

National Certificate in Educational Achievement Moratorium Bill

Member's Bill

Explanatory note

This bill provides for a moratorium of 2 years on the extension of the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (the NCEA) to the sixth form year. It allows time to work through a number of issues which have arisen with the introduction of stage one for the fifth form year.

The moratorium does not affect the continuation of the NCEA for fifth form students.

The bill gives time to fully review and evaluate the extent to which the NCEA framework is working over a period of time. It gives a chance to ascertain whether the problems and anomalies with the NCEA can be ironed out or whether the framework needs to be fundamentally revisited. It is perhaps best described as a precautionary approach, which allows students the benefit of experiencing both the NCEA in fifth form and the present external examination in later years.

Clause 4 of the bill defines the National Certificate of Educational Achievement, and directs the Minister of Education to impose a 2-year moratorium on the extension of the NCEA to the sixth and seventh form years.

Clause 5 of the bill requires the Minister of Education to report to the Education and Science Committee early in 2003 on the implementation of the NCEA in the 2002 fifth form year.

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The Parliament of New Zealand enacts as follows:

1 Title

This Act is the National Certificate in Educational Achievement Moratorium Act **2002**.

2 Commencement

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

3 Purpose

The purpose of this Act is to provide for a moratorium of 2 years on the introduction of the National Certificate of Educational Achievement to the sixth and seventh form years for every secondary school. 10

4 NCEA moratorium imposed

- (1) The NCEA must not be introduced to sixth or seventh form years, in either the 2003 or 2004 school years.
- (2) For the purposes of **subsection (1)**, the **NCEA** is the national qualification known as the National Certificate of Educational Achievement introduced for fifth form students at every secondary school in 2002, and proposed to be introduced in 2003 and 2004 successively for students in the sixth and seventh forms. 15
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- (3) For the purposes of this section, **secondary school** has the same meaning as in section 145 of the Education Act 1989.

5 Review of NCEA

The Minister of Education must report to the House of Representatives by 31 March 2003 in order for the implementation of the NCEA for fifth form students in 2002 to be examined.

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