



## ANALYSIS

Title  
1. Short Title

2. Interpretation  
3. Appointment of Community Officers  
not to be questioned

1995, No. 4

**An Act to amend the Adoption Act 1955**

[23 March 1995]

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Parliament of New Zealand as follows:

**1. Short Title**—This Act may be cited as the Adoption Amendment Act 1995, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Adoption Act 1955 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

**2. Interpretation**—(1) Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from the definition of the term “Maori” the words “the Maori Affairs Act 1953”, and substituting the words “Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993”.

(2) Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing the definition of the term “Social Worker” (as inserted by section 23 (1) of the Department of Social Welfare Act 1971 and amended by section 36 (1) (b) of the Social Welfare (Transitional Provisions) Act 1990), and substituting the following definition:

“‘Social Worker’—

“(a) In relation to any application or proposed application by a Maori, whether jointly or singly, for an adoption order in respect of a Maori child, means—

“(i) Any Maori person employed as a Social Worker under Part V of the State Sector

Act 1988 in the Department of Social Welfare; or

“(ii) Any member of the Maori community nominated, after consultation with the Maori community, by the Director-General to carry out the duties of a Social Worker under this Act in respect of the adoption:

“(b) In relation to any other application or proposed application for an adoption order, means—

“(i) Any person employed as a Social Worker under Part V of the State Sector Act 1988 in the Department of Social Welfare; or

“(ii) If the Court so directs, any member of the Maori community nominated, after consultation with the Maori community, by the Director-General to carry out the duties of a Social Worker under this Act in respect of the adoption.”.

**3. Appointment of Community Officers not to be questioned**—No acts done under the principal Act by any person acting as a Community Officer appointed under section 4 of the Maori Community Development Act 1962 shall in any proceedings be questioned on the grounds that the person was not validly so appointed.

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This Act is administered in the Department of Justice.