

**WELLINGTON** - March 2007. The fireworks early this year centre around smacking and Sue Bradford's Members Bill to ban it. It has passed a second reading and looks set to scrape in as law. Meanwhile Helen Clark has promised there will be a substantial set of legislation pushed through this year.

For updates see our website [www.transtasman.co.nz](http://www.transtasman.co.nz), or [www.clerk.parliament.govt.nz](http://www.clerk.parliament.govt.nz) (publications)

Title	Intro	1st Reading	Select Cttee Report	2nd Reading	Committal	What It Will Do
<b>Arms Amendment (No 3)</b>	18/02/05	12/04/05				Replaces No2 Bill Which Was Dumped. Creates New Offences For Illegal Manufacture of Arms
<b>Border Security Bill</b>	18/06/03	01/07/03	10/03/04	20/05/04		Tightens Rules On Imports & Exports At Border
<b>Business Law Reform Bill</b>	27/06/06	27/06/06	18/10/06	26/10/06	14/11/06	Raft Of Changes, Cuts Compliance Costs
<b>Children, YP &amp; Their Families Amdmt No 2 1999</b>	20/05/99	20/05/99	16/07/99	01/06/99	Discharged 05/04/06	Out Of Sight, Possibly Out Of Mind And Off The Agenda
<b>Consumer Credit</b>	17/09/02	13/02/03	05/08/03	14/08/03		Consumers Need This
<b>Consumer Protection (Definition of Goods &amp; Services)</b>	30/08/01	10/10/01	18/11/02	01/04/03	01/07/03	Now Before Commerce Committee
<b>Courts And Criminal Matters Bill</b>	14/05/03	19/06/03	26/07/04	14/06/05	14/06/05	More Power To Collect Fines
<b>Criminal Procedure Bill</b>	22/06/04	29/06/04	29/07/05	09/05/06		Aims To Make Justice Fair And Efficient
<b>Electoral Matters Bill</b>	22/06/04	29/06/04	19/10/04	09/11/04	30/11/04	Tidies Up The Electoral Act 1993
<b>Energy Safety Review Bill</b>	01/06/05	21/06/05	02/06/06	21/11/06		Revises Regulatory Regime. Tedious stuff
<b>Human Tissue Bill</b>	07/11/06	14/11/06				New Laws For Organ Donations, And A Register For Donors
<b>Independent Police Complaints Authority Amendment Bill</b>	04/12/02	20/02/03	17/11/03	05/05/05		Reforms Police Complaints Authority.
<b>Judicial Matters Bill</b>	14/08/03	04/09/03	03/03/04	11/05/04	12/05/04	More Weighty Legal Discussion
<b>Judicial Retirement Age Bill</b>	08/11/06	15/11/06	08/12/06			Raises Judge's Retirement Age From 68 to 70

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<b>Law Reform (Epidemic Preparedness) Bill</b>	06/04/06	09/05/06	20/11/06	5/12/06		Govt's Answer To Bird Flu
<b>Local Govt Reform Bill (No 3)</b>	29/03/04	07/04/04	14/06/04	29/06/04	29/06/04	Further Tinkering
<b>Major Events Management Bill</b>	12/12/06					Protects Sponsors Against Rip-Offs
<b>Maori Purposes Bill</b>	13/06/06	27/06/06	20/11/06	05/12/06	06/12/06	Sets Sept 1 2008 Deadline For Treaty Claims
<b>Marine Reserves 2002</b>	07/06/02	15/10/02				Revises Process For Setting Up Reserves
<b>Property Law Bill</b>	30/10/06	14/11/06				Rewrites And Updates Ancient Statutes
<b>Public Finance (State Sector Mgmt) Bill</b>	03/12/03		17/02/04	06/09/04		Important And Worthy But Taking Its Time
<b>Student Loan Scheme Amendment Bill (No 2)</b>	13/11/06	16/11/06				Extends Amnesty On Penalties For Borrowers Who Come Home
<b>Succession (Homicide) Bill</b>	08/09/06	10/10/06				Stops Killers Benefiting From Victim's Estates – Happens In Domestic
<b>Telecommunications Amendment Bill</b>	26/06/06	29/06/06				Opens Broadband To Competition
<b>Therapeutic Products And Medicines Bill</b>	05/12/06	12/12/06				Controversial Bill Sets Up Trans-Tasman Regulating Authority
<b>Transport Legislation Bill</b>	10/08/04	12/08/04	28/10/04	09/11/04	16/11/04	Promotes Creation Of New Transport System
<b>Members' Bills</b>						
<b>Animal Welfare (Restriction On Docking Dogs' Tails) Amendment Bill</b>	05/08/04	20/10/04				Bans Docking Of Dogs' Tails
<b>Corrections (Mothers With Babies) Amendment Bill</b>	15/06/06	28/06/06				Allows Mothers In Prison To Keep Their Babies Longer
<b>Crimes (Abolition Of Force As A Justification For Child Discipline) Amdt Bill</b>	09/06/04	27/07/05	20/11/06			Fierce Debate On Smacking Continues. Might Scrape Through. Labour's Favour To The Greens
<b>Easter Sunday Shop Trading Amendment Bill</b>	04/05/06	17/05/06	13/12/06			Makes Changes To Aspects Of Easter Trading Law

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<b>Electoral</b> (Reduction In Number Of Members Of Parliament) <b>Amendment Bill</b>	23/02/06	15/03/06	14/09/06 Does Not Proceed	08/11/06 Defeated 112-9		Never Looked Likely To Succeed
<b>Employment Relations</b> (Probationary Employment) <b>Amendment Bill</b>	23/02/06	15/03/06	27/10/06	22/11/06 Defeated 67-53		Tried To Establish 90 Day Probation Period For New Employees
<b>Liquor Advertising</b> (TV and Radio) <b>Bill</b>	07/09/06					Bans Liquor Ads In Electronic Media
<b>New Zealand Day Bill</b>	21/10/04	06/04/05	27/02/07 Does Not Proceed			No One But Peter Dunne Wants This To Go Anywhere
<b>Official Information</b> (Openness of DHBNZ) <b>Amendment Bill</b>	24/08/06	06/09/06				Opens District Health Boards NZ To Official Information Act
<b>Sale Of Liquor</b> (Youth Alcohol Harm Reduction) <b>Amdt Bill</b>	08/06/05	08/06/05 (78-41 vote)	20/10/06	08/11/06 Defeated 72-49		Defeated More Soundly Than Some Had Expected
Bills That Have Now Passed Into Law						
Title	Intro	1st Reading	Select Cttee Report	2nd Reading	Committal	What It Will Do
<b>Child Support Amendment Bill</b> (No 4)	05/08/05	06/12/05	30/05/06	15/06/06	05/09/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 12/09/06	Removes Penalties In Some Circumstances For Late Child Support Payments
<b>Crimes Of Torture Amendment Bill</b>	15/03/06	28/03/06	19/09/06	07/11/06	16/11/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 21/11/06	Brings NZ Into Line With International Conventions
<b>Foreshore And Seabed Bill</b>	08/04/04	06/05/04	04/11/04	16/11/04	16/11/04	Gives Us Access To Beaches (& Maori Customary Rights)
<b>Geographical Indications</b> (Wine and Spirits) <b>Registration Bill</b>	21/06/05	13/12/05	29/05/06	03/08/06	07/11/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 14/11/06	Updates Trademark Laws. Seriously Boring For Most People
<b>Identity</b> (Citizenship & Travel Documents) <b>Bill</b>	17/06/04	30/07/04	22/11/04	12/04/05	14/04/05	Tightens Rules On Citizenship And Passports
<b>Insolvency Law Reform Bill</b>	21/12/05	21/02/06	10/08/06	13/09/06	10/08/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 26/10/06	Re-Writes And Modernises Insolvency And Bankruptcy Laws
<b>Kiwisaver Bill</b>	27/02/06	02/03/06	21/08/06	24/08/06	29/08/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 30/08/06	Establishes Cullen's Kiwisaver Scheme
<b>Land Transport Amendment Bill</b>	13/02/06	16/02/06	07/03/06	16/03/06	16/03/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 16/03/06	Fixes Law Which Unfairly Stripped Bus And Taxi Drivers Of Their Passenger Licences

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<b>Bills That Have Now Passed Into Law - Continued</b>						
<b>NZ Superannuation And Veterans Pension Bill</b>	21/02/06	01/03/06	04/05/06	11/05/06	16/05/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 27/06/06	Changes Pension Law For People With Partners In Residential Care
<b>Protected Objects Amendment Bill</b>	03/02/05	05/04/05	01/08/05	10/05/06	13/06/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 02/08/06	Stricter Regime To Protect Artefacts And Get Them Back From Other Countries
<b>Parental Leave And Employment Protection Amendment Bill</b>	09/08/05	06/12/05	04/04/06	02/05/06	09/05/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 10/05/06	Extends Paid Parental Leave To Self-employed People
<b>Sports Anti-doping Bill</b>	01/08/05	13/12/05	21/06/06	10/10/06	19/10/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 26/10/06	Brings NZ Into Line With International Anti-Doping Regime
<b>Standards and Conformance Bill</b>	14/06/05	13/12/05	26/05/06	05/09/06	12/09/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 14/09/06	Amends Standards Act. Won't Cause Problems
<b>Weathertight Homes Resolution Service Amendment Bill</b>	23/08/06	31/08/06	29/11/06	12/12/06	12/12/06 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading 12/12/06	Speeds Up Leaky Homes Resolution Process

## On The Legislative Radar Screen

National is taunting the Govt over its light legislative agenda, and with 16 Bills on the order paper it is looking rather sparse. Parliament made rapid progress with Bills at the end of last year and of those which were held over, most are non-controversial. Ministers have some in the pipeline but they are some way off reaching the debating chamber. Leader of the House Michael Cullen isn't concerned. He says "there will be plenty of items coming up that National will be able to get enraged about before changing its mind and supporting them." And if the situation did become embarrassing, there would be pressure on Select Committees to progress Bills under consideration. The **Judicial Retirement Age Bill**, which puts the age limit up from 68 to 70, has passed its third reading and the **Unsolicited Electronic Messages Bill**, David Cunliffe's anti-spam measure, has also sailed through its third reading. The **Immigration Advisers Bill**, which tightens the regime around agents, has been through a Select Committee and is ready for its second reading. The **Oaths Modernisation Bill**, which redrafts very old legislation and has been around since mid-2005, is inching its way up the order paper. The Govt's big-ticket items on climate change issues are still at discussion document stage and legislation isn't expected until later this year, although Transport Minister Annette King has announced she will be bringing a big Bill to the House which will smarten up

legislation around public transport. It will give Councils the power to set regulations and King says the aim is getting better value for money while meeting new environmental standards. Members Bills continue to generate the most interest and the strongest debates in the House. There are 10 on the order paper, with Easter trading law changes looking likely to be passed within the next two months. Sue Bradford's Bill to ban smacking appears to have the numbers to go through a third reading, although this is several weeks away. The Maori Party is looking forward to the debate on its Bill to repeal the Foreshore and Seabed Act, although it won't get any further than a first reading since National has announced its opposition.

**CANBERRA** - In election year the Govt is focusing on hand outs and some vote winning policy. This year the environment is firmly on the agenda, so legislation is expected soon. Meanwhile the Howard Govt continues to push its legislative programme through. Introduced recently are the **Tax Laws Amendment (2007 Measures No. 1) Bill 2007**, **Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Bill 2007**, **Migration Amendment (Maritime Crew) Bill 2007**, **Bankruptcy (Estate Charges) Amendment Bill 2007**, **Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Debt Agreements) Bill 2007** and the **Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Bill 2007**.

For more details on legislation pending in Aust see [www.aph.gov.au/bills/index.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/bills/index.htm)