

# Social Security (Entitlement Cards) Amendment Bill

14 November 2006

Attorney-General

## LEGAL ADVICE

### CONSISTENCY WITH THE NEW ZEALAND BILL OF RIGHTS ACT 1990: SOCIAL SECURITY (ENTITLEMENT CARDS) AMENDMENT BILL

1. We have considered whether the Social Security (Entitlement Cards) Amendment Bill ('the Bill'), (PCO 7466/11) is consistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 ('the Bill of Rights Act'). We understand that this Bill will be considered by the Cabinet Legislation Committee at its meeting on 16 November 2006.
2. The Bill amends the Social Security Act 1964. Part 1 of the Bill provides for regulation-making powers for (a) cardholder photographs on entitlement cards; and (b) microchips embedded in entitlement cards. Part 2 of the Bill allows the disclosure of information required to give effect to Part 1 in relation to cards, the availability of which is based principally on the age and residence of a person, or of his or her spouse or civil union partner, or former spouse or civil union partner.
3. We have concluded that the Bill appears to be consistent with the rights and freedoms contained in the Bill of Rights Act.

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