

## **POISONS AMENDMENT BILL**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

THIS Bill amends the Poisons Act 1960 by substituting a new section 43.

The present section provides that where in certain proceedings a poison is mentioned as having been used for a criminal purpose or in an attempt to commit suicide the name of that poison may not be published, in relation to those proceedings, in any newspaper for a period of five years.

The new section provides that where the name of any poison is referred to in the course of any proceedings before any Court or before a Coroner the Court or Coroner is to have a general discretion to make an order prohibiting the publication of the name of that poison in relation to the proceedings for a period of five years.

Such an order will not apply to publication to scientists or to members of the legal, medical, dental, veterinary, nursing, or pharmaceutical professions or to persons studying to become scientists or members of those professions.

*Hon. Mr McKay*

## POISONS AMENDMENT

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### ANALYSIS

Title	2. Power of Court to restrict publication
1. Short Title	of name of poison

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### A BILL INTITULED

#### An Act to amend the Poisons Act 1960

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

**1. Short Title**—This Act may be cited as the Poisons Amendment Act 1964, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Poisons Act 1960\* (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

**10 2. Power of Court to restrict publication of name of poison**—The principal Act is hereby amended by repealing section 43, and substituting the following section:

**15** “43. (1) Where, in the course of proceedings in any Court or before a Coroner, reference is made to any poison, the Court or Coroner may in its or his discretion order that the name of that poison shall not be published in relation to those proceedings at any time before the expiration of a period of five years from the date of the final disposal of those proceedings:

\*1960, No. 97  
Amendment: 1962, No. 93

No. 24—1

“Provided that no order made under this subsection shall apply to the publication of that name to scientists or to members of the legal, medical, dental, veterinary, nursing, or pharmaceutical professions or to persons studying to become scientists or members of those professions or in any publication of a scientific or technical character solely or mainly intended for circulation among scientists or members of those professions or persons so studying. 5

“(2) Where the publication of the name of a poison is prohibited under this section in relation to any proceedings no person shall, within the said period of five years, publish the name of that poison or any name or particulars likely to lead to the identification of that poison as the poison to which reference was made in those proceedings. 10

“(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the provisions of any other enactment relating to the prohibition or regulation of the publication of reports or particulars relating to any judicial proceedings.” 15