

Local Electoral (Repeal of Race-Based Representation) Amendment Bill

Member's Bill

Explanatory note

General policy statement

The aim of this Bill is to repeal those provisions of the law that provide for Māori wards and constituencies for local authorities. At present the Local Electoral Act 2001 provides the option of Māori wards and constituencies at district, council, and regional council levels, and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council (Māori Constituency Empowering) Act 2001 mandates such seats in that region. This latter Act should be repealed because it is consistent with the public policy proposed in this Bill. There should be no racially-based electoral representation in local government.

Clause by clause analysis

Clause 1 is the Title clause.

Clause 2 is the commencement clause.

Clause 3 states that the principal Act being amended is the Local Electoral Act 2001.

Clause 4 is the purpose clause.

Clause 5 binds the Crown.

Clause 6 amends the principal Act by removing the option of establishing Māori wards and constituencies.

Clause 7 consequentially repeals the Bay of Plenty Regional Council (Maori Constituency Empowering) Act 2001.

Clause 8 is for the avoidance of any doubt as to the effect of this Bill on existing Māori wards and constituencies.

Hon Tony Ryall

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The Parliament of New Zealand enacts as follows:

1 Title

This Act is the Local Electoral (Repeal of Race-Based Representation) Amendment Act **2006**.

2 Commencement

This Act comes into force on the day after the date on which it receives the Royal assent. 5

3 Principal Act amended

This Act amends the Local Electoral Act 2001.

4 Purpose

The purpose of this Act is to repeal those provisions in the principal Act that allow for separate Māori representation on local authorities and provide for the consequential repeal of 10

the Bay of Plenty Regional Council (Maori Constituency Empowering) Act 2001.

- 5 Act binds the Crown**
This Act binds the Crown.
- 6 Repeal of race-based provisions in principal Act** 5
The following provisions are repealed:
(a) sections 19Z to 19ZH:
(b) sections 24A to 24F:
(c) Schedule 1A.
- 7 Consequential repeal of Bay of Plenty Regional Council (Maori Constituency Empowering) Act 2001** 10
The Bay of Plenty Regional Council (Maori Constituency Empowering) Act 2001 is repealed.
- 8 Application** 15
To avoid doubt, any Māori ward or constituency existing on the commencement of this Act is dissolved and does not apply in relation to the next triennial election after 9 October 2004.