



7 August 2025

s 9(2)(a)

Official information request

Our ref: R001131

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request, which the Ministry for Regulation (Ministry) received on 15 July 2025, as follows:

“I have several questions about the submissions to the Regulatory Standards Bill.

- (a) How many submissions were received.*
- (b) How many of those submissions included a request to be heard.*
- (c) Please provide the Ministry for Regulation's summary of points raised in submissions that included a request to be heard.*

I note that there is undoubtedly significant public interest in these questions.

Now that the Finance and Expenditure Committee has completed its hearing of submissions there is no possible prejudice to the hearing process from providing the summary of those submission.”

As you have noted, the public submissions process on the proposed Regulatory Standards Bill (Bill) was administered by the Finance and Expenditure Committee (FEC). The submissions received by the FEC, which are considered as evidence in its examination of the Bill, are protected by Parliamentary privilege.

In accordance with Standing Order 243(1) of the Standing Orders of the House of representatives 2023, “A committee’s proceedings on an item of business, other than during the hearing of evidence in public session, remain strictly confidential to the committee until it reports to the House”¹.

The FEC will table the submissions it has received on the Bill after submissions have been vetted by the Office of the Clerk. Submissions are being progressively published on the *Submissions and Advice* page² of the Parliament website. Given the high volume of submissions received, this process will take some time. However, all submissions will be made publicly available on the

¹ <https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/parliamentary-rules/standing-orders-2023-by-chapter/chapter-4-select-committees/#c4.243>

² <https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/>

Parliament website before the FEC presents its report to the House on this item of business. The FEC is scheduled to report back to the House on its findings and recommendations relating to the Bill by 22 November 2025³.

I therefore refuse parts (a) and (b) of your request on the basis of section 18(d) of the OIA as the information you have requested is, or will soon be, publicly available.

With regard to part (c) of your request, any summary or report that might be prepared by the Ministry in relation to the Bill would also be covered by confidentiality provisions governing select committee proceedings. The release of such material is at the discretion of the committee.

In this regard, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(c)(ii) of the OIA, on the grounds that release of the information may constitute contempt of the House of Representatives. This applies where the release of information would breach the confidentiality of parliamentary proceedings, such as select committee deliberations, which are protected under Standing Orders.

Right of review

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please contact hello@regulation.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we may publish this response (with your details removed) on the Ministry for Regulation website.

Ngā mihi

s 9(2)(a)



Aisling Risdon

Head of Ministerial Services
Ministry for Regulation

³ <https://bills.parliament.nz/v/6/e22299b3-b67b-4f74-023d-08dd9688d2c5?Tab=history>