

Advocacy in Action

Insights into our law
reform and
advocacy work

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Presenters:

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ADVOCACY IN ACTION



The 2024/25 year in review



55 Bill submissions



99 other submissions

Judicature (Timeliness) Legislation Amendment Bill

- Important changes for both civil and criminal proceedings
- Increase to High Court judge numbers (+2)
- New power for judiciary to deal with civil proceedings that are 'plainly an abuse of process'
- Amendments to Criminal Procedure Act
 - Consolidation of pre-trial proceedings
 - Appeals from the District Court

Financial Markets Conduct Amendment Bill

New 'on site inspection power':

- Warrantless and without notice
- Where FMA 'considers it necessary or desirable.'
- Must answer questions and supply information as directed
- Where evidence of contravention of Act found, may continue searching without a warrant

Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Act changes

Levy on reporting entities – Law Society submission on levy design consultation emphasises levy cannot be fairly applied to legal sector

Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism (Supervisor, Levy, and Other Matters) Amendment Bill

- Move to single supervisor – DIA
- Enabling provisions for levy
- Removing address verification for standard customer due diligence



Legal Aid Triennial Review

- Law Society commissioned Deloitte to undertake a cost benefit analysis of legal aid – conservatively, every \$1 returns \$2.06.
- Real remuneration has fallen. The legal sector faces cost pressures not experienced, on average, by consumers and other sectors.
- Key changes required:
 - Evidence-based approach to understanding legal aid expenditure
 - Fair remuneration, including revision of fixed fees
 - Reduced administration, higher trust
 - Improve provider coverage, retention and progression

Upcoming law reform

Announced, but not yet seen:

- Shoplifting and theft
- 'Coward punch' offences
- Citizens arrests
- Trespass
- Assaults on prison officers and first responders

Currently open for submissions:

- Electoral Amendment Bill
- Standing Orders Review 2026



Ngā mihi nui

Contact us at:

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