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**Social Security Amendment Bill: Approval for Introduction**

**Hon Louise Upston, Minister for Social Development and Employment**

These documents have been proactively released.

*5 December 2024, Cabinet paper - Social Security Amendment Bill: Approval for Introduction, including Appendix 1: Policy decisions made under delegated authority*

*5 December 2024, Cabinet Legislation Committee Minute of Decision - LEG-24-MIN-0259, Cabinet Office.*

This paper seeks approval for the Social Security Amendment Bill to be introduced to the House of Representatives before the end of 2024. The Bill amends the Social Security Act 2018 and the Social Security Regulations 2018 to ensure the welfare system is focused on enhancing and extending welfare settings to support people off benefit and into employment, to contribute to the Government’s jobseeker reduction target.

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 which is subject to an obligation of confidence where making the information available would likely damage the public interest.
* Section 9(2)(h) - this information is legally privileged.

Please note that the LEG paper (at paragraph 24) and the associated Appendix (at paragraph 3.3) contained errors which have been clarified through relevant margin notes in the released documents.

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