

ActionStation Regulatory Standards Bill Quick Submissions Guide

Top Tips:

1. Make it personal - this is your chance to express your opinion in a way that only YOU can!
2. Don't use offensive language, no swearing or calling anyone racist
3. Be clear - it's better to be accurate than to sound smart!

Here are some prompts that might help you to write your submission:

Prompt 1: Start with: "My name is _____ and I Oppose this Bill".

Prompt 2: Why do you oppose this Bill?

If you're stuck, you could take inspiration from any of the following points. Feel free to make them your own - maybe read materials by people like Tania Waikato and Melanie Nelson (which we've added below) to help formulate your ideas.

The RSB erases Te Tiriti from law making

You could talk about how the Bill underpins the power of David Seymour's new Ministry for Regulation to install their anti-Te Tiriti policies throughout our democracy.

- It allows the Act Party's Principles to have greater constitutional influence than the Treaty Principles - it even copies and pastes one of the principles from the Treaty Principles Bill!
- The Bill will enable the new Regulatory Standards Board to act as an anti-Waitangi Tribunal and recommend that Parliament erase Te Tiriti from all future and existing laws, except for Treaty settlements.

It threatens Māori led-progress

Here, you can talk about how the Bill is designed to dismantle Māori-led progress. You might want to include some key points like:

- The Waitangi Tribunal have already found that the Crown **breached the Treaty/Te Tiriti principles** of Partnership and Active Protection by failing to meaningfully consult with Māori on this Bill.
- Link to the Tribunal report [here](#).
- Since the establishment of the Waitangi Tribunal, the principles of Te Tiriti have been used to guide our partnership in a multitude of ways.
- This Bill diminishes the role that Te Tiriti plays as an equaliser in society and an advocate for the environment. It threatens that role by removing protections enabled by Te Tiriti from law - leaving us vulnerable to privatisation and environmental exploitation.

It's stealthy and unconstitutional

You could talk about how it was introduced under urgency and that the Bill is an example of intentional constitutional reform by stealth. The Government is using its own mechanisms to

bypass the democratic rights of the people of Aotearoa and the relationship our country is based upon through Te Tiriti o Waitangi.


- There was no consultation with Māori in the creation of the bill, so the Crown is already in breach of its own Treaty obligations - under principles like partnership, mutual respect and active protection.
- This is a blatant attempt by bad-faith actors to change the legal foundation of our country, with zero consent from its Treaty partners.

It puts everyone in Aotearoa and the environment at risk

You might find it valuable to talk about how the Bill prioritises private property rights and corporate profits over care for people and the environment.

- If the RSB becomes law, we could be in a situation where another law aimed to prevent pollution could be flagged for “imposing costs” on businesses.
- This Bill would mean that the government or council would be forced to compensate the business for those costs - in effect it would tether us to the will and desires of big corporations.

In this doc - there are some amazing tips from Melanie Nelson:

 RSB (Regulatory Standards Bill) - Explainer and Submission Guide

Here are some tips from Tania Waikato:

PRIMARY SUBMISSION – MUST INCLUDE THIS ONE:

1. I oppose the Regulatory Standards Bill being passed. Kill the Bill!

OPTIONAL SUBMISSIONS IN SUBJECT GROUPS – PICK AS MANY AS YOU LIKE:

Objections based on Te Tiriti o Waitangi

2. The Regulatory Standards Bill fundamentally breaches Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
3. The Regulatory Standards Bill undermines the Treaty principles of tino rangatiratanga and partnership.
4. Passing the Regulatory Standards Bill will breach the Crown's obligations to Māori under Te Tiriti.
5. The consultation process for the Regulatory Standards Bill breached Te Tiriti.
6. The Regulatory Standards Bill will ignore historical injustices against Māori.
7. The Regulatory Standards Bill neglects Māori perspectives in law-making processes.
8. Excluding Māori from regulatory decision-making undermines the principle of partnership enshrined in Te Tiriti.
9. The Regulatory Standards Bill's approach to law-making marginalises Māori voices and perspectives.

10. The Regulatory Standards Bill threatens the progress made in Māori-Crown relations.
11. The Regulatory Standards Bill will erode Māori rights to self-determination and cultural preservation.
12. The Regulatory Standards Bill will threaten the revitalisation of te reo Māori.
13. The Regulatory Standards Bill's approach to regulation will perpetuate systemic racism and discrimination against Māori.
14. The Regulatory Standards Bill will undermine the role of Māori governance structures and institutions.
15. The Regulatory Standards Bill will undermine the principles of equity and justice for Māori.
16. The Regulatory Standards Bill will lead to the erosion of Māori language rights and cultural practices.
17. The Regulatory Standards Bill's approach to regulation will perpetuate colonial structures of power and control over Māori communities.
18. The Regulatory Standards Bill will undermine the principle active protection enshrined in te Tiriti.

Minorities & Social Equity

19. The Regulatory Standards Bill will negatively impact women's rights including the fight for pay equity.
20. The Regulatory Standards Bill will negatively impact Pasifika whanau and targeted funding that addresses existing inequities.
21. The Regulatory Standards Bill will negatively impact disabled whanau and targeted funding that addresses existing inequities.
22. The Regulatory Standards Bill will negatively impact whanau who are struggling economically and make accessing help more difficult.
23. The Regulatory Standards Bill prioritises individual property rights over collective social responsibilities which will have a negative effect on society.
24. The Regulatory Standards Bill will disproportionately benefit wealthy individuals and corporations, exacerbating social disparities.
25. The Regulatory Standards Bill's focus on deregulation will reduce protections for vulnerable communities and worker's rights.
26. The Regulatory Standards Bill will diminish safeguards for minority groups especially in employment and health and safety.
27. The Regulatory Standards Bill will lead to reduced accountability for actions that adversely affect marginalised populations such as cutting funding for disabled communities and minorities.
28. The Regulatory Standards Bill's emphasis on individual liberties conflicts with the need for collective social protections.
29. The Regulatory Standards Bill will weaken anti-discrimination and hinder progress toward social equity.
30. The Regulatory Standards Bill will erode hard-won gains in social justice and human rights protections.
31. The Regulatory Standards Bill will set back efforts to create a more inclusive and equitable society.

Environmental Concerns

- 32. The Regulatory Standards Bill will weaken environmental protections.
- 33. The Regulatory Standards Bill will threaten our unique ecosystems.
- 34. The Regulatory Standards Bill will enable projects harmful to biodiversity and conservation efforts.
- 35. The Regulatory Standards Bill will facilitate the exploitation of natural resources at the expense of environmental sustainability.
- 36. The Regulatory Standards Bill will weaken environmental protections, and accelerate the loss of endangered species.
- 37. The Regulatory Standards Bill will undermine public participation in environmental decision-making processes.
- 38. The Regulatory Standards Bill will pave the way for developments that disregard climate change considerations.
- 39. The Regulatory Standards Bill will increase the risk of environmental degradation.
- 40. The Regulatory Standards Bill will accelerate the privatisation of government activities that will weaken environmental protections.
- 41. The Regulatory Standards Bill's focus on deregulation will compromise long-term environmental health.

Democratic Process & Accountability

- 42. The Regulatory Standards Bill centralises power in the hands of David Seymour, the Ministry for Regulation and the Regulatory Standards Board, reducing democratic accountability.
- 43. The Regulatory Standards Bill consultation documents undermined democratic participation in law-making by failing to disclose the fundamental constitutional impacts of the bill.
- 44. The Regulatory Standards Bill will diminish the role of Parliament and act as a restraint on its power.
- 45. The Regulatory Standards Bill will erode checks and balances between the branches of government, essential for a functioning democracy.
- 46. The Regulatory Standards Bill will cause a fundamental constitutional shift by enabling the repeal of Treaty provisions in existing laws.
- 47. The Regulatory Standards Bill will reduce the ability of minorities to participate fairly in democratic processes by slanting the assessment framework against them.
- 48. The Regulatory Standards Bill diminishes the significance of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in New Zealand's legal and political framework.
- 49. The Regulatory Standards Bill will enshrine the Act Party's principles into the constitutional fabric of Aotearoa.
- 50. The Regulatory Standards Bill will make David Seymour the most powerful politician in the country.