



Cabinet Legislation Committee

Minute of Decision

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Government Response to the Report of the Petitions Committee on the Petition of Ann Chapman: Amend the HART Act to allow more flexible timeframes for embryo/gamete storage

Portfolio Associate Health (Hon Casey Costello)

On 29 January 2026, the Cabinet Legislation Committee:

- 1 **noted** that on 24 October 2025 the Petitions Committee presented its report to the House entitled *Final Report (Petition of Ann Chapman)*;
- 2 **noted** that the Committee recommended that the Government review section 10 of the Human Assisted Reproductive Technologies Act 2004 (HART Act), which provides for a 10-year limit on the storage of frozen gametes or embryos;
- 3 **noted** the submission of the Associate Minister of Health (Hon Casey Costello) and in particular her advice that the Government should accept the Committee's recommendation to review section 10 of the HART Act;
- 4 **approved** the Government response, attached to the submission under LEG-26-SUB-0004, to the Report of the Petitions Committee entitled *Final Report (Petition of Ann Chapman)*;
- 5 **noted** that the Government response must be presented to the House by 12 February 2026;
- 6 **invited** the Associate Minister of Health to present the Government response to the House in accordance with Standing Order 252.

Vivien Meek
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Louise Upston (Chair)
Hon Dr Shane Reti
Hon Tama Potaka
Hon Simon Watts
Hon Nicole McKee
Hon Casey Costello
Hon James Meger
Jamie Arbuckle MP

Officials present from:

Officials Committee for LEG