



Coversheet

Social Security (Jobseeker Support and Accommodation Supplement) Amendment Bill: Approval for Introduction

Hon Louise Upston, Minister for Social Development and Employment

These documents have been proactively released.

23 April 2026, Cabinet paper – Social Security (Jobseeker Support and Accommodation Supplement) Amendment Bill: Approval for Introduction, including Appendix 1: Policy decisions made under delegated authority

30 April 2026, Cabinet Legislation Committee Minute of Decision LEG-26-MIN-0075.

The paper introduces the Social Security (Jobseeker Support and Accommodation Supplement) Amendment Bill which amends the Social Security Act 2018 to support fiscal sustainability in the welfare system through better targeting of financial assistance to those most in need of support. The Bill implements two initiatives agreed in Budget 2025:

- Tightens eligibility of Jobseeker Support and Emergency Benefit for young people aged 18 and 19 year olds, and
- Increases the Accommodation Supplement Entry Threshold for some Homeowners.

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the Act that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it. This is the key to the redaction codes used for this release:

- Section 9(2)(ba)(ii) - to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.
- Section 9(2)(h) -this information is legally privileged.

The following documents that accompanied the Cabinet paper are already public:

- Departmental Disclosure Statement: Social Security (Jobseeker Support and Accommodation Supplement) Amendment Bill.

[NZ Legislation Disclosures](#)

- Regulatory Impact Statement: Tightening access to Jobseeker Support and Emergency Benefit for 18 and 19 year olds.
[regulatory-impact-statement-tightening-eligibility-for-18-and-19-year-olds.pdf](#)
- Supplementary Analysis Report: Increasing the entry threshold for the Accommodation Supplement for some homeowners.
[sar-increasing-the-as-entry-threshold-for-homeowners.pdf](#)

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