



# Cabinet Legislation Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### Health (Drinking Water) Amendment Bill: Approval for Introduction

**Portfolio**                      **Health**

On 14 June 2018, the Cabinet Legislation Committee:

- 1        **noted** that on 9 April 2018, Cabinet agreed to amendments to the drinking water provisions of the Health Act 1956 to:
  - 1.1      remove specified periods for consultation and notice of changes to the Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand;
  - 1.2      clarify that water safety plans must include implementation timetables;
  - 1.3      streamline processes for the appointment of Drinking Water Assessors and use of accredited laboratories;
  - 1.4      make minor technical amendments, as described in Appendix Three to the paper under CAB-18-SUB-0147;

[CAB-18-MIN-0147]
- 2        **agreed** to defer the streamlining of processes for the use of accredited laboratories until work on potential changes to the management and regulation of drinking water is further progressed and align with the substantive legislative changes resulting from that work;
- 3        **noted** that the Health (Drinking Water) Amendment Bill (the Bill);
  - 3.1      gives effect to some of the recommendations from the Havelock North Drinking Water Inquiry: Stage 2;
- 4        **noted** that the Bill will:
  - 4.1      amend Part 2A of the Health Act 1956 to remove specified consultation and amend notice periods that are required prior to amending the Drinking Water Standards;
  - 4.2      clarify that water safety plans must include implementation timetables;
  - 4.3      streamline processes for the appointment of Drinking Water Assessors;
  - 4.4      make other minor technical amendments;

- 5     **approved** the Health (Drinking Water) Amendment Bill [PCO 21116/4.4] for introduction, subject to the final approval of the government caucuses and sufficient support in the House of Representatives;
- 6     **agreed** that the Bill be introduced on 4 July 2018;
- 7     **agreed** that the government propose that the Bill be:
- 7.1     referred to the Health Committee for consideration;
- 7.2     
- 8     **noted** that the Minister intends to proactively release the paper under LEG-18-SUB-0079 in conjunction with the Bill being introduced to the House.

Vivien Meek  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Hon Chris Hipkins (Chair)  
Hon Andrew Little  
Hon Dr David Clark  
Hon Stuart Nash (part item)  
Hon Tracey Martin  
Hon Eugenie Sage  
Hon Ruth Dyson (Senior Government Whip)

**Officials present from:**

Officials Committee for LEG

**Hard-copy distribution:**

Minister of Health