

Related initiatives include an Historic Places Bill, to be introduced early in the session, and the establishment of further marine reserves.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS, local government legislation will be amended to ensure that electors and ratepayers can determine the type and nature of local authorities in their district, to enable non-resident ratepayers to participate in local authority elections and polls, and to provide a fully accountable system of local government.

Legislation will also be introduced to modify the requirement for Local Authorities to form trading enterprises for roading works.

A new Ministry of Cultural Affairs will be established on the 1st of January 1991. Although primarily a policy unit, it will also have some funding responsibilities for major cultural bodies.

The Government will address the lack of funding continuity which has inhibited planning for sport generally. The Gaming and Lotteries Act will be amended to guarantee a level of funding to enhance the skills and further the reputation of our sports people.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS, it is of concern to my Government that New Zealand be a safe and secure country, where citizens may carry out their lawful activities free from fear.

The Government is determined that the nation continues to have an effective police and criminal justice system. An additional 900 frontline police officers will be recruited over the next three years.

Significant law reform measures are planned in the criminal justice area. These include amendments to legislation on bail, and also to legislation concerning parole for life sentence inmates.

My Government will also take action to address the underlying causes of crime. Unemployment, education standards and the lack of parental and individual responsibility are issues that will receive urgent attention.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS, New Zealand's defence capability is, of necessity, limited. For this reason, my Government will seek to develop collective security and alliance arrangements.

To this end, my Government will develop further the close relationship with Australia. The Government will also seek to restore a fuller measure of understanding and cooperation with the United States and the United Kingdom in a form that is consistent with its commitment