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A climate law like the Zero Carbon Act is important because...	<p>We have made this mess, and it our generations job to fix it, or at the very least, put NZ on the path to fixing the mess and making sure it happens in full on or before 2050.</p> <p>While it will have costs, the costs of not doing this now will be many times greater and the impacts higher and adjustments even more painful. So we have to act, and act swiftly.</p> <p>We have known about this issue since we signed Kyoto Protocol in 1990. We have been living in denial ever since that we need to do anything much as its costs are now, the change is too difficult and impacts are too far off. Well those impacts are here now and will only keep happening.</p> <p>By being an early mover we not only gain credibility, but we gain a real economic advantage over other countries we export to and compete with. Building our future industries to service our home grown needs, and then export our skills and technologies overseas is what we have done with sheep meat and dairy and other food exports. We need to stop being a passive user of this technology and start inventing our own, and the worlds future.</p> <p>This law will bring this about.</p>
Long-term target	<p>I support the most ambitious target of reducing total greenhouse gases and all short and long equivalents to net zero by 2050. I also support taking a science-based approach to ensure our efforts to reduce emissions are as impactful on the issue as possible: we should aim for negative levels of long-lived gases, while reducing short-lived gases to sustainable levels so that the net effect is zero or less. This target should be reached by reducing our own emissions and impacts and not by using international carbon credits and relying on others to do the heavy lifting.</p> <p>There will be pain along the way, this is accepted, but without any long term plans we will become affected by the lack of targets regardless. So we might as well do something positive instead of just letting the negative issues happen.</p>
Climate Commission	<p>I support the establishment of an independent Climate Commission that is made up of experts and provides advice, but does not make final decisions.</p> <p>However I also expect that the Climate Commissions recommendations are more or less accepted as-is by all politicians as routine - just as the Salary Review Commission that sets politicians income via its recommendations from time to time are also mostly accepted as is.</p> <p>We can't afford to pick and choose which bits of advice we follow. We either take the advice in its entirety or we don't bother. None of this we will pick what we feel comfortable with.</p>
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 simply passing on the costs to future generations.
Further comments	