

**Government Response to
Report of Petitions Committee**

on

**Petition of Christopher Ingram—Require licensed premises to display
“Pregnant? Don’t Drink” FASD warning signs and**

**Petition of Christopher Ingram—References to Government advice on
alcohol to include abstention if pregnant**

Presented to the House of Representatives

In accordance with Standing Order 256

Government response to report of Petitions Committee on Petitions of Christopher Ingram

Introduction

- 1 The Government has carefully considered the Petition Committee's report on the petitions of Christopher Ingram.
- 2 The Government responds to the report in accordance with Standing Order 256.

Background

- 3 The Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 regulates the sale and supply of alcohol in New Zealand. It covers the safe and responsible sale, supply, and consumption of alcohol and also seeks to minimise the harm caused by excessive or inappropriate use of alcohol.

Recommendation

- 4 The Petitions Committee recommends that the House amend the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Regulations 2013 to require that warning signs about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) be displayed in any premises for which a licence is held.
- 5 The Committee made no recommendation in respect of the second petition by Mr Ingram.

Government response

- 6 FASD is a diagnostic term for a neurodevelopmental condition that results from prenatal alcohol exposure. FASD significantly impacts people's lifelong health, learning and development.
- 7 The Government recognises that preventing alcohol exposure during pregnancy is critical to reducing the incidence and impacts of FASD. Work is already underway through the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Action Plan 2025-2028. The FASD Action Plan provides a roadmap for improving FASD outcomes and aims to reflect a life-course approach to addressing FASD. It targets:
 - 7.1 increased awareness and prevention of FASD
 - 7.2 identifying developmental concerns early and providing early intervention for individuals with FASD
 - 7.3 supporting individuals and families through key life transitions with a coordinated government approach, and
 - 7.4 ensuring there is a capable workforce to deliver consistent and appropriate support.¹

¹ [Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Action Plan 2025-2028 | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

- 8 The Government will continue to implement these initiatives and monitor emerging evidence, but does not consider that an additional regulatory requirement for licensed premises is necessary at this time.

Conclusion

- 9 The Government acknowledges the Committee's recommendation and evidence presented regarding the potential benefits of warning signage in increasing awareness. The Government also notes that substantial work is already underway through the FASD Action Plan to raise awareness, improve prevention and strengthen support for individuals and whānau affected by FASD.
- 10 The Government will continue to monitor emerging evidence regarding effective approaches to reducing alcohol-related harm and preventing FASD but does not propose introducing an additional regulatory requirement at this time.