

Child Protection (Child Sex Offender Government Agency Registration) (Overseas Travel Reporting) Amendment Bill

Member's Bill

Explanatory note

General policy statement

This Bill amends the Child Protection (Child Sex Offender Government Agency Register) Act 2016 (the Act) to require registered child sex offenders to provide additional information to Police before travelling overseas.

Offenders must advise Police of the addresses of all places they will stay for more than 48 hours, the number identifying the country of issue of all passports they hold, and provide timely and reasonable explanation of any changes.

This information will allow Police and Customs networks to better protect children in the countries the offenders travel to, and supports identification of cases of sex tourism.

Information requirements for domestic and international travel are currently inconsistent, although the risk of harm offenders pose to children may be the same.

This Bill aligns international travel reporting requirements with domestic travel and, where reporting requirements are not met without good reason, the same penalties will apply.

Clause by clause analysis

Clause 1 is the title clause.

Clause 2 is the commencement clause. It provides for the Bill to come into force on the day after the date on which it receives the Royal assent.

Clause 3 provides that the Bill amends the Child Protection (Child Sex Offender Government Agency Registration) Act 2016 (the **principal Act**).

Clause 4 amends section 21 of the principal Act to insert additional reporting requirements for registrable offenders who intend to travel outside of New Zealand. It requires offenders who intend to return to New Zealand to provide details of any country they intend to travel to and remain in for more than 48 hours, the addresses they intend to stay at in the country, the date they intend to travel to the country, and the date they intend to leave the country. It requires offenders who do not intend to return to New Zealand to provide details of the country that they intend to reside in. It also requires all offenders to provide details of any valid passports that they hold.

Greg O'Connor

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The Parliament of New Zealand enacts as follows:

- 1 Title**
This Act is the Child Protection (Child Sex Offender Government Agency Registration) (Overseas Travel Reporting) Amendment Act **2021**.
- 2 Commencement** 5
This Act comes into force on the day after the date on which it receives the Royal assent.
- 3 Principal Act**
This Act amends the Child Protection (Child Sex Offender Government Agency Registration) Act 2016 (the **principal Act**). 10
- 4 Section 21 amended (Travel plans to be reported)**
After section 21(4)(c), insert:

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- (d) where **paragraph (b)** applies, any country that the offender intends to travel to and remain in for more than 48 hours, and for each of those countries the following details:
 - (i) each address at which the offender intends to stay; and
 - (ii) the date on which the offender intends to travel to the country; and 5
 - (iii) the date on which the offender intends to travel out of the country:
- (e) where **paragraph (c)** applies, the country that the offender intends to reside in after leaving New Zealand:
- (f) the passport number, place of issue, and date of expiry of each valid passport held by the offender. 10