

House of Representatives

Supplementary Order Paper

Thursday, 30 May 2019

Social Assistance Legislation (Budget 2019 Welfare Package) Amendment Bill

Proposed amendment

Simon O'Connor, in Committee, to move the following amendment:

New clause 7A

After *clause 7* (page 3, after line 28), insert:

Obligations under United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

- 7A MSD must undertake review to determine whether sections 4 to 7 are consistent with United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child**
- (1) MSD must take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure that the amendments made in **sections 4 to 7** are consistent with the obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and in particular Article 8, clause 1 of that Convention, which requires that:
“States Parties undertake to respect the right of the child to preserve his or her identity, including nationality, name and family relations as recognized by law without unlawful interference.”
 - (2) In undertaking the obligation under **subsection (1)**, MSD must undertake all necessary measures to ensure a dependent child’s identity, nationality, name, mother, father, whakapapa, and any other necessary family relationships are identified.
 - (3) MSD must ensure that a review of its compliance with the obligation under **subsection (1)** is—

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- (a) initiated within 30 days of this Act receiving Royal assent;
and
- (b) concluded within 90 days of the day the review was initiated.
- (4) The review under **subsection (3)** must be chaired by a retired High Court Judge.
- (5) The review under **subsection (3)** must be tabled in Parliament no later than 1 month after the completion of the review.

Explanatory note

This Supplementary Order Paper amends the Social Assistance Legislation (Budget 2019 Welfare Package) Amendment Bill. It inserts *new clause 7A* to require a review to establish whether the removal of the benefit deductions on sole parents who do not identify the other parent of the child is consistent with New Zealand's international obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.