

POLICE OFFENCES AMENDMENT BILL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

THIS Bill makes it an offence for any person to have in his possession, without reasonable excuse, any hypodermic needle. The onus of proving a reasonable excuse is placed on the defendant. The penalty for the offence is imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or a fine not exceeding \$400.

No. 51—1

Price 5c

Hon. Mr Riddiford

POLICE OFFENCES AMENDMENT

ANALYSIS

Title	1. Short Title
	2. Possession of hypodermic needles

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to amend the Police Offences Act 1927

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

1. Short Title—This Act may be cited as the Police Offences Amendment Act 1971, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Police Offences Act 1927* (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

10 **2. Possession of hypodermic needles**—The principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after section 27, the following heading and section:

“Possession of Hypodermic Needles

“27A. (1) Every person commits an offence who has in
15 his possession, without reasonable excuse, any hypodermic needle.

*Reprinted, 1965 Statutes, Vol. 3, p. 1485
Amendments: 1967, No. 154; 1969, No. 42; 1970, No. 138

“(2) Every person who commits an offence against this section shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to a fine not exceeding \$400.

“(3) In any proceedings under subsection (1) of this section against any person in which it is proved that he had a hypodermic needle in his possession, the onus of proving that he had reasonable excuse shall be on that person. 5

“(4) In this section ‘hypodermic needle’ includes any article used, or designed or adapted or intended for use, for the purpose of injecting any substance, whether natural or artificial, and whether in solid or liquid form or in the form of a gas or vapour, into a human vein or otherwise under the human skin.” 10