act for holding of a referendum

- (1) The States may by Act resolve that a referendum be held on any matter, and this Part and Part 4 apply in any case where the States have so resolved.
- (2) The referendum Act must –
- (a) fix the date for the holding of the referendum, which must be not less than 3 months after the making of the Act; and
 - (b) set out the form of the ballot paper to be used in the referendum, including the text of the referendum question.
- (3) A proposition for a referendum Act may not be lodged unless the commission has published its opinion on the suitability of the wording proposed for the referendum question.
- (4) Paragraph (5) applies if –
- (a) a proposition (an “amending proposition”) is lodged to amend a proposition for a referendum Act; and
 - (b) the amending proposition would alter the wording of the referendum question.

- (5) The commission must, if practicable, publish, before the first date on which the amending proposition may be debated, its opinion on the suitability of the proposed wording of the referendum question as so altered.
- (6) The referendum Act –
 - (a) may make such other provision as to the conduct of the referendum and for announcing its result as the States consider necessary or expedient; and
 - (b) without prejudice to the generality of sub-paragraph (a), may apply in relation to the referendum, with such adaptations, modifications or exceptions as may be specified in the Act, any provisions of the Elections Law or of any other enactment for the time being in force relating to public elections to the States, including any provisions that create or relate to offences.²
- (7) In this Article “referendum question” means the question or questions to be asked in the referendum.

7 Commission to designate lead campaign groups

- (1) For the purpose of this Article –
 - “applicant group” means a group that has applied in accordance with the invitation notice;
 - “group” means –
 - (a) a company, a foundation or any other body incorporated under or by any enactment;
 - (b) a trade union or employers’ association registered under the [Employment Relations \(Jersey\) Law 2007](#);
 - (c) a political party registered under the [Political Parties \(Registration\) \(Jersey\) Law 2008](#);
 - (d) a fidéicomis created under Article 3 of the [Loi \(1862\) sur les teneures en fidéicomis et l’incorporation d’associations](#), or to which the court has extended the benefits of that Loi under Article 17 of that Loi;
 - (e) any other body, partnership or association that –
 - (i) does not consist solely of one natural person, and
 - (ii) satisfies the commission that it is not, by reason of its constitution or location or of the means by which it may be held to account, unfit to act as a lead campaign group under this Law;
 - “invitation notice” means a notice issued under paragraph (2);
 - “outcome” means a possible outcome of the referendum.
- (2) The commission must issue a notice inviting groups to apply for designation under paragraph (4) as the lead campaign group for each of the outcomes.
- (3) The invitation notice must specify –
 - (a) the form and manner in which the application is to be made;
 - (b) the period within which the application is to be made; and
 - (c) the information that is to accompany the application, being such information as appears to the commission to be likely to be of assistance in determining the application.

- (4) If the condition in paragraph (6) is met, the commission must designate as the lead campaign group, for each outcome, the applicant group appearing to the commission to be likely to be able to represent to the greatest extent those supporting that outcome.
- (5) If the condition in paragraph (6) is not met, the commission must refuse all applications for all of the outcomes, and accordingly must designate no lead campaign groups in respect of the referendum.
- (6) The condition is that the designations, in respect of the referendum as a whole, comply with all of the following criteria, namely –
 - (a) that every lead campaign group appears to the commission to be likely to be able to represent adequately those supporting the outcome for which that group is designated;
 - (b) that no outcome is to be left without a lead campaign group;
 - (c) that only one lead campaign group is to be designated for each outcome; and
 - (d) that each lead campaign group is to be designated for only one outcome, unless paragraph (7) applies.
- (7) In a referendum in which there are more than 2 outcomes, the commission may designate the same group for more than one, but not all of, the outcomes –
 - (a) if the referendum Act so provides; or
 - (b) in the absence of such provision, if those outcomes appear sufficiently similar to the commission for the designation of a single lead campaign group.
- (8) Nothing in the definition “group” in paragraph (1) (including a decision by the commission under sub-paragraph (e)(ii) of that definition that an applicant group is not unfit to act as a lead campaign group) is to be read as limiting the power of the commission to decide that an applicant group is unlikely to have the ability required for the purpose of paragraphs (4) and (6)(a).
- (9) The commission must publish, in such a manner as appears likely to the commission to bring it to the attention of the public –
 - (a) the notice issued under paragraph (2); and
 - (b) if it makes designations, information identifying each lead campaign group and the outcome for which it is designated.

8 Arrangements for publication of campaign material

- (1) The commission must make arrangements for campaign material provided to it by a lead campaign group to be published in Jersey.
- (2) The campaign material must include information summarizing the lead campaign group’s case for the outcome for which it is designated (whether or not it contains other information).
- (3) Nothing in paragraph (1) obliges the commission to publish campaign material if that material –
 - (a) does not comply with paragraph (2);
 - (b) is provided after the closing date specified by the commission for the provision of the material;
 - (c) is provided in a format other than a format specified by the commission; or

- (d) exceeds a length or size specified by the commission.
- (4) In paragraph (3) “specified” means specified by notice in writing from the commission to the lead campaign groups.
- (5) The arrangements made under this Article must be available to each lead campaign group in the referendum on equal terms.
- (6) No person other than the author of campaign material published under paragraph (1) incurs any civil or criminal liability by virtue of the publication.
- (7) Paragraph (6) is not to be read as derogating from Article 5.

9 Lead campaign groups to be given access to electoral registers

- (1) If a referendum Act makes provision under Article 10(3) for a referendum that is to be held on the same day as an ordinary election, the duties of an electoral administrator under Articles 9A(9) and 12(2) of the Elections Law apply in respect of a lead campaign group as they apply in respect of a candidate in the election.³
- (2) If paragraph (1) does not apply, the person responsible, in each parish, for preparing and maintaining the electoral register must cause to be available free of charge to each lead campaign group –
 - (a) a copy of the electoral register as in force at the end of the day on which the group is designated; and
 - (b) unless there is no subsequent change in the electoral register, a copy of the electoral register as in force at midday on the day that is 7 days before the date fixed for the holding of the referendum.
- (3) Nothing in this Article is to be read as preventing a lead campaign group from exercising a right of public inspection of an electoral register under Article 11(1) or (3) of the Elections Law.⁴

10 Persons entitled to vote

- (1) A person is entitled to vote in the referendum if, at midday on the day that is 7 days before the date fixed for the holding of the referendum, the person’s name –
 - (a) is on an electoral register;
 - (b) would have been on such a register but for being omitted from that register under Article 9 of the Elections Law; or
 - (c) would have been on such a register but for an administrative error –
 - (i) in respect of which the requirements of Article 3 of the Elections Law are satisfied, if that Article is applied by the referendum Act in respect of polling stations, or
 - (ii) in circumstances in which the person’s name is to be added to a copy of the electoral register by the Judicial Greffier under Article 46B(4) of the Elections Law, if that Article is applied by the referendum Act in respect of a pre-poll vote or postal vote.⁵
- (2) Despite paragraph (1), a person is not entitled to vote in the referendum if –
 - (a) the person’s name is on the electoral register, or would have been on that register in a case falling within paragraph (1)(b) or (c), by virtue of Article 5A of the Elections Law; and

- (b) the date that is entered in that register, under paragraph Article 5A(6)(b) of that Law in respect of that person, or that would have been so entered in a case falling within paragraph (1)(b) or (c), falls after the date fixed for the holding of the referendum.⁶
- (3) Despite paragraphs (1) and (2), if a referendum Act has the effect that a referendum is to be held on the same day as an ordinary election that is to be held under Article 6 of the [States of Jersey Law 2005](#) or under Article 2 of the [Connétables \(Jersey\) Law 2008](#), the Act may provide that the persons who are entitled to vote in the referendum are the persons who are entitled to vote in the ordinary election.
- (4) Despite paragraphs (1) to (3), a referendum Act may, under Article 6(6) –
 - (a) provide for whether a person entitled to vote must or may do so in a particular manner, whether at a polling station, by postal vote, by pre-poll vote, or in any other manner; and
 - (b) in relation to postal voting and pre-poll voting, provide for a date earlier than the date specified in paragraph (1) as the date by reference to which a person's eligibility to vote is to be determined under the sub-paragraphs of paragraph (1) or under paragraph (2).

11 Exclusion of legal proceedings

No court may entertain any proceedings for questioning the numbers of any ballot papers counted, or the answer given, in the referendum.

PART 4

CAMPAIGN SPENDING

12 Interpretation

- (1) This Part is to be construed in accordance with the Schedule.
- (2) A referendum Act may, for the purpose of construing this Part in relation only to the referendum held under that Act, disapply any provision in the Schedule and apply any other defining provision instead.
- (3) In this Part “working day” means any day other than Christmas Day, Good Friday, a Sunday or a day observed as a bank holiday pursuant to the [Public Holidays and Bank Holidays \(Jersey\) Law 1951](#).

13 Application of this Part and power to make other provision by Act

- (1) This Part applies in respect of a referendum except to the extent that provision is made otherwise under paragraph (2).
- (2) In a referendum Act the States may, having particular regard to the significance of the question or questions to be asked in the referendum under that Act –
 - (a) if satisfied that the relevant referendum does not warrant any controls over referendum expenses, provide that this Part does not apply to the relevant referendum;

- (b) if satisfied that the relevant referendum does not warrant limits on referendum expenses, but does warrant declaration of referendum expenses, provide that Articles 14 and 15 do not apply to the relevant referendum; or
 - (c) if satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances in relation to the relevant referendum, disapply the whole of this Part and make any provision falling within paragraph (3) in relation to the relevant referendum.
- (3) The provision mentioned in paragraph (2)(c) is provision to regulate the expenditure of, and donations towards the expenses of –
 - (a) a lead campaign group in a referendum; and
 - (b) any other person or group (within the meaning of Article 7 or otherwise) attempting to promote or procure, or otherwise campaigning for or against, any of the possible outcomes of a referendum,
 in a manner appearing to the States to have an effect appropriately similar, subject to modifications for a referendum campaign, to the effect of the [Public Elections \(Expenditure and Donations\) \(Jersey\) Law 2014](#) in relation to an election campaign.
- (4) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (3), a provision falling within that paragraph may –
 - (a) make a contravention of the provision an offence punishable by a fine, but not by imprisonment;
 - (b) apply in relation to the relevant referendum, with such adaptations, modifications or exceptions as may be specified in the referendum Act, any provision of the [Public Elections \(Expenditure and Donations\) \(Jersey\) Law 2014](#), including any provision that creates or relates to offences.
- (5) A referendum Act may include provision, in relation to the relevant referendum –
 - (a) that the States must not, or may, incur expenses for a purpose mentioned in paragraph 1(3)(a) or (b) of the Schedule; or
 - (b) that expenses so incurred by the States are not to be treated as the expenses of a campaigner for the purpose of this Part.
- (6) Nothing in paragraph (5) is to be read as –
 - (a) derogating from Article 8 or from paragraph 8 of the Schedule; or
 - (b) enabling an Act to permit anything that is prohibited by any other enactment.
- (7) In this Article “the relevant referendum”, in relation to a referendum Act, means the referendum that is to be held under that referendum Act.

14 Restriction on lead campaign group’s referendum expenses

- (1) A lead campaign group’s referendum expenses must not exceed, in the aggregate –
 - (a) £2,800, or such other amount as may be specified in a referendum Act for a particular referendum; and
 - (b) 11 pence, or such other amount as may be specified in a referendum Act for a particular referendum, for each person entitled to vote in the referendum.
- (2) A lead campaign group whose referendum expenses exceed the limit imposed by paragraph (1) is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine.

- (3) It is a defence for a lead campaign group charged with an offence under paragraph (2) to prove that the lead campaign group took all reasonable steps to avoid the commission of the offence.

15 Restriction on third party's referendum expenses

- (1) A third party's referendum expenses for a referendum must not exceed, in the aggregate, one half of the maximum that would be allowed to a lead campaign group in the referendum by virtue of Article 14.
- (2) A third party whose referendum expenses exceed the limit imposed by paragraph (1) is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine.
- (3) It is a defence for a third party charged with an offence under paragraph (2) to prove that the third party took all reasonable steps to avoid the commission of the offence.

16 Prohibition of campaigner keeping anonymous donation

- (1) A campaigner must not keep an anonymous donation.
- (2) A campaigner who receives an anonymous donation must, within 10 working days of receiving it, send it to the Treasurer of the States.
- (3) The Treasurer of the States must make such arrangements as he or she thinks fit for the distribution, to one or more charities established in Jersey, of donations sent to him or her under paragraph (2).
- (4) A campaigner who contravenes paragraph (2) is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine.
- (5) It is a defence for a campaigner charged with an offence under paragraph (4) to prove that the campaigner has a reasonable excuse for the commission of the offence.

17 Requirement for campaigner to make declaration following referendum

- (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a campaigner must, no later than 15 working days after the day the poll is held, deliver to the responsible officer a written declaration of –
 - (a) the campaigner's referendum expenses, itemising the amounts expended (whether direct or notional) and the goods and services on which they are expended; and
 - (b) the donations that the campaigner has received, specifying –
 - (i) in relation to each donation of, or having a value of, more than £120, the name of the donor, the amount or value of the donation, and whether the donation consists of money, services, a loan of money, goods or the use of goods, and
 - (ii) the sum of the anonymous donations received, and sent to the Treasurer of the States, by the campaigner.
- (2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to a campaigner who –
 - (a) is a third party; and
 - (b) whose referendum expenses for the referendum are less than £600.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(b)(i) –

- (a) the value of a donation is to be determined in accordance with paragraph 6 of the Schedule; and
 - (b) the donations made by a donor to the campaigner are to be aggregated.
- (4) The declaration required by paragraph (1) must –
 - (a) be made using a form supplied by the responsible officer;
 - (b) include a statement by the campaigner that, to the best of its knowledge, information and belief, the information contained in it is true, complete and correct; and
 - (c) be signed by the campaigner.
- (5) If, having made a declaration, a campaigner becomes aware of any variation in or addition to the information required to be declared, the campaigner must, as soon as possible and, in any event, no later than 10 working days after becoming so aware, deliver to the responsible officer a further written declaration of the variation or addition.
- (6) A declaration delivered under paragraph (5) must include a statement conforming to paragraph (4)(b) and be signed by the campaigner.
- (7) If 2 or more persons constitute one third party, under paragraph 1(2)(b) of the Schedule, any declaration required from that third party by this Article must be made jointly by those persons and signed by each of them.
- (8) A campaigner who fails to deliver a declaration, or further declaration, in accordance with this Article is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine.
- (9) It is a defence for a campaigner charged with an offence under paragraph (8) to prove that the campaigner has a reasonable excuse for the commission of the offence.
- (10) A campaigner who delivers a declaration, or a further declaration, under this Article, knowing or believing it to be false in a material particular, is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine.
- (11) A referendum Act may amend, for a particular referendum –
 - (a) the monetary amount expressed in paragraph (1)(b)(i);
 - (b) the period of time expressed in paragraph (1);
 - (c) the period of time expressed in paragraph (5).
- (12) In this Article, and Articles 18 and 20, “responsible officer” means –
 - (a) if the referendum Act makes provision under Article 10(3) for the referendum being held on the same day as an ordinary election, the Judicial Greffier; or
 - (b) in any other case, the Greffier of the States or other person specified in the Act for this purpose.

18 Verification of expenses

- (1) The responsible officer may request, in writing, a campaigner to produce invoices, receipts and other proof of the campaigner’s referendum expenses.
- (2) A campaigner must comply with a request made under paragraph (1) within 15 working days of it being made.
- (3) A campaigner who contravenes paragraph (2) is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine.

- (4) It is a defence for a campaigner charged with an offence under paragraph (3) to prove that the campaigner has a reasonable excuse for the commission of the offence.

19 Requirement to provide information and documents to lead campaign group

- (1) A person who incurs or pays a lead campaign group's referendum expenses must, as soon as is practicable, provide the lead campaign group with such information and documents as the lead campaign group requires to comply with Articles 17 and 18.
- (2) A person who contravenes paragraph (1) is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine.
- (3) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under paragraph (2) to prove that the person has a reasonable excuse for the commission of the offence.

20 Treatment of documents received by responsible officer

The responsible officer must –

- (a) make declarations received by him or her under this Part available for inspection, free of charge, at the offices of the responsible officer, during normal working hours; and
- (b) pass any declaration made or document produced under this Part to the Attorney General where it appears to the responsible officer that an offence against any provision of this Part may have been committed.

21 Limitation period for offences under this Part

No criminal prosecution for an offence under this Part, arising from facts that have occurred at a referendum or relate to a referendum, may be instituted after the expiration of 12 months from the date of that referendum.

PART 5

MISCELLANEOUS AND FINAL

22 Offences by bodies corporate and others

- (1) In this Article –
- “relevant offence” means an offence under this Law that is committed by a limited liability partnership, a separate limited partnership, an incorporated limited partnership or another body corporate;
- “relevant person” means –
- (a) if the relevant offence is committed by a limited liability partnership, a partner of the partnership;
- (b) if the relevant offence is committed by a separate limited partnership or an incorporated limited partnership –
- (i) a general partner, or

- (ii) a limited partner who is participating in the management of the partnership;
 - (c) if the relevant offence is committed by a body corporate other than an incorporated limited partnership –
 - (i) a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, and
 - (ii) if the affairs of the body corporate are managed by its members, a member who is acting in connection with the member's functions of management; and
 - (d) a person purporting to act in any capacity described in sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) in relation to the partnership or body that commits the relevant offence.
- (2) If a relevant offence is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of a relevant person, that relevant person is also guilty of the offence and liable in the same manner as the partnership or body corporate to the penalty provided for that offence.
- (3) If a relevant offence –
- (a) is an offence that may be committed by neglect; and
 - (b) is proved to be attributable to any neglect on the part of a relevant person,
- that relevant person is also guilty of the offence and liable in the same manner as the partnership or body corporate to the penalty provided for that offence.

23 Citation

This Law may be cited as the Referendum (Jersey) Law 2017.

SCHEDULE

(Article 12)

THIRD PARTIES, REFERENDUM EXPENSES, DONATIONS AND OTHER TERMS DEFINED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PART 4

1 Third party and campaigner

- (1) A campaigner, in relation to a referendum, is a lead campaign group or a third party in that referendum.
- (2) A third party, in relation to a referendum, is –
 - (a) a person who incurs expenses for the supply or use of relevant goods, or for the provision of relevant services, if that person –
 - (i) is not a lead campaign group in the referendum, and
 - (ii) is not acting with the express or implied consent of a lead campaign group in the referendum; or
 - (b) all of 2 or more persons acting together in incurring expenses for the supply or use of relevant goods, or for the provision of relevant services, if each of those persons –
 - (i) is not a lead campaign group in the referendum, and
 - (ii) is not acting with the express or implied consent of a lead campaign group in the referendum.
- (3) For the purpose of sub-paragraph (2), goods or services are relevant goods or services if they are used –
 - (a) to promote or procure any outcome in a referendum; or
 - (b) to prejudice the prospects of any outcome in a referendum.
- (4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(b), the persons act together –
 - (a) if they are jointly liable for the expenses;
 - (b) if the expenses are incurred with the express or implied consent of all of them; or
 - (c) if, although they incur and are liable for the expenses separately, nevertheless –
 - (i) they are working together, or liaising to co-ordinate their respective expenditure, and
 - (ii) the expenditure is for shared purposes.

2 Referendum expenses

- (1) Expenses are referendum expenses if they are a lead campaign group's referendum expenses or a third party's referendum expenses.
- (2) Expenses are a lead campaign group's referendum expenses if they are incurred, at any time before the poll –
 - (a) by the lead campaign group or with the lead campaign group's express or implied consent; and

- (b) for the supply or use of goods or the provision of services which are used –
 - (i) to promote or procure the outcome for which that lead campaign group is designated in the same referendum, or
 - (ii) to prejudice the prospects of another outcome in the same referendum.
- (3) Expenses are a third party's referendum expenses if –
 - (a) they are incurred at any time before the poll, and
 - (b) the person by whom they are incurred is a third party, under paragraph 1(2), by virtue of incurring them.
- (4) If a lead campaign group is endorsed by a political party, the lead campaign group is to be taken, for the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(a), to have consented to the party incurring expenses on his or her behalf.
- (5) If referendum expenses are incurred by, or with the express or implied consent of, 2 or more campaigners, it is to be presumed, unless the contrary is proved by them, that the expenses relate to goods and services which are of equal benefit to them and, accordingly, that those expenses are to be apportioned equally between them.

3 Expenses: direct and notional

- (1) A campaigner's referendum expenses may be direct expenses or notional expenses.
- (2) A direct expense is the amount of any liability incurred for the supply or use of goods or the provision of services, if the goods or services are used as described in paragraph 1(3)(a) or (b).
- (3) A notional expense is incurred when goods or services supplied either free of charge or at a discount are used as described in paragraph 1(3)(a) or (b).
- (4) A notional expense is also a donation and, accordingly –
 - (a) the value of a notional expense is determined in accordance with paragraph 6; and
 - (b) there is to be disregarded any notional expense that, by virtue of paragraph 8, 9, 10 or 11, is not a donation.

4 Donation: money

- (1) A gift of money is a donation if –
 - (a) it is made at any time before the poll (including before the lodging of the proposition for the referendum Act), and the giver signifies (whether expressly or by implication) that the money is intended for use to pay the recipient's referendum expenses; or
 - (b) it is made after the lodging of the proposition for the referendum Act and before the poll, and either –
 - (i) it is made anonymously, or
 - (ii) the giver does not signify the intended use of the money.
- (2) A loan of money is a donation if –
 - (a) it is made either at no cost to the recipient or on terms by which the cost to the recipient is below the commercial rate for the loan; and
 - (b) it is made –

- (i) at any time before the poll (including before the lodging of the proposition for the referendum Act), and the lender signifies, either expressly or by implication, that the loan is intended for use to pay the recipient's referendum expenses, or
 - (ii) after the lodging of the proposition for the referendum Act and before the poll, and is either made anonymously or the lender does not signify the intended use of the loan.
- (3) A gift or loan of money is made at the time when the money is given to the recipient or, if earlier, the time when the giver or lender informs the recipient of his or her intention to make the gift or loan.

5 Donation: goods and services

- (1) A supply of goods (including a supply by way of loan or rental) or a supply of services is a donation if –
 - (a) it is made free of charge or at a discount to the open market value of or rate for the supply of the goods or services; and
 - (b) the person making the supply –
 - (i) does so anonymously, in the case of a supply made in the period between the lodging of the proposition for the referendum Act and the poll,
 - (ii) does not signify the intended use of the goods or services, in the case of a supply made in that period, or
 - (iii) signifies (whether expressly or by implication) that the goods or services are intended for use for a purpose described in paragraph 1(3)(a) or (b), in the case of a supply made at any time before the poll (including before the lodging of the proposition for the referendum Act).
- (2) A supply of goods or services is made at the time when the goods or services are provided to the recipient.

6 Value attributable to donation of loans, goods or services

- (1) The value of a donation that is a loan of money is the amount equal to the difference between the cost, to the recipient, of the loan if it had been made on commercial terms and the actual cost to the recipient.
- (2) The value of a donation of goods is the amount equal to the difference between the open market value of the goods and the actual cost to the recipient.
- (3) The value of a donation of the use of goods is the amount equal to the difference between the open market rate for the use of the goods and the actual cost to the recipient.
- (4) The value of a donation of the supply of services is the amount equal to the difference between the open market rate for their supply and the actual cost to the recipient.

7 Anonymous donations

A donation is anonymous if the recipient is unable to ascertain the identity of the person making it.

8 Donation: exception for services provided on equal terms by or for commission, States or parishes

The provision of services is not a donation if the services –

- (a) consist of making arrangements for the publication of campaign material under Article 8;
- (b) are provided by any person under such arrangements; or
- (c) are otherwise provided by or on behalf of the commission, the States Greffe or a parish to all of the lead campaign groups in a referendum on the same terms.

9 Donation: exception for services of individual volunteers

- (1) The provision by an individual of his or her own services is not a donation if he or she provides his or her services –
 - (a) as a volunteer;
 - (b) without charge; and
 - (c) otherwise than in the course of his or her employment, trade or profession or any other business.
- (2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), the exception in sub-paragraph (1) does not extend to any goods used by or supplied by the individual in the course of the provision of the individual's own services.
- (3) If, in the course of the provision of an individual's own services, the individual uses his or her own goods –
 - (a) the use of the goods is not a donation; and
 - (b) any expenditure incurred by the individual, that is incidental to the use of the goods, is not a donation.

10 Donation: exception for newspapers and broadcasts

- (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the publication of any matter relating to the referendum –
 - (a) in a newspaper or periodical circulating in Jersey;
 - (b) in a programme broadcast by a television or radio service provider; or
 - (c) on a website as part of the news service of a television or radio service provider or news agency,is not a donation or a third party's referendum expense.
- (2) The exception in sub-paragraph (1) does not apply to an advertisement.
- (3) Where the publisher of a newspaper or periodical circulating in Jersey also publishes a web-based edition of the newspaper or periodical, the reference in sub-paragraph (1)(a) to the newspaper or periodical includes the web-based edition of it.

- (4) Where a television or radio service provider, in addition to broadcasting a programme, makes the programme accessible by streaming or downloading from a website, the reference in sub-paragraph (1)(b) to the broadcast programme includes the programme as it may be accessed from a website.

11 Donation and expenses: exception for re-used goods

- (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies to goods if –
- (a) they were supplied for use by a lead campaign group or third party in a referendum (the “previous referendum”);
 - (b) they are used by the lead campaign group or third party in a later referendum (the “subsequent referendum”); and
 - (c) one of the following conditions is met, namely that –
 - (i) the direct and notional expenses for their supply were taken into account in determining, for the purposes of this Law, the amount of the lead campaign group’s referendum expenses or a third party’s referendum expenses in relation to the previous referendum, or
 - (ii) the previous referendum was held before the coming into force of this Law.
- (2) The direct or notional expenses for the supply of the goods are neither a donation nor a referendum expense in relation to the subsequent referendum.

ENDNOTES

Table of Legislation History

Legislation	Year and No	Commencement	*Projet No (where applicable)
Referendum (Jersey) Law 2017	L.17/2017	29 July 2017	P.4/2017
Elections (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Jersey) Law 2021	L.19/2021	20 January 2022	P.56/2021

*Projets available at www.statesassembly.gov.je

Table of Renumbered Provisions

Original	Current
23	omitted, spent
24	23

Table of Endnote References

¹ Article 1	<i>amended by L.19/2021</i>
² Article 6(6)	<i>amended by L.19/2021</i>
³ Article 9(1)	<i>amended by L.19/2021</i>
⁴ Article 9(3)	<i>amended by L.19/2021</i>
⁵ Article 10(1)	<i>amended by L.19/2021</i>
⁶ Article 10(2)	<i>amended by L.19/2021</i>