Minimum Wage Amendment Bill

1 August 2012

ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Legal Advice

Consistency with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990:
MINIMUM WAGE AMENDMENT BILL

1. We have considered whether the Minimum Wage Amendment Bill (‘the Bill’) is consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (‘the Bill of Rights Act’). The Bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26 July 2012 and is awaiting its first reading. It is a Member’s Bill in the name of Dr David Clark MP. We understand that the next Members’ Day is 15 August 2012.

2. The Bill seeks to amend the Minimum Wage Act 1983 to provide for an Order in Council prescribing a minimum rate of wages of not less than $15 per hour payable on and after 1 April 2013.

3. We have concluded that the Bill appears to be consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the Bill of Rights Act. This advice has been prepared by the Public Law Group and the Office of Legal Counsel.

Melanie Webb
Acting Chief Legal Counsel
Office of Legal Counsel