

Harbour Boards Dry Land Endowment Revesting

Assent No.
104**Local Bills**

8 October 1991

Lower Hutt City (Name of City Council)	2
Invercargill Reserves Vesting and Empowering	3
Naseby Borough Council (Excess Rate Validation)	4
Marlborough District Council Empowering	5

Bills Introduced**Government Bills***(Minister/Member in Charge Shown in Parenthesis)***Referred to Select Committee**

3 October 1991

Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Amendment Bill (Hon. D. A. M. Graham)	Justice and Law Reform
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Private Members' Bills

2 October 1991

Vehicle Recovery Services Bill (Mr Trevor Rogers)	Communications and Road Safety
Exceptional Service Honour (Posthumous Recognition) Bill (Mr Anderton)	Foreign Affairs and Defence

Summary of Bills Introduced*Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Amendment*

This Bill seeks to amend the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Act 1934 and will enable—

- Money judgments given by certain inferior Courts to be enforced in New Zealand; and
- Non-money judgments of superior Courts and certain inferior Courts to be enforced in New Zealand; and
- Judgments given in superior and inferior Courts of Australia under which tax or other similar charges are payable to be enforced in New Zealand.

Vehicle Recovery Services

Clause 2 abolishes the rule of law known as *distress damage feasant* so far as it applies to motor vehicles. It will no longer be lawful to detain a motor vehicle as a condition of the payment of damages for an injury alleged to have been caused by the vehicle. It will be open to owners of land to recover the towage fees, and any other expenses and damages they have suffered from illegal parking, by taking action in the District Court or the Disputes Tribunal.

Clause 3 provides for maximum fees to be prescribed in respect of towing. This will bring the fees charged for towing from private property under control in the way that fees charged for towing from roads are already controlled. The fee is payable by the owner of the vehicle to the owner of the land or building and may be recovered in the Small Claims Tribunal. The owner of the land or building cannot assign the right to recover the fee.

Clause 4 creates offences. The first relates to charging in excess of the prescribed towage fee. The second relates to detaining a motor vehicle which has been towed away from private property.

Clause 5 will require an individual authority for each separate tow undertaken by a vehicle recovery service in place of the present rules whereby a vehicle recovery service may be given a general authority by the owner of land to tow vehicles away from that land.

Clause 6 enables complaints about the operations of vehicle recovery services to be made to the Ministry of Transport which is required to record them and make them available for public inspection. This replaces the present system whereby complaints are made to the vehicle recovery service itself.

Exceptional Service Honour (Posthumous Recognition)

This Private Member's Bill seeks to enable the honouring of those New Zealanders who have shown exceptional service to their country but were not given due recognition for their achievements during their lifetime.