

ORAL SUBMISSION TEMPLATE -Plain language

Opening

Tēnā koutou katoa.

I do not support the Disability Support Services Bill in its current form.

1. Co-design

Nothing About Us Without Us.

Disabled people must be involved in decisions about disability support.

2. Accessibility

Time is an accessibility issue.

Many disabled people need more time, accessible information, and support to participate meaningfully.

3. Rights framework

Enabling Good Lives is described in the Disability Strategy as a foundation and touchstone.

It is not clearly embedded in the Bill.

Support should be a rights-based entitlement, not discretionary allocation.

4. Clause 8

Clause 8 risks increasing reliance on family care without adequate support.

When carers are under pressure, disabled people lose choice, control, and reliable support.

5. System risk

I am concerned the Bill:

- increases gatekeeping
- reduces flexibility
- creates uncertainty
- defers safeguards to future decisions

Rights and protections should be in the law now.

What I want changed

- Embed EGL and UNCRPD
- Follow Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Fix Clause 8
- Remove income and asset testing
- Put safeguards and appeals in law
- Ensure genuine co-design
- Protect carers

Closing

Disabled people and whānau need certainty, rights, and support.

Thank you for listening.

Tēnā koutou katoa.