



26 MAR 2019

Kris Wehipeihana
fyi-request-9672-
3db045d5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Wehipeihana

Thank you for your email of 26 February 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *the contents of all letters, emails, texts and meetings from people opposing the Human Rights (Gender Identity) Bill received and recorded by this Ministers Office from February 2018-February 2019.*

I do not want to know anything that could identify the petitioners.

2. *the content of all letters, emails, texts and meetings regarding the Human Rights (Gender Identity) Bill from other Ministers and party colleagues between November 2018 and 25 February 2019.*

Your request has been clarified as referring to the Births, Deaths, Marriages and Relationships Registration Bill (the Bill). Point one of your request specifically asks for all correspondence opposing the Bill; all other correspondence, including in support of the Bill, falls out of scope of point one of your request.

The 53 documents which fall within the scope of point one of your request are listed in **Appendix A**. Copies of the 53 documents for release under this point are attached as **Appendix B**.

Upon consultation, I have determined that no information falling within scope of point two of your request exists. As the information you have requested does not exist, your request has been refused under section 18(e) of the Act.

Some information has been withheld from the documents released under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.

If you are not already aware, there are a number of documents about the Bill which are publicly available at the following site: www.parliament.nz/en/pb/bills-and-laws/bills-proposed-laws/document/BILL_74854/births-deaths-marriages-and-relationships-registration. The information on this site includes the Bill history and digest, Hansard transcripts of the first reading of the Bill, submissions received about the Bill, and the final report on the Bill by the Governance and Administration Committee.

As is required by section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered whether the grounds for withholding this information are outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available. In this instance, I do not consider that to be the case.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Office of the Ombudsman. The postal address of the Office of the Ombudsman is PO Box 10152, Wellington. Alternatively, you can phone 0800 802 602 or email info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely



Hon Tracey Martin
Minister of Internal Affairs