



Coversheet

New Zealand Superannuation and Veteran's Pension Legislation Amendment Bill

Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development

These documents have been proactively released.

27 September 2019, New Zealand Superannuation and Veteran's Pension Legislation Amendment Bill, Office of the Minister for Social Development

30 September 2019, Cabinet Business Committee Minute – New Zealand Superannuation and Veteran's Pension Legislation Amendment Bill: Approval for Introduction, Cabinet Office

14 October 2019, Cabinet Minute – Report of the Cabinet Business Committee: Period Ended 4 October 2019, Cabinet Office

On 8 May 2019, Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee, with delegated authority from Cabinet, agreed to a package of amendments to New Zealand Superannuation and Veteran's Pension.

On 14 October 2019, Cabinet approved the introduction of the New Zealand Superannuation and Veteran's Pension Legislation Amendment Bill, which implements this package.

The core of the package is a shift to assessing entitlement to New Zealand Superannuation and Veteran's Pension on an individual basis by closing the option to include a 'non-qualified partner' (with existing recipients' entitlements grandparented and removing 'spousal deduction' from standard rates of these payments.

The Bill also:

- allows single people living alone in a self-contained mobile home to receive a living alone rate
- modifies the criteria under which a period of missionary service can be counted as a period of residence and presence in New Zealand, and creates a new provision for certain absences for full time voluntary humanitarian work to be counted as a period of residence and presence in New Zealand
- exempts any part of a government-administered overseas pension that is based on voluntary contributions from being deducted from a New Zealand benefit or pension
- increases the minimum net weekly amount of New Zealand Superannuation and Veteran's Pension set each 1 April for a couple who both qualify to 66 percent of the net average ordinary time weekly earnings last published before 1 March, in line with current practice
- minor and technical amendments.

The Bill can be found at:

<http://legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2019/0182/latest/LMS242770.html>

The disclosure statement for the Bill can be found at:

<http://disclosure.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2019/182/>

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:

- Out of scope: Material unrelated to the information released.

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