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Biofuel Bill 2007 (2008 No 148-2)

Date of Introduction:	08 October 2007
Portfolio:	Environment
Select Committee:	Local Government and Environment
Date report presented	26 June 2008
Published: 04 September 2008 Prepared by John McSoriley BA LL.B, Barrister Legislative Analyst P: (04) 471-9626 (Ext. 9626) F: (04) 471-1250	Caution: This Digest was prepared to assist consideration of the Bill by members of Parliament. It has no official status. Although every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, it should not be taken as a complete or authoritative guide to the Bill. Other sources should be consulted to determine the subsequent official status of the Bill.

Purpose

The aim of the Bill is to implement the mandatory use of biofuels (the Biofuel Sales Obligation (BSO)) and to regulate engine fuel, including biofuels and blends.

The Bill as introduced is described in [Bills Digest No 1555](#).

Purpose

Commencement

The Select Committee has recommended that all provisions in the Bill should come into force on 1 October 2008 instead of different dates (*Clause 2*)

Sustainability of qualifying biofuels

The Select Committee has recommended that principles of sustainability of qualifying biofuels be inserted in the Bill. These principles are:

- that they must emit significantly less greenhouse gas over their lifecycles than fossil fuels;

- that they must not compete with food production or be produced using land of high value for food production;
- that their production must not reduce indigenous biodiversity or adversely affect land with high conservation values.

The Select Committee has also recommended a periodic Order in Council procedure for the setting (based on these principles) of the level of the Biofuel Sales Obligation (*Part 1, Clause 9, inserting New Section 34GA into the Act*).

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