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A climate law like the Zero Carbon Act is important because...	<p>Growing up on Motu Aotea/Great Barrier Island, I learnt the value of sustainability and stewardship of our natural resources, which has unfortunately taken a back seat during this age of mass production and maximizing profits. Both to protect Aotearoa's environmental integrity and allow us to keep perspective, we should aim to dedicate much of our time and energy to acting as stewards of our environment.</p> <p>Now, living in New York City, with its extreme pollution on land, air, and water, I have further realized just how easy it can be for us to ignore the needs of the environment and live in blissful naivety. We need to combat this on every level, and frankly, I'm my opinion, there is no better way to do this than through direct federal legislative change.</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	I also support the widespread planting of native trees to both act as a carbon sink and to make up for widespread deforestation in Aotearoa.