



# Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind Act Repeal Bill

96—1

Report of the Health Committee

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# Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind Act Repeal Bill

## Recommendation

The Health Committee has examined the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind Act Repeal Bill and recommends that it be passed without amendment.

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## Purpose of the bill

The Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind (the Foundation) was established under the Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind Act 1963. In 2002, the Foundation sought to modernise its structure by giving it the features of an incorporated society. It also changed its name from the Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind to the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind.

These changes were to clarify that the Foundation was a body controlled by, and for the benefit of, blind and vision-impaired people. The Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind Act 2002 was structured with an option for the Foundation to register as an incorporated society under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908. The 2002 Act would become spent if the Foundation chose to register as an incorporated society.

In January 2012, the Foundation registered as an incorporated society. The Foundation now wishes to repeal the 2002 Act to indicate that the Foundation is independent from Parliament and to remove the implication that the Foundation is a statutory body.

We have considered this bill and have no changes to recommend.

## **Appendix**

### **Committee procedure**

The Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind Act Repeal Bill was referred to the committee on 2 March 2016. The closing date for submissions was 20 April 2016. We received and heard evidence from the Blind Foundation.

We received advice from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

### **Committee members**

Simon O'Connor (Chairperson)

Jacqui Dean

Kevin Hague

Hon Annette King

Barbara Kuriger

Dr Shane Reti

Scott Simpson

Barbara Stewart

Poto Williams