

# House of Representatives

# Supplementary Order Paper

**Tuesday, 17 May 2022**

## **Data and Statistics Bill**

### *Proposed amendment*

Hon Michael Woodhouse, in Committee, to move the following amendment:

#### *Clause 34*

In *clause 34(1)*, replace *paragraph (a)* (page 21, line 13) with:

- (a) in—
  - (i) 2023; or
  - (ii) 2024 if the Minister decides, following public consultation, that a census cannot be held in 2023 for 1 or more of the following reasons:
    - (A) a national state of emergency;
    - (B) an unreasonable level of risk to public health and safety;
    - (C) an unreasonable level of risk to the health and safety of staff employed by Statistics New Zealand;
    - (D) civil unrest; and

### **Explanatory note**

This Supplementary Order Paper amends the Data and Statistics Bill to ensure that any delay to the next census is properly justified. A 1-year delay to the census has consequential flow-on effects to the decision making of both central and local Government, and potentially large fiscal impacts for both Statistics New Zealand and the Government as a whole. If the census is to be delayed, it should be by a ministerial

decision made after public consultation, and it should only be delayed for a limited number of serious reasons.

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