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Committee Secretariat
Transport and Infrastructure Committee
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

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Building and Construction Sector (Self-certification by Plumbers and Drainlayers) Amendment Bill

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on Building and Construction Sector (Self-certification by Plumbers and Drainlayers) Amendment Bill.

Te Kāhui Inihua o Aotearoa | The Insurance Council of New Zealand (**ICNZ**) represents general insurers. Our members accept the risks of over NZ\$2 trillion of New Zealand's assets and liabilities. ICNZ's members provide insurance products ranging from those usually purchased by individuals (such as home and contents insurance, travel insurance, and motor vehicle insurance) to those purchased by small businesses and larger organisations (such as product and public liability insurance, professional indemnity insurance, cyber insurance, forestry & horticulture insurance, livestock insurance, commercial property insurance, and directors' and officers' insurance).

The Bill sets out a framework for the introduction of an opt-in self-certification scheme for plumbers and drainlayers. However, much of the detail for the new scheme will be defined in standards prescribed by the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Board and in regulations.

ICNZ has previously submitted on the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's consultation on the proposed regulations which will support the regime. A copy of that submission setting out ICNZ's position is available here: <https://www.icnz.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/ICNZ-submission-re-proposed-regulations-to-support-a-self-certification-scheme-for-plumbers-and-drainlayers-15102025.pdf>

Clause 16 of the Bill provides that the Board may prescribe minimum standard that plumbers and drainlayers must meet in order to be endorsed to self-certify work, including minimum standards relating to their ability to meet any potential civil liability. As set out in our previous submission, we agree that this is an important factor to protect homeowners and encourage the Board to allow plumbers and drainlayers sufficient flexibility around how they meet this criterion.

We look forward to continuing to engage with policymakers as the detail of the regime is defined.

Ngā mihi,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Ivory'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Susan Ivory
Regulatory Affairs Manager
Insurance Council of New Zealand