



**Community Housing**  
*Nga Wharerau o Aotearoa*

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Government Administration Select Committee  
Parliament

**RE: Charities Amendment Bill [Statutes Amendment Bill 71-1]**

1. Community Housing Aotearoa is the peak body for the community housing sector that provides social and affordable housing throughout New Zealand. We represent the interests of our 80+ members on issues that impact their ability to fulfil their organisational missions. The Charities Amendment Bill is of great interest to our members as we wish to ensure that it does not impede our sector's ability to improve housing solutions for our most vulnerable citizens.
2. Given the very technical nature of the amendments in this bill, we refer to and support the detailed submission of Sue Barker Charities Law.
3. We do not believe it is appropriate to remove Charities rights of appeal as set out in the Bill.
4. We would have thought that a better solution would be to amend section 59 to make it clear that the disestablishment of the Charities Commission did not remove charities' rights of appeal.
5. The community housing sector has been through a very time consuming, expensive, and difficult process over several years where individual organisations were pursued for de-registration, and others had to re-confirm their charitable status. We are very concerned at any moves that limit rights of appeal.
6. Judicial review is only available for process errors. It is also expensive, difficult, and time-consuming. It is not acceptable for it to be the only remedy for appealing decisions of the Department of Internal Affairs.
7. Charities are expected to meet high standards of transparency and accountability. We deserve no less from our regulator.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit. We wish to speak to our submission at hearing.

Kind regards,

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