

Regulatory Standards Bill

This Bill would undermine democracy in Aotearoa. It would confer excessive power in the hands of the Minister of Regulation, currently David Seymour, and would enable his new Regulatory Standards Board to change laws to suit his party's ideology. It would entrench ACT neo-political policies by prioritising private property rights and corporate profits while it excludes any consideration of environment, community and Te Tiriti o Waitangi and it would increase the already burgeoning inequality and injustices in Aotearoa communities. Also, if it became law it would be extremely difficult to undo.

ACT has tried three times in the past, (in 2006, 2009 and 2011,) to pass similar legislation but through common sense and democratic process it was rejected. In fact, in 2021 it was condemned as "a dangerous constitutional shift undermining public and collective rights and threatening parliamentary sovereignty" by the National Party. Yet despite this fact and despite the fact that his own ministry advised him that this bill was not needed or warranted, and despite the findings and recommendations of the Waitangi Tribunal who said the Crown has breached Te Tiriti by not consulting on this constitutional piece of legislation, David Seymour has chosen to push ahead with the Bill.

We currently have functioning regulatory controls in place thus negating the need for this legislation.

ACT received just 8 % of the country's vote and yet believes it can rewrite our constitution according to their narrow thinking neo-liberal, undemocratic, ill-advised, harmful legislation.

This Bill must be stopped.