

Electronic Compliance with Reporting Requirements Bill

Member's Bill

Explanatory note

General policy statement

This Bill amends the Public Finance Act 1989 and the Crown Entities Act 2004 to enable public organisations to meet statutory reporting requirements in electronic form.

Public organisations in New Zealand have stringent reporting and accountability requirements. Most are required to produce an annual report, a statement of intent, and a statement of performance expectations. These are vital documents in terms of accountability and scrutiny but have a small readership. There is considerable expense involved in producing glossy publications, most copies of which go unopened. In the digital age, it is an anachronism to require printed copies of these documents.

This Bill allows all reporting and accountability requirements under the two Acts to be met electronically.

Clause by clause analysis

Clause 1 is the Title clause.

Clause 2 is the commencement clause, and provides for the Bill to come into force on the day after the date on which it receives Royal Assent.

Part 1

Amendments to Public Finance Act 1989

Clause 3 states that the Act being amended is the Public Finance Act 1989 (the **principal Act**).

Clause 4 inserts *new section 45FA* to allow the presentation and publication of accountability documents in electronic form.

Part 2

Amendments to Crown Entities Act 2004

Clause 5 states that the Act being amended is the Crown Entities Act 2004 (the **principal Act**).

Clause 6 inserts *new section 176A* to allow the presentation and publication of accountability documents in electronic form.

Adrian Rurawhe

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Contents

	Page
1 Title	1
2 Commencement	1
Part 1	
Amendments to Public Finance Act 1989	
3 Principal Act	2
4 Section 45FA inserted (Documents may be presented and published electronically)	2
45FA Documents may be presented and published electronically	2
Part 2	
Amendments to Crown Entities Act 2004	
5 Principal Act	2
6 Section 176A inserted (Documents may be presented and published electronically)	2
176A Documents may be presented and published electronically	2

The Parliament of New Zealand enacts as follows:

1 Title

This Act is the Electronic Compliance with Reporting Requirements Act **2018**.

2 Commencement

This Act comes into force on the day after the date on which it receives the Royal assent. 5

Part 1 Amendments to Public Finance Act 1989

3 Principal Act

This Part amends the Public Finance Act 1989 (the **principal Act**).

4 Section 45FA inserted (Documents may be presented and published electronically) 5

After section 45F, insert:

45FA Documents may be presented and published electronically

All requirements for the presentation and publication of documents under this Part may be met by presentation and publication in electronic form. 10

Part 2 Amendments to Crown Entities Act 2004

5 Principal Act

This Part amends the Crown Entities Act 2004 (the **principal Act**).

6 Section 176A inserted (Documents may be presented and published electronically) 15

After section 176, insert:

176A Documents may be presented and published electronically

All requirements for the presentation and publication of documents under this Part may be met by presentation and publication in electronic form. 20