

Social Security (Pathway to Work) Amendment Bill

7 October 2015

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC, Attorney-General

Consistency with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990: Social Security (Pathway to Work) Amendment Bill

Purpose

1. We have considered whether the Social Security (Pathway to Work) Amendment 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 the Social Security Act 1964. Its purpose is to promote pathways into full employment for people who are supported by social security, and capable of being employed full-time. In particular, the Bill removes the disincentives to engage in part-time work by lifting the threshold of how much a person can earn before their benefit is reduced by abatement rates.
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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