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A climate law like the Zero Carbon Act is important because...	<p>The negative impacts of climate change are already evident - drought, coral bleaching, severe cyclones, shrinking glaciers and changing flora/fauna behaviour. Without substantive action these impacts will only get worse over time. We need to take action now to safeguard the environment for the next generation.</p> <p>The Zero Carbon Act is one solution that will provide a pathway for successive governments to ensure NZ reduces our green-house gas emissions to net-zero. We need to have ambitious goals, a framework for a just transition to a fossil free future, and to be accountable for our actions (and inaction).</p> <p>NZ also prides itself on 'punching above our weight on the world stage'. As a Pacific island nation, NZ should be leading on effective climate action - policy and practice - in solidarity with our Pacific neighbours.</p>
Long-term target	I support the most ambitious target of reducing total greenhouse gases to net zero by 2050. I also support taking a science-based approach to ensure our efforts to reduce emissions are as impactful as possible: we should aim for negative levels of long-lived gases, while reducing short-lived gases to sustainable levels. This target should be reached by reducing our own emissions and not by using international carbon credits.
Climate Commission	I support the establishment of an independent Climate Commission that is made up of experts and provides advice, but does not make final decisions.
Adaptation	I support a plan for adaptation being included in the Zero Carbon Act.
Climate justice	A Zero Carbon Act must be just and fair in that it honours Te Tiriti o Waitangi; ensures a just transition for workers and communities; and avoids passing on the costs to future generations.
Further comments	