

House of Representatives

Supplementary Order Paper

Wednesday, 8 May 2013

Education Amendment Bill

Proposed amendments

Metiria Turei, in Committee, to move the following amendments:

Clause 31

In *clause 31, new section 158A*, replace the definition of **body** (lines 34 and 35 on page 25) with:

“**body** means a body corporate, corporation sole, or limited partnership, that does not have the capacity or power to make a profit

In *clause 31, new section 158B*, after *subsection (2)* (after line 18 on page 26), insert:

“(2A) Without limiting the factors that the Minister may consider, the Minister must, in considering the approval of a prospective partnership school kura hourua sponsor, consider the nature, character, and capacity of the existing network of schools, and the likely impact that approval of a partnership school kura hourua sponsor would have on existing schools.

Explanatory note

This Supplementary Order Paper amends the Education Amendment Bill, which as currently drafted allows for partnership schools kura hourua, to be operated as profit-making entities. The Green Party is concerned that allowing a bulk-funded school to operate with a profit motive poses a threat to the quality of education and care that students at that school receive. Inherent in any schooling model that enables private companies to use public assets to make a profit is the risk that the businesses will be incentivised to make profits by compromising on the quality of education. This risk is enhanced when funding is provided in a cashed up way to those businesses, without being tagged to any specific educational

needs. Overseas experience has shown that a profit motive can lead to schools not enrolling, or seeking to remove, students who have complex and expensive needs. The Green Party believes that introducing a profit motive into schools represents a significant shift in values and vision that undermines New Zealand public education.

This Supplementary Order Paper also inserts a requirement of the Education Minister to consider the impact on the nature, character, and capacity of local schools and the local schooling network, before approving a partnership school kura hourua application. The Education and Science Select Committee has heard from several submitters concerned about the negative and erosive impact partnership schools kura hourua could have on neighbouring schools.
