



Te Pire mō te Hararei Tūmatanui o te Kāhui o Matariki

76—1

Te pūrongo a te Komiti Whiriwhiri Take Māori

Huitanguru 2022

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Te Pire mō te Hararei Tūmatanui o te Kāhui o Matariki

Tūtohutanga

Kua oti i te Komiti Whiriwhiri Take Māori Te Pire mō te Hararei Tūmatanui o te Kāhui o Matariki te tiroiro, ā, e tūtohu ana te nuinga kia whakamanatia te pire, me te kore noa e menemanatia.

E pā ana ki te pire

E rapu ana te pire Kāwanatanga nei ki te whakarite i tētahi hararei tūmatanui ā-tau—Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki—hei whakanui i a Matariki, hei mihi hoki i te hiranga o taua wā ki te ao Māori. Ka whakarite te pire i ngā rā i tēnā tau, i tēnā tau o te hararei tūmatanui mai i te tau 2022 ki te tau 2052, ā, ka whakatakoto i tētahi tukanga kia whakaritea ngā rā o tua atu i te tau 2052 mō te Hararei Tūmatanui o te Kāhui o Matariki. Ka noho mai Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki hei hararei tūmatanui ā-ture tuangahuru mā rua mō Aotearoa.

Ko Matariki te whakarāpopototanga o “Ngā Mata o te Ariki Tāwhirimātea”, ā, koia tētahi kāhui whetū nunui, e kīia nei ko Pleiades i roto i ngā tikanga a Ūropi.

Ko te rerenga mai o Matariki i mua i te aonga o te rā i te puku o te takurua he tohu kua huri ngā peka o te tau, he tohu o te mātahi o te tau anō hoki. Ka tahuri kē ētahi iwi ki te putanga o Puanga i taua wā o te tau. Waihoki rā, tērā ētahi rohe e tohua ai te huringa o ngā peka o te tau e te tōnga o Rehua kē.

He tikanga kē ā tēnā iwi, ā tēnā iwi hei tātai i te wā o Matariki. Ko ētahi o ngā āhuatanga e pā ana ki tōna tīmatanga, ki tōna roa hoki ko te rerenga o te rā, ko te mata o te marama, ko ngā marama o te tau, ko te taiao o te takiwā, me te takoto o te whenua.

Kua whakaritea kētia ngā Rā Aro ki a Matariki mō ngā tau 30 tuatahi kia pai ai te taka mai o te hararei tūmatanui ki te Paraire e tata rawa ana ki te marama o Tangaroa, te wā o te marama o Pipiri e mahuta ake ai a Tangaroa. Kei roto hoki ko tētahi ritenga e taea iho ai ngā rā te whakarite ki tua o te tau 2052 mā te Ōta Kaunihera, mehemea ka whakaritea kia whā ngā tau i mua i te whakanuitanga.

He pire reo-rua te katoa o tēnei pire, he mea tuhi ki te reo Māori me te reo Ingarihi. Koinei te tuarima o ngā ture reo-rua e whakamanatia ana i Aotearoa nei.

Ka whakanuia tuatahitia Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki hei te Paraire te 24 o Pipiri 2022.

Te whakatāretanga o te pire

Kua oti i a mātou te tiroiro te hāngai o te pire ki ngā mātāpono o te whakaturetanga kouna, hei wāhanga o tā mātou whakaaroarohanga i te pire nei. Kāore ā mātou take ki te hoahoanga o te pire hei kawae ake ki te aroaro o te Whare.

Te hiranga ki te iwi Māori me ngā mātāpono o te whakanuitanga ōna

Kei roto i te pire ko te tauākī a te Te Rōpū Arataki a Matariki e whakamārama ana i te hiranga o Matariki ki te iwi Māori, me ngā mātāpono o ngā mahi whakanui i a Matariki. E ai ki te tauākī rā, e toru rawa ngā mātāpono e whakatinanatia ana e Matariki:

- te maharatanga (ka mihia te hunga i riro mai anō i te aranga whakamutunga o Matariki)
- te whakamanawatanga o te rā nei (ka hui tahi te whānau me ngā hoa)
- te tirohanga ki tua o te pae (ka whakapuke te ngākau ki te tau hou).

He mea whakatū te Te Rōpū Arataki a Matariki nā te Kāwanatanga i te Hakihea 2020 hei tohutohu i ngā Minita e pā ana ki te wā, me te āhua, o te whakanuitanga o te hararei tūmatanui o Matariki. Ko te take i whakatūria ai te Rōpū ko te whakaū i te nōhanga mai o te mātauranga Māori ki te puku tonu o ngā whakatau e pā ana ki te hararei tūmatanui o Matariki, ā, kia tautoko, kia whakatairanga hoki ōna whakanuitanga i te aranga whānuitanga, i te māramatanga hoki o te ao Māori.

I whiriwhiri kōrero te Rōpū ki ngā tāngata huri noa i Aotearoa e pā ana ki te tukanga hei whakatau i ngā rā i marohitia hei hararei, ā, i kōrerorero hoki i ngā huarahi hei whakanui i a Matariki e mau tonu ai te tapu o ōna tikanga me ōna mātauranga.

I waenga i ngā kaitāpae kōrero ki te komiti nei, he whānui, he whāroa te tautokona o te pire, o ngā kōrero hoki a te Te Rōpū Arataki a Matariki i mau tonu ai te tapu o ngā mātauranga Māori i te roa o te tukanga nei. I whakaaro ngā kaitāpae ka ea i te pire nei te korenga o tētahi hararei tūmatanui e marama nei tāna whakamānawa i te ao Māori. Mā konei hoki te Karauna e whai huarahi ai ki te whakatinana i te mea nei, te whakahoanga Tiriti, me te akiaki anō kia whai wāhi nui ai te iwi Māori, ā, kia whakakanohitia nuitia atu ai. Ka kaha te kōrerohia o te hononga o te whakanuitanga o Matariki ki te taiao, ā, i marohi hoki ētahi kia whai wāhi ki ngā whakanuitanga ko ētahi mahi e ora atu ai te taiao (hei tauira te onoono rākau, te whakapaipai awaawa hoki).

Ngā āhuatanga ki tēnā rohe, ki tēnā rohe

Mā te pire e whakahāngai te wā e whakanuia ai te hararei tūmatanui ki te wā e kitea ai a Matariki i te pae-rāwhiti o ngā ata Tangaroa o Pipiri. Mō te nuinga o te Māori, koinei te tikanga ka whaia ki te whakanui i a Matariki.

Kua rongo mātou e ai ki ētahi iwi, ehara a Matariki i te tohu o te mātahi o te tau, ā, ka tāria kētia ko te rewanga o whetū kē atu pēnei i a Pūanga, me te tōnga o ngā whetū pēnei i a Rehua. He tokomaha i whakapae me whakamana e te Kāwanatanga, mā te whakatika kupu

i roto i te pire, kāore e rite ā tēnā mahi whakanui i a Matariki i ā tēnā iwi. I marohi ētahi kaitāpae me rite te whakanuia o Puanga, o Rehua, o Atutahi/Autahi, o Poutūterangi, me ētahi atu whetū hei tohu o te tau hou Māori.

Ko tā pire e whakatakoto nei he whakamana i te whakamahinga o te rewanga o whetū kē atu ki te tohu i te tau hou Māori. Ko tā mātou he kī ake katoa tokitoki ngā tohu nei me rite te whakamanahia, otirā, me whai wāhi mai tēnei whakaaro ki te pire.

Ko tā mātou he kī ake mā te hararei tūmatanui o Matariki e whai wāhi ai ngā iwi o Aotearoa ki te ako me te whakanui i ngā whakaaro rerekē nei. Kāore mātou e whakapae mā te wā o te hararei tūmatanui ka “whakaōritetia” ai te kaupapa nei, ka hē rānei te whakatairangahia hiranga o te kaupapa nei.

Te takoto o te kupu Pleiades

Ko tā te Tauākī Hiranga i roto i te pire he tautuhi i a Matariki hei ingoa Māori mō te kāhui whetū Pleiades.¹ Ko Pleiades te ingoa Ūropi e mōhiotia whānuitia ana mō Matariki. Ko te tūtohinga a ētahi kia whakamatuatia te ingoa Matariki. Hei tauira, me kī ko Pleiades te ingoa Kariki o Matariki. Heoi anō, kāore mātou e tūtohu i te menemana nei.

Ngā rauemi me te mātauranga

E ai ki ngā kaitāpae ko te whai rauemi tētahi āhuatanga matua e whai hua nui ai, e toka ai hoki te hararei tūmatanui o Matariki ki te ahurea. He nui te tautokona o te tukutanga o ngā rauemi kāwanatanga ki ngā rohe, e whakaūngia ai ā rātou tikanga ā-iwi.

Mā tēnei pire e whakatū tētahi hararei tūmatanui hou, engari e kore rawa e whakahau te āhua o te whakanuia o Matariki, te whāngaitanga atu rānei o ngā rauemi mātauranga. He kaupapa whakahaerenga ēnei o waho atu i te horanga o tēnei pire. E mārama ana mātou ko Te Arawhiti kei te tohatoha i te pūtea o Tahua 2021 mā ngā hui Matariki i te tau 2022, ā, e mahi tahi ana rātou ki Te Tāhuhu Mātauranga me te Manatū Taonga mō tēnei kaupapa.

Kua tohua mai mātou ko te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga tērā e whakarite ana i ētahi rauemi mō ngā kura auraki me ngā kura Māori i tēnei wā tonu ki te tautoko i te akotanga atu me te whakaūnga hoki i a Matariki me ōna mātauranga katoa ki roto ki te whakareanga hou o Aotearoa. Kei te tautokona hoki ko ngā mātanga puta noa i Aotearoa ki te whakawhanake i ētahi rauemi ā-rohe, ā- iwi hoki ki te poipoi i ngā whakanuitanga rerekē e hāngai ana ki a Matariki.

E whai wāhi ai te hapori turi

Tērā ētahi kaitāpae i whakatau kōrero e pā ana ki te whai wāhitanga o te hunga turi ki ngā kaupapa whakanui i te kāhui Matariki. I rongo mātou, nā te korenga o te pūtea, he rite tonu te utua o te kaiwhakawhiti reo e te hapori turi tonu, me mahi tūao kē rānei te kaiwhakawhiti reo. I tono rātou kia tāpuitia he puna moni nei hei utu i ngā kaiwhakawhiti reo ki ngā kaupapa ā-rohe, ā-motu katoa e whakanuia ana a Matariki e whai wāhi mai ai te tini o Aotearoa ki

¹ Wāhanga 1, Rārangi 3.

tēnei hararei. I whakapuaki hoki rātou i te hiahia kia nui ake te tapanga kupu ki te reo Māori kia whai wāhi ai te hunga turi Māori ki te ako i te reo.

I whakamōhiotia mātou, ka tukuna e Te Arawhiti te pūtea e whakawhitia ai te reo ki te Reo Rotarota o Aotearoa i ngā kaupapa hirahira i waenganui i te Māori me te Karauna, tae atu rā ki a Matariki. E utua ana tēnei mā te hōtaka Whai Hononga. I rongo mātou i Te Arawhiti ka whai wāhi mai te hiahia ki ngā kaiwhakawhiti reo NZSL ki tā rātou mahere mō te hararei hou. I kite hoki mātou he petihana kei te āta tirohia e te Komiti Whiriwhiri Take Ratonga Pāpori, Take Hapori.

Te āwangawanga i te whakapūteatanga

Tērā ētahi kaitāpae i āwangawanga ki te whakapūteatanga o tēnei hararei. I arohia e rātou, ahakoa kāore pea e taea ngā whakaritenga katoa te whakatika mā te whakatureture (pēnei i te whakahekenga utu a ngā toa hokohoko), heoi anō, ka mātua pea i te whakapuakitanga a te Kāwanatanga i ētahi tohutohu e pā ana ki te whakanuitanga o Matariki e ai ki te tika me te pono.

I marohitia hoki e ngā kaitāpae kia kauaka ngā tāonga me ētahi rawa kē atu e hokona. Marohitia ai hoki e rātou kia tukuna whānuitia ētahi pitopito kōrero ki te whakanui i a Matariki e ai ki te ora o te taiao mā te whakaheke para, paihana anō hoki e whai pānga ana ki ētahi atu wā hararei.²

Ngā pānga ā-pūtea

Tērā ētahi kaitāpae he āwangawanga ō rātou e pā ana ki te utu mō te whakamana i tētahi anō hararei tūmatanui, ina rā, tērā ētahi pakihi kua piki ake ā rātou utu kaimahi, ā rātou utu māuiuitanga me ngā pānga hoki a te Kōwhiri-19.

E ai ki ngā kautetanga, he pānga moni tā te pire hararei Matariki tūmatanui ki te ōhanga. He utunga piki e \$25.7 miriona, ā, he utunga heke e \$133 miriona. Ko te kautetanga nei e hāngai ana ki ngā whakapae e pā ana ki ngā painga ōhanga mai i te \$310.4 miriona ki te \$443.4 miriona. I rongo rā mātou ko ngā utu katoa mō te whakamanatanga he rite ki ērā atu hararei tūmatanui i Aotearoa nei.

Ko tētahi o ā mātou kaitāpae i kī ake, he ahunga Pākehā ngā whitinga kōrero mō te pānga a te pire nei ki ngā take pūtea, ā, tērā ētahi ahunga kē atu e kapi mai ana ko te hauora o te kaimahi i ngā wā e whakaarohia ana te pānga moni.

Ētahi atu whakaaro ki te rā e whakanuia ai a Matariki

E mārāma ana mātou he tini kē atu ngā huarahi i āta tirohia mō te whakatinanatanga o tēnei hararei. Ānei ētahi, ko te whakakore i tētahi hararei kua toka kē mai, ko te āta whakaaro ki te

² Te petihana a Deaf Action New Zealand & Tu Tangata Turi: NZ Sign Language Accessibility to Commemoration, Anniversaries & Festivals.

Mane hei rā hararei, ā, ko te whakatau hoki i tētahi rangi motuhake hei hararei i ia tau e ai ki te Maramataka.

E tautoko ana mātou i te whakatakotoranga e tūtohungia ana i roto i te pire, ā, ko te hararei ka tū e ai ki te Maramataka, otirā ka taka ki te Paraire.

I rongo rā mātou me āta tātari te utu, me matapaki hoki kia kite ai ko tēhea o ngā rangi hararei o Aotearoa me whakakore mō Matariki, me te aha hoki, he kōtititanga tēnei i te takune o te kaupapa here. Mō te taha ki te kōwhiri ko tēhea rangi hei hararei i waenga i te Mane me te Paraire, i whakamōhiotia mai mātou ka āhua rite ngā pānga ahurea-pāpori me te utu ki ngā kaitukumahi. Mēnā ko te Paraire, ka whānui kē atu te horanga o te wātaka hararei tūmatanui o Aotearoa, ā, ka hua ko ērā kaimahi kāore e tino mahi i ngā Mane, ā, kāore hoki e tino whai wāhi ki ngā hararei tūmatanui i te otinga atu. I rongo rā mātou mēnā ko te Paraire te rā, ka paku pai ake hoki mō te ahumahi tāpoi.

Te whakaaro rerekē a te Pāti Nāhinara

E whakaaro ana te Pāti Nāhinara me kapi i te hararei tūmatanui o Matariki te wāhi o tētahi atu hararei tūmatanui o nāianei. Ko te rā o Matariki he rā e whakanuia tūmatanuitia, e whakaarohia nei he ra hararai motuhake. Ko tā te Pāti Nāhinara, me kapi i te hararei tūmatanui o Matariki ko te wāhi o tētahi atu rā hararei, hei tauira ko te Rā Kaimahi. Me whakatairanga te rā o Matariki hei hararei tūmatanui, ā, ka noho hei rā e whakamānawatia ana hei tohu mō te motu, ka tika.

Tāpiritanga

Hātepe komiti

I tukuna mai Te Pire mō te Hararei Tūmatanui o te Kāhui o Matariki i te 28 o Mahuru 2021. Ko te rā katinga mō ngā tāpaetanga kōrero ko te 11 o Whiringa-a-rangi 2021. E 212 i whiwhi, i whakaarohia hoki mai i ngā rōpū whaipānga ngā tāngata takitahi. I rongo kōrero taunaki mātou mai i ngā kaitāpae 12.

I whiwhi kupu tohutohu mātou mō te pire mai i Hikina Whakatutuki, Te Arawhiti, me Ahorangi Rangi Mātāmua. I kopoua a Ahorangi Mātāmua hei kaitohutohu mātanga, hei āwhina i te Komiti Whiriwhiri Take Māori i ngā āhuatanga hangarau nei e pā ana ki a Matariki me te Maramataka. Nā Te Tari o te Manahautū i homai kupu tohutohu e pā ana ki te kounga o te whakaturetanga o te pire. Nā Te Tari Tohutohu Pāremata i āwhina ki te tuhi i te pire.

Ngā mema o te komiti

Tāmati Coffey (Heamana)
Paul Eagle
Shanan Halbert
Harete Hipango
Joseph Mooney
Teanau Tuiono
Rawiri Waititi
Arena Williams

Ngā kupu tohutohu, ngā kōrero taunaki i whiwhi

Kei te pae tukutuku a te Pāremata, kei www.parliament.nz, ngā tuhinga i whiwhi hei kupu tohutohu, hei kōrero taunaki hoki.



Te Pire mō te Hararei Tūmatanui o te Kāhui o Matariki/Te Kāhui o Matariki Public Holiday Bill

76—1

Report of the Māori Affairs Committee

February 2022

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Tāmati Coffey
Chairperson

Te Pire mō te Hararei Tūmatanui o te Kāhui o Matariki/Te Kāhui o Matariki Public Holiday Bill

Recommendation

The Māori Affairs Committee has examined Te Pire mō te Hararei Tūmatanui o te Kāhui o Matariki/Te Kāhui o Matariki Public Holiday Bill, and recommends by majority that the bill be passed without amendment.

About the bill

This Government bill seeks to establish an annual public holiday—Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki/Matariki Observance Day—that celebrates Matariki and acknowledges the significance of this period in te ao Māori. The bill sets annual dates for the public holiday from 2022 to 2052, and provides a process for future dates for the Matariki Public Holiday to be set beyond 2052. Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki/Matariki Observance Day would be the twelfth statutory public holiday for Aotearoa New Zealand.

Matariki is an abbreviation of “Ngā Mata o te Ariki Tāwhirimātea” (The Eyes of the God Tāwhirimātea) and refers to a large cluster of stars, also known in European tradition as the Pleiades.

The pre-dawn rising of Matariki in the mid-winter sky marks the changing of the seasons and the beginning of te mātahi o te tau—the Māori New Year. Some iwi recognise this time of year by the appearance of Puanga, also known as Rigel. Further, there are regions where the setting of Rehua, also known as Antares, is used to identify the change of seasons.

Iwi have distinct approaches to calculating the timing of Matariki. Factors that feed into determining when it begins and how long it lasts include the position of the sun, the lunar phases, the lunar months, and local environmental and geographic factors.

The dates for Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki/Matariki Observance Day for the first 30 years have been set so that the public holiday would be observed on the Friday closest to the Tangaroa lunar phase, the point in the lunar month of Pipiri when the last quarter-moon rises. It also includes a provision that would allow for dates to be set by Order in Council beyond 2052, provided they are set at least four years in advance.

The bill is entirely dual-language, written in te reo Māori and English. It would be the fifth piece of dual-language legislation passed in New Zealand.

Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki/Matariki Observance Day would be first celebrated on Friday, 24 June 2022.

Legislative scrutiny

As part of our consideration of the bill, we have examined its consistency with principles of legislative quality. We have no issues regarding the legislation's design to bring to the attention of the House.

Significance to Māori and principles of observance

The bill includes a statement provided by the Matariki Advisory Group outlining the meaning of Matariki to Māori, and the principles underpinning Matariki celebrations. According to the statement, Matariki embodies 3 major principles:

- remembrance (honouring those who have died since the last rising of Matariki)
- celebrating the present (gathering together with family and friends)
- looking to the future (looking forward to the promise of a new year).

The Matariki Advisory Group was established by Government in December 2020 to advise Ministers on when and how the Matariki public holiday should be celebrated. The purpose of setting up the group was to ensure that mātauranga Māori was at the heart of decision-making about the Matariki public holiday, and that its celebrations support and promote greater awareness and appreciation of te ao Māori.

The group engaged with people across New Zealand on the methodology used to determine proposed dates for the holiday, as well as discussing ways to celebrate that maintain the integrity of the customs and knowledge that surround Matariki.

Among the submitters to this committee, there was widespread support for the bill, and for the input of the Matariki Advisory Group to protect the integrity of mātauranga Māori throughout the process. Submitters felt that the bill would address the current lack of public holidays that explicitly recognise te ao Māori. It would provide an opportunity for the Crown to demonstrate Treaty partnership and encourage improved inclusivity and representation for Māori. The connection between the Matariki celebration and the natural environment was also commonly referred to, with some suggesting that eco-friendly activities (such as planting trees and cleaning waterways) be incorporated into the festivities.

Regional variation

The bill would align the timing of the public holiday with the eastern pre-dawn visibility of the Matariki star cluster in the winter sky, during the Tangaroa lunar phase (last quarter-moon) of the month of Pipiri. For many Māori, this is the most common approach to celebrating Matariki.

We heard that some iwi do not mark te mātahi o te tau (the New Year) with Matariki, instead using the heliacal rising of other stars such as Puanga (also known as Rigel) and the heliacal setting of stars such as Rehua (also known as Antares). Many believed the Government should acknowledge, through amended wording in the bill, that Matariki is not a homogenous celebration for Māori. Some submitters suggested that the bill should equally

acknowledge Puanga, Rehua, Atutahi/Autahi, Poutūterangi, and other celestial markers of the Māori New Year.

The bill as introduced recognises that some tribal groups use the heliacal rising of other stars as their marker of the Māori New Year. We consider that all signifiers are considered equally important and that the bill provides for this.

We consider that the proposed Matariki public holiday would provide a platform for the people of New Zealand to learn about and celebrate these different approaches. We do not believe the suggested approach to the timing of the holiday and the wording of the bill would “homogenise” or misrepresent the meaning behind this celebration.

Pleiades wording

The Statement of Significance within the bill defines Matariki as the Māori name for the Pleiades star cluster.³ Pleiades is the common Western name for Matariki. Some submitters recommended that the bill be reworded to give precedence to the name Matariki. For example, it could refer to Pleiades as the Greek name for Matariki. On balance, we do not recommend such a change.

Resourcing and education

Submitters felt that adequate resourcing is essential for the Matariki public holiday to be successfully implemented and embedded in cultural consciousness. There was particular support for government resources to be allocated to regions, to uphold and protect their local traditions.

The bill would establish a new public holiday, but it would not determine how Matariki celebrations and education are resourced. These are operational matters and outside the scope of this bill. We understand that Te Arawhiti is administering the Budget 2021 allocation for Matariki celebrations in 2022, and is working closely with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry for Culture and Heritage on this initiative.

We were advised that the Ministry of Education is currently developing a suite of resources for both mainstream institutions and Māori medium schools that will help educate and embed Matariki and its related knowledge within the next generation of New Zealanders. Support is also being given to experts across the country to develop regional and tribal-specific resources to help maintain the different observations and celebrations of Matariki.

Inclusivity for the deaf community

Some submitters commented on the accessibility of Matariki celebrations for the deaf community. We heard that, due to a lack of funding, members of the deaf community often have to cover the costs of interpreters, or interpreters have to volunteer their time. They asked that funding be reserved for trilingual interpretation at all national and local events that include Matariki celebrations, to make this holiday accessible to more New Zealanders. They

³ Part 1, clause 3.

also expressed a desire for more te reo Māori captioning, as this allows the Māori deaf community to learn te reo.

We were advised that Te Arawhiti provides funding for New Zealand Sign Language interpretation at events of significance to Māori–Crown relations, including Matariki. This is funded through its Whai Hononga programme. We heard from Te Arawhiti that the need for NZSL interpretation would be factored into Te Arawhiti’s planning for the new holiday. We also note that a petition about this matter is currently under consideration by the Social Services and Community Committee.⁴

Commercialisation concerns

Some submitters were concerned about possible commercialisation of the holiday. They acknowledged that, while it may not be possible to regulate everything through legislation (such as retail outlet sales), the Government could release guidance on how to celebrate Matariki in a respectful and culturally appropriate manner.

Submitters also suggested discouraging the purchase of gifts and other commodities. They suggested that information be provided on how to celebrate Matariki sustainably, minimising the waste and pollution that may be associated with other holidays.

Financial implications

Some submitters expressed concern about the costs an additional public holiday might present to businesses that are already facing an increased minimum wage, additional sick leave, and ongoing effects of COVID-19.

The Matariki public holiday proposed in the bill is estimated to have a net effect on the economy of somewhere between a net benefit of \$25.7 million and a net cost of \$133 million. This calculation is based on estimated economic benefits of between \$310.4 million and \$496.1 million, and estimated costs of around \$443.4 million. We were advised that the additional costs of implementation are likely to be similar to those for New Zealand’s existing public holidays.

One of our submitters commented that discussions about the fiscal impact of the bill are from a predominantly Pākehā perspective, and that other perspectives might better incorporate the wellbeing of workers when considering financial implications.

Other options considered for the day Matariki is observed

We understand that several options were considered for the practical implementation of the holiday. They included replacing an existing holiday, observing the holiday on a Monday, and having a fixed date for the holiday each year, determined by the Maramataka.

⁴ Petition of Deaf Action New Zealand & Tu Tangata Turi: NZ Sign Language Accessibility to Commemoration, Anniversaries & Festivals.

We support the approach proposed in the bill, with the holiday determined by the Maramataka and falling on a Friday.

We heard that further cost analysis and consultation would be needed to explore replacing one of New Zealand's existing public holidays with Matariki, and it would be a departure from the policy's intent. As to having the holiday on a Monday versus a Friday, we were advised that the social and cultural benefits, and the costs to employers, would be similar. Observing it on a Friday would introduce greater variety to New Zealand's public holiday calendar, which would benefit those employees who do not ordinarily work on Mondays and miss out on many public holidays as a result. We heard that observing it on a Friday could also marginally benefit the tourism sector.

National Party differing view

The National Party considers the proposed Matariki public holiday should substitute one of the current public holidays. Matariki is a day of national recognition that ought to be a standalone holiday. It is the National Party view that another public holiday should be substituted out in favour of Matariki, for example Labour Day. Matariki is to be recognised as a public holiday and will become a day of national and iconic recognition, as is appropriate.

Appendix

Committee procedure

Te Pire mō te Hararei Tūmatanui o te Kāhui o Matariki/Te Kāhui o Matariki Public Holiday Bill was referred to the committee on 28 September 2021. The closing date for submissions was 11 November 2021. We received and considered 212 submissions from interested groups and individuals. We heard oral evidence from 12 submitters.

We received advice on the bill from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, the Office for Māori Crown Relations—Te Arawhiti, and Professor Rangi Mātāmua. Professor Mātāmua was appointed as a specialist adviser to assist the Māori Affairs Committee on technical matters related to Matariki and the Maramataka. The Office of the Clerk provided advice on the bill's legislative quality. The Parliamentary Counsel Office assisted with legal drafting.

Committee members

Tāmami Coffey (Chairperson)
Paul Eagle
Shanan Halbert
Harete Hipango
Joseph Mooney
Teanau Tuiono
Rawiri Waititi
Arena Williams

Advice and evidence received

The documents that we received as advice and evidence are available on the Parliament website, www.parliament.nz.