

17 OCTOBER

Rt Hon Trevor Mallard

Speaker of the House of Representatives  
New Zealand Parliament  
Wellington

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### **Review of the use of Parliament TV Coverage**

Dear Mr Speaker

I write in response to your letter of 1 October seeking public input for the Standing Orders Committee as it reviews the rules applying to the use of Parliament TV coverage of the work of the House.

Recent reforms have seen Parliament relaxing the requirements around this video content. The general trend of liberalisation is one that is consistent with the Internet's capacity to copy and distribute video footage through a wide range of platforms and media.

Asserting control of video content in such an environment is never an easy thing to do, especially given the variability of regulatory treatment of the many platforms and systems through which video content is shared or promoted.

In general our advice would be to take a principled approach that does not distinguish based on the method of content transmission.

The current Standing Orders conditions meet that threshold.

We would urge that any changes that the Committee might consider should avoid creating specific conditions or obligations based on communication type or platform.

We are happy to provide further information if that assists the Committee in its work. Please contact me, Kim Connolly-Stone, Policy Director, in the first instance if we can be of assistance. I can be contacted by email: [kim@internetnz.net.nz](mailto:kim@internetnz.net.nz), or by phone on 04 555 0123.

Yours sincerely

Kim Connolly-Stone  
**Policy Director**

**Helping New Zealanders  
harness the power  
of the Internet.**