



**National Council of  
Women of New Zealand**

Te Kaunihera  
Wahine O Aotearoa

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**Submission to the Law and Order Select Committee on the  
Second Hand Dealers and Pawnbrokers Bill**

The National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ) is an umbrella organisation representing 42 nationally organised societies. It has 34 branches spread throughout the country to which women from some 150 societies are affiliated. Its purpose is to work for the well being of women, families and society through research, discussion and action.

NCWNZ's Consumer Affairs Standing Committee thanks you for the opportunity to comment on this Bill. NCWNZ endorses any measure that members consider will protect New Zealand consumers from dishonest actions by dealers, and that will make it harder for criminals to dispose of their "ill-gotten gains".

**Markets and Fairs**

NCWNZ is particularly pleased that this outlet will now be monitored and that vendors will be required to work within the regulations. Some members have questioned if the same requirements are needed for "garage sales" because, although many garage sales are "one off" events for sellers, it is considered that this avenue may become a good alternative for "moving" stolen property when thieves find that second hand dealers and pawnbrokers are more questioning of goods offered for sale after the new Act becomes law

**Certificates**

NCWNZ endorses the strict criteria for certificate applicants and considers that the need to renew certificates will encourage responsible traders to work in the industry.

**General comments**

NCWNZ has in the past questioned the minimum age that persons selling second hand goods to dealers or pawning goods must be, and is concerned to find no stipulation of a minimum age in this Bill.

NCWNZ is concerned also at the apparent number of exemptions and waivers. These seem to negate some very good protections for consumers, e.g.

Clause 58, 3(b) Regulations made under this Act may –

“exempt any class of person from the requirement to comply with any or all of the requirements relating to promoters records.”

Clause 73 Regulations

The Governor General may, by Order in Council, make regulations for all or any of the following purposes:

While (j) prescribes the form of label and the manner in which they must be affixed to articles, (k) states “prescribing the circumstances in which labels need not be affixed to articles, scrap metal, or pawned goods of a specific type or types, or prescribing articles, scrap metal, and pawned goods to which labels need never be affixed.”





Clause 22 Waiver of disqualification

“The Registrar may waive disqualification under section 21 if -

(1) (b) the disqualification is on 1 or more of the grounds set out in section 21(b) to (g);”

National Council of Women New Zealand endorses the objectives of this Bill and considers it a well planned move to reduce crime and provide consumers with confidence in the dealers.

Beryl Anderson  
National President

Eileen Imlach  
Convener, Consumer Affairs Standing Committee