

To the Justice Select Committee,

I count amongst my ancestors a family on the Randolph one of the first four ships commemorated on plaques in Ōtautahi Cathedral Square (my mother's side) and another from Ireland, aboard the SS Ionic (my father's side) who arrived in 1883. These immigrants benefited from the agreements made with the indigenous population through Te Tiriti.

The Bill is divisive because the Bill proposes to erase tino rangatiratanga and extinguish the rights of Māori that were agreed to by the Crown in 1840. It will make it almost impossible to legally honour the commitments of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The Bill is dishonourable because the Government has accepted a distortion of the original Te Tiriti text, rejected evidence, and ignores the advice of 42 King's Counsel and the Waitangi Tribunal who have expressed strong negative opinions about this bill.

Furthermore the Bill is distracting because our country (and the world) is grappling with complex challenges not least of which are the climate and ecological breakdown.

It is my recommendation that:

- The Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill must be abandoned.
- The government must act upon the recommendations of the Waitangi Tribunal report.
- The government refuses any and all proposed referendums on Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the future.
- The government must honour Te Tiriti in its original te reo Māori text, guaranteeing the collective rights of iwi to have tino rangatiratanga over taonga.