



# Cabinet Legislation Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### Exempting the Cost of Living Payment from Being Considered Income or a Cash Asset for Welfare Support

**Portfolio**                      **Social Development and Employment**

On 9 June 2022, the Cabinet Legislation Committee:

- 1        **noted** that in April 2022, Cabinet agreed to:
  - 1.1     provide a temporary Cost of Living payment to further support low- to middle-income New Zealanders over the winter period;
  - 1.2     amend the Social Security Regulations 2018 and the Student Allowances Regulations 1998 to exempt the Cost of Living payment from being considered income or a cash asset, to ensure clients do not receive a reduction in other financial assistance;

[CAB-22-MIN-0130]
- 2        **noted** that the Social Security (Income and Asset Exemption) Amendment Regulations 2022 and the Student Allowance (Personal and Partner Exemption) Amendment Regulations 2022 will give effect to the decision referred to in paragraph 2;
- 3        **noted** that the amendment regulations referred to in paragraph 2 will take effect on 1 August 2022;
- 4        **authorised** the submission to the Executive Council of the:
  - 4.1     Social Security (Cash Assets and Income Exemptions—Cost of Living Payment) Amendment Regulations 2022 [PCO 24774/2.0];
  - 4.2     Student Allowances (Income Exemptions—Cost of Living Payment) Amendment Regulations 2022 [PCO 24773/2.0].

Rebecca Davies  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Hon Andrew Little (Chair)  
Hon David Parker  
Hon Poto Williams  
Hon Kris Faafoi  
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall  
Kieran McAnulty, MP (Senior Government Whip)

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Officials Committee for LEG