

9 September 2016

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC, Attorney-General

Consistency with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990: Regulatory Systems (Workplace Relations) Amendment Bill

1. We have considered whether the Regulatory Systems (Workplace Relations) 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. This is an omnibus Bill that seeks to amend the Employment Relations Act 2000 and the Parental Leave and Employment Protection Act 1987.
3. The purpose of the Bill is to maintain the effectiveness and efficiency of the regulatory systems established by the principal Acts in order to reduce the risk of regulatory failure. The amendments aim to do so by:
 - a. clarifying and updating statutory provisions in each principal Act to give effect to its purpose and provisions
 - b. addressing regulatory duplication, gaps, errors, and inconsistencies within and between different pieces of legislation
 - c. keeping the regulatory system up to date and relevant, and
 - d. removing unnecessary compliance costs and costs of doing business.
4. 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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