

Telecommunications (Development Levy) Amendment Bill

31 March 2015

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC, Attorney-General

Consistency with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990: Telecommunications (Development Levy) Amendment Bill

1. We have considered whether the Telecommunications (Development) Levy) 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').
2. The Bill amends schedule 3B of the Telecommunications Act 2001, which sets out the annual telecommunications levy imposed on providers of telecommunication services. The Bill increases the telecommunications development levy for the 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years. The purpose of the increase is to fund the Governments policy of extending Rural Broadband Initiative and establishing a Mobile Black Spots Fund.
3. We have concluded that the Bill appears to be consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the Bill of Rights Act.

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