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Parliamentary Summary

Bills Introduced

Government Bills

(Minister/Member in Charge Shown in Parenthesis)

15 May 1990

Guardianship Amendment Bill. (Hon. W. P. Jeffries.)

17 May 1990

Smoke-Free Environments Bill. (Rt. Hon. Helen Clark.)

Referred to Select Committee

Justice and Law Reform

Social Services

Summary of Bills Introduced

Guardianship Amendment Bill

This Bill provides for the implementation in New Zealand of the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. The Convention concerns the problem of children who are removed across international boundaries in breach of a person's custody rights. This Bill establishes a Central Authority within New Zealand to facilitate measures for the prompt return of such children between Contracting States to the Convention. Applications from within New Zealand, claiming that a child has been removed to a Contracting State in breach of custody rights, will be transmitted to that State by the Central Authority. On receipt of applications from other Contracting States, the Central Authority will be required to take action under the Convention to secure the prompt return of the child to the applicant. The Family or District Court which would hear such applications would order the child's return if satisfied that all the grounds of application regarding custody rights have been met, and that the child would not be at risk after return. The Bill also provides for rights of access.

Consequential amendments are made to the Guardianship Act 1968.

Smoke-Free Environments Bill

This Bill has 3 main aims.

First, *Part I* of the Bill is designed to reduce the exposure of people who do not themselves smoke to any detrimental effect on their health caused by smoking by others. To that end certain controls are imposed on smoking in workplaces, or in certain enclosed areas to which the public have access.

Second, it seeks to restrict the advertising of tobacco products, whether directly or through sponsorship, particularly where an attempt is made to associate the use of such products with health and healthy lifestyles. The principal provisions of the Bill in this respect are *clauses 24 to 28*. In addition, a Health Sponsorship Council is established by *Part III* of the Bill, its principal functions being to promote health and healthy lifestyles through sponsorship and other means of publicity, and to make alternative sponsorship available to persons who are deprived of financial or other assistance by reason of the provisions of the Bill.

Third, the Bill brings together certain existing provisions which may be broadly termed consumer protection measures, and includes certain new ones. The principal provisions in this respect are *clauses 29 to 36*. Some of these are drawn from the Toxic Substances Regulations 1983 and the relevant provisions of those regulations are consequentially revoked.