

House of Representatives

Supplementary Order Paper

Tuesday, 4 May 2021

Immigration (COVID-19 Response) Amendment Bill

Proposed amendment

Ricardo Menéndez March, in Committee, to move the following amendment:

Clause 8

In *clause 8*, insert as *subclause (1)* (page 3, before line 2):

- (1) In section 61A(1), replace paragraph (b) with:
 - (b) is in New Zealand and is not—
 - (i) a New Zealand citizen; or
 - (ii) a permanent resident.

Explanatory note

This Supplementary Order Paper amends the Immigration (COVID-19 Response) Amendment Bill. While New Zealand's domestic situation has improved since the introduction of the powers in the Immigration (COVID-19 Response) Bill, the global circumstances under which the powers were passed remain, with a continued border closure and global pandemic causing wide-ranging impacts on temporary visa holders both onshore and offshore. This creates a need for the Government to maintain the ability to grant visas with the requisite flexibility to adapt to the current circumstances, including scope to provide amnesty to overstayers through the grant of visas by special direction under section 61A.