

TE TAKOTORANGA - TE PIRE REO MAAORI 2014

Auckland Languages Strategy Working Group

submission on

**Māori Language (Te Reo Māori) Bill 2014**

Ki ngaa kaiwhiriwhiri ki teenei kaupapa rangatira, araa te Pire Te Reo Maaori 2014, anei anoo te whakauruhanga naa te Roopuu Mahi Reo Rautaki o Taamaki Makaurau – (Roopuu Mahi - Auckland Languages Strategy Working Group)

Naa maatou te kii;

“Koorerohia te reo i ngaa waa katoa, ki ngaa waahi katoa”

He roopuu kohikohinga te Roopuu Mahi ka tikina te tohungatanga me te moohiotanga i te mana me te whakamahi a ngaa reo maha katoa ki Aotearoa, me te aronga ki te rohe o Taamaki Makaurau.

Ko te whaainga tuatahi o te Roopuu Mahi e whai ake nei:

“Kia tautoko te reo Maaori, hei reo taketake o Aotearoa, Niu Tireni”

Hei te tau 2040, ka kitea e maatou he hapori me ngaa painga aa-ohanga, aa-paapori, aa-tikanga o ngaa reo manomano.

Ka manakohia hoki te mana me te takohanga o te iwi Maaori hei kaitiaki o te Te Reo Maaori. Ka manakohia te rerekeetanga o Te Reo Maaori ki Aotearoa Niu Tireni. Ko taa maatou aawangawanga mo te Pire Reo Maaori 2014 whaiwhai haere i te whaainga me te tirohanga whaaroa moo too maatou Roopuu Mahi i runga ake nei.

1. Ko te paanuitanga o te Pire, e kore e taea te whakaareare, ka pewhea te Pire e tautoko te mau o te reo Maaori e te katoa o ngaa Maaori me ngaa hunga kore Maaori, ngaa hunga whaanui o Niu Tireni, ka haangai tonu ki te reo mana o te Ao.
2. Ko te whakawhitinga o te haepapa moo te oranga o Te Reo Maaori hei reo mana me oona reo aa iwi, reo aa hapuu, ka whakaritehia e te Kaawanatanga te tautoko, te awahi aa puutea, aa ture, aa maatauranga, aa kawana hoki. Mena kaare he puumautanga, he haepapatanga e te Kawanatanga, he neke whakamuri te Pire ka tautokohia, ka whakaorangia tonu, ka whakapikihia ake i te reo Maaori moo te Maaori me ngaa iwi katoa o Niu Tireni.
3. Ka haangai hoki teenei Pire ki te maahorahoratanga o teenei Kaawantanga kia tutuki ngaa kereme tiriti katoa i raro i te Tiriti o Waitangi, kia kati tuturu hoki te kuaha ki ngaa kereme kei mua i a taatou. Kei te Kaawanatanga me ngaa iwi o Aotearoa, Niu Tireni te tino haepapa kia tautoko Te Reo Maaori hei taonga mo te motu, ahakoa ka tukuna te haepapa ki te iwi Maaori kei raro i te hanga hou, ngaa kereme tiriti raanei.
4. Kei te aawangawanga taa te hiahia o te Pire kia arohia te puutea ki te hanga o Te Maataawai, aa, ka whakatuuria toona hanga oo roto me oona turanga hou. Ko taa maatou paatai te tino hiahia moo eenei hanga hou ahakoa e haere pai ana Te Maangai Paho me te Taura Whiri i te Reo hei painga moo te Maaori. Kei te

aawangawanga hoki te utu o teenei hanga, ka whakaitihia te puutea iti e waawahi nei ki te tautoko i te Reo Maaori.

5. Ko too maatou whakapono ka tukuna atu ngaa puutea hou ki te whaanui, me ngaa kaupapa mahi reo i ngaa kura me ngaa hapori, kia tiaki, kia whakaora, kia whakaatuhia hoki Te Reo Maaori.
6. Hei roopuu Mahi, ka whakanuia te Pire me ngoona aahukahuka ki te reo aa iwi, reo aa hapuu i te reo Maaori. Heoi anoo, ki a maatou ko ngaa ruunanga aa iwi me ngoo raatou haepapa ki te whakarewatanga a ngaa whaainga o te Pire, kaare anoo kia tau kia whakatinanatia ngaa reo rerekee i te reo Maaori. Ko te waawaahi a ngaa rohe i te Pire, kaare e whakaatuhia te tino Maaori o te reo aa iwi, reo aa hapuu.
7. Kua kitea hoki e maatou, kaare te Pire e torohia atu ki te mana kia koorerohia Te Reo Maaori ki ngaa huinga aa ture, te mana koorerohia te reo Maaori "i ngaa Kooti Ture, te mahi me ngaa Tari Kaawanatanga, ngaa Kaunihera me ngeetehi atu roopuu Kaawanatanga" I tuutohutia e te Taraipiunara o Waitangi 1985. Ko taa maatou tono kia tiini te Pire kia whakauruhia teenei, ka aahukahuka taa Te Reo Maaori he reo motuhake tuturu o Aotearoa.

The Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland Languages Strategy Group is an unaffiliated working group drawing on expertise and interest in the status and use of languages in New Zealand, and in Auckland in particular.

The group's first stated goal is:

"To support Te Reo Māori as the indigenous language of Aotearoa New Zealand"

We envisage a society where by 2040 Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland enjoys the full economic, social and cultural benefits of our many living languages.

We acknowledge and rights and obligations of iwi Māori as the kaitiaki of Te Reo Māori. We acknowledge the diversity of Te Reo Māori in Aotearoa New Zealand. Our concerns about the Māori Language (Te Reo Māori) Bill 2014 follow from the goal and vision for our group outlined above.

1. A reading of the Bill does not make it clear how the Bill will support the acquisition of Te Reo Māori by all Māori and other New Zealanders, commensurate with its status as an official language of the Realm.
2. Devolution of responsibility for the vitality of Te Reo Māori as an official language and in its diverse forms throughout Aotearoa New Zealand requires ongoing financial, legislative, educational and constitutional support from Government. If there is no such lasting commitment and responsibility from the Government, then this Bill represents a backward step in the support, maintenance and advancement of Te Reo Māori for Māori and all New Zealanders.
3. This Bill seems to align with the current government's eagerness to not only settle all current treaty claims under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, but also to close the door pre-emptively on possible future claims. The Government and people of Aotearoa New Zealand have a

lasting responsibility to directly and materially support Te Reo Māori as a taonga of the nation, irrespective of any responsibilities that might be devolved to iwi Māori under new institutional forms or treaty claims.

4. We are concerned that the Bill proposes directing spending on the establishment of Te Mātāwai, which will necessarily require its own internal institutional structure and positions. We question the need for new institutional structures when Te Mangai Paho and Te Taura Whiri are generally seen to have worked very well for Māori. We are also very concerned that the costs of this change could reduce the already limited spending on direct support for the language.
5. We believe any new spending should be allocated directly towards widespread and robust initiatives in schools and communities, to preserve, maintain, and promote Te Reo Māori.
6. As a group, we applaud the Bill's recognition of regional dialect variation in Te Reo Māori. However, we believe that the proposed iwi-based structures that will be responsible for the implementation of the Bill's goals are not fine-grained enough to represent the sociolinguistic diversity in Te Reo Māori. The regional representation areas suggested in this Bill do not reflect the uniqueness of reo ā iwi, reo ā hapū.
7. We note that the Bill as drafted does not extend the current right to speak Te Reo Māori in legal proceedings to a more general right to use the language in "all Courts of law and in any dealings with Government Departments, local authorities and other public bodies", as recommended by the 1985 Waitangi Tribunal. We propose that the bill be amended to include this right, in recognition that Te Reo Māori is an official language of Aotearoa.

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