

Making a Select Committee Submission: How to do it

Write your letter:

[Date]

Justice Committee Staff
Level 10 Bowen House
Parliament Buildings
Molesworth Street
Wellington 6160
New Zealand

Tēnā koe,

RESPONSE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE TREATY OF WAITANGI BILL

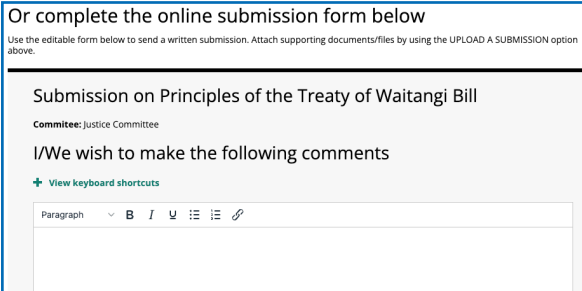
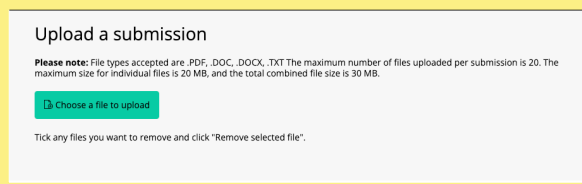
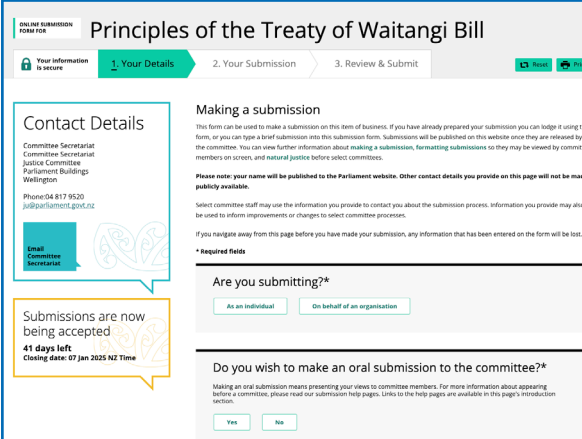
- [Ko wai koe? ...] Introduce yourself
- [State your position on the Bill.] I oppose this Bill in its entirety...
- [Let the committee know if you want to present your submission.]
You can choose whether to speak to your written submission in front of the Committee.
- [Let the Committee know why you're opposed to the Bill.]
Here are a few examples:
 - The Bill breaches Te Tiriti o Waitangi and seeks to unilaterally re-write Te Tiriti in favour of the Crown. Principle 1 elevates the powers of Parliament and the Executive Government whilst ignoring the guarantee of tino rangatiratanga to iwi and hapū.
 - This Bill takes our country backwards. It is inconsistent with the historical and legal realities of Te Tiriti and the well-established Treaty principles that have evolved over the last 50 years of jurisprudence and been the basis of many historical Treaty settlements.
 - If enacted, this Bill would impose a lasting burden on our mokopuna, jeopardising the wellbeing of future generations who will continue to have to fight for the rightful and constitutional place of iwi and hapū on our own whenua. Te Tiriti is for everyone and there is mana in honouring that agreement.
 - Principle 1 asserts that the sovereignty of the Crown is unfettered. This is not true. The Crown's right to govern has always been subject to the guarantee of tino rangatiratanga to iwi and hapū.
 - For Ngāi Tahu, our Treaty Settlement expressly recognises Ngāi Tahu as the tāngata whenua of, and as holding rangatiratanga within, the Ngāi Tahu takiwā. The foundation of the Ngāi Tahu Settlement is Te Tiriti. This Bill would undo this foundation, re-opening our settlements and taking us backwards.
 - This Bill is purported to be about equal rights but ignores the reality that Te Tiriti recognises the pre-existing indigenous rights of iwi and hapū. Equality at the expense of indigenous rights is not equality.
 - The Bill is a waste of everyone's time and energy - it is pointless, clumsy and divisive.

[Anything else you want to say on the Bill and why you oppose it.]

[Signed]

Please see below for frequently asked questions:

Submit your letter:



[Click here to go to the portal for submitting online](#)

Alternatively, you can post your letter to:

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Parliament Buildings
Molesworth Street
Wellington 6160
New Zealand

Once you have ticked the check-boxes - how you are submitting and "Do you wish to make an oral submission..."

You can upload your file here, or proceed to complete your submission through the online form below.

Submissions close on Tuesday
7 January 2025 at 11:59pm

Making a Select Committee Submission

Frequently asked questions

If you're thinking about making a select committee submission and have questions about what this means and how you do it, you might find your answer below.

What is a select committee submission and why should I make one?

A select committee submission is your opportunity to share how you feel about the "Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill" with the Government.

You'll send your written submission to the select committee, which is a committee made up of members of the Government. The select committee will read your submission and tell the Government what people think about the Bill.

If enough people make submissions, the Government might decide to change or even abandon the Bill.

Your submission, along with others, will be considered by the select committee as they develop their own views on the Bill. It will also form part of the formal record of the Bill's development.



What should I write in my submission?

Your submission is your statement to the Government on the Bill. You might want to tell them how the Bill makes you feel and how it affects you.

If you want to read what our leaders have said about the Bill and how it affects Ngāi Tahu, you might want to check out [this page on our website](#). Our view is that the Bill:

- Is an attack on Ngāi Tahu rangatiratanga, the Ngāi Tahu Settlement and Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- Is the worst breach of Te Tiriti o Waitangi of our generation.
- Restricts our Te Tiriti o Waitangi rights, especially our Article II rights.

When do I need to make my submission?

Anytime before 11.59pm on 7 January 2025 – so if you're ready now, you can make your submission right away!

I'm under 18. Can I still make a submission?

Yes! Anyone of any age can make a submission. If you are under 18, this is a great way to start getting involved and getting your voice heard.

How do I make my submission?

You'll need to write your thoughts in English or te reo Māori and [upload what you've written here](#) or post it to:

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Parliament Buildings
Molesworth Street
Wellington 6160
New Zealand

If you're posting your submission, remember to include your contact details.

Where can I find more information?

You can read more about the Bill and the select committee process on the [Parliament website here](#).