

Human Rights (Disability Commissioner) Amendment Bill

11 August 2010

ATTORNEY-GENERAL

LEGAL ADVICE

CONSISTENCY WITH THE NEW ZEALAND BILL OF RIGHTS ACT 1990:
HUMAN RIGHTS (DISABILITY COMMISSIONER) AMENDMENT BILL

1. We have considered whether the Human Rights (Disability Commissioner) Amendment Bill (“the Bill”), a Member’s Bill in the name of Catherine Delahunty MP, is consistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (“Bill of Rights Act”). We understand that the next Members’ Day is scheduled for 25 August 2010.
2. The purpose of the Bill is to create the position of Disability Commissioner within the Human Rights Commission. The Disability Commissioner would contribute towards implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
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.

Jeff Orr
Chief Legal Counsel
Office of Legal Counsel

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