

Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Exemption for RNZRSA Clubs from Special Licencing Requirements for Anzac Day) Amendment Bill

Member's Bill

Explanatory note

General policy statement

This Bill resolves an anomaly and reduces unnecessary compliance costs on Royal New Zealand Returned and Services Association (RNZRSA) clubs, which serve liquor on Anzac Day in a way that does not contribute to significant alcohol-related harm.

The Bill amends the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 to exempt those RNZRSA clubs that hold a current general liquor licence from having to seek an additional special licence to enable them to serve liquor before 1pm on Anzac Day. The Bill thereby removes compliance costs of up to \$500 for special licences for clubs that are often small, and financially stretched voluntary organisations serving a valuable role in our communities.

This Bill also enables the continuation of the harmless tradition of a tot of rum, or other alcoholic drink, being served at the conclusion of Anzac observances to be maintained without undue cost. It does not seek to enable any greater ability to serve liquor than any current general licence would usually provide for on a normal trading day. It will eradicate potentially onerous special licencing conditions from the RNZRSA clubs on Anzac Day, as these clubs have proven themselves over many decades more than capable of managing the service of liquor responsibly.

The tradition of the gunfire breakfast, immediately following Dawn Service observances, has been an integral part of the Anzac Day ceremonial since at least the 1920s. The addition of a shot of alcoholic spirit – often rum – to the coffee at these breakfasts recalls the repast taken by soldiers before battle, and the rum rations that were standard military issue during the First World War. The Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 designated Anzac Day prior to 1pm as a restricted trading half day, where

alcohol cannot be served even by duly authorised licencees, without an additional special licence. These special licences can cost up to \$500. Special licences may also have onerous conditions, such as allowing only paid up club members to be served – putting in place unnecessary restrictions and imposing undue costs on what is a very low-risk activity.

Clause by clause analysis

Clause 1 is the Title clause.

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

Clause 3 provides that the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 is the principal Act.

Clause 4 amends section 47, exempting RNZRSA clubs from needing a special licence to serve alcohol on Anzac Day.

Paul Foster-Bell

Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Exemption for RNZRSA Clubs from Special Licencing Requirements for Anzac Day) Amendment Bill

Member's Bill

Contents

	Page
1 Title	1
2 Commencement	1
3 Principal Act	1
4 Section 47 amended (Sale and supply on Anzac Day morning, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Christmas Day restricted: on-licences)	1

The Parliament of New Zealand enacts as follows:

- 1 Title**
This Act is the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Exemption for RNZRSA Clubs from Special Licencing Requirements for Anzac Day) Amendment Act **2015**.
- 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 Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (the **principal Act**).
- 4 Section 47 amended (Sale and supply on Anzac Day morning, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Christmas Day restricted: on-licences)** 10
After section 47(1)(b), insert “; or” and also insert:

**Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Exemption for RNZRSA
Clubs from Special Licencing Requirements for Anzac
Day) Amendment Bill**

cl 4

- (c) the seller is a Royal New Zealand Returned and Services club in possession of a current general liquor licence, and the liquor is being served on Anzac Day.