



Employment Relations (Flexible Working Hours) Amendment Bill

253-1

Interim Report of the Transport and Industrial Relations Committee

Recommendation

The Transport and Industrial Relations Committee has conducted hearings of evidence on this bill. The committee recommends that the House take note of this interim report.

The bill has stimulated healthy debate at the committee during the hearings of evidence. Several matters are obvious to the committee:

- The need for flexible working hours is agreed
- The mechanism for delivering flexible hours is not agreed as it is a complex matter
- Some employers have already introduced flexible working practices, but many employees submit that they are not sufficiently available.

The committee is putting the bill aside for one year and has asked officials to undertake further work to collect and collate reliable information on New Zealand workplace practices regarding flexible working hours, and to consult more widely on both the principles of, and delivery mechanisms, for flexible working hours.

The committee called for public submissions on the bill. The closing date for submissions was 13 July 2005. The committee received 102 submissions from organisations and individuals and the committee heard 34 submissions. The committee heard evidence in Wellington and Auckland.

We intend to make a final report on the bill at a later date.

Hon Mark Gosche
Chairperson