



Peace Movement Aotearoa

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Update: Depleted Uranium (Prohibition) Bill blocked

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The first reading of the Depleted Uranium (Prohibition) Bill took place last night, and its passage was blocked by National and Act MPs so unfortunately there will be no opportunity for the Bill to be considered by Select Committee.

Labour, the Green Party, New Zealand First, the Maori Party, United Future and Mana voted in support of the Bill, but as only two of the three Maori Party votes was used, the vote was 60 for and 60 against - one vote short of the majority required.

If you contacted Peter Dunne asking for United Future's support for the Bill, it would be great if you could contact him again to thank him - email peter.dunne@parliament.govt.nz or you can phone his parliamentary office (04 817 9999 and ask to be put through to Peter Dunne), or one of his two electorate offices: Hutt office, tel 04 560 4773; Johnsonville office, tel 04 478 0076.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to lobby United Future and National MPs, there is no further action that can be taken on the Bill for now. If you would like to be added to the national depleted uranium network for updates on overseas developments and to be notified of any future national action to ban military use of depleted uranium, please email pma@xtra.co.nz with 'Add to DU topic list' in the subject line of your message.

Coverage of the first reading of the Bill

- The International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons has a summary of the debate at <http://www.bandepleteduranium.org/en/national-mps-block-new-zealand-depleted-uranium-bi-2> together with thanks for everyone who supported the Bill.
- The Hansard record of last night's debate on the Bill is not yet available, but you can watch the debate at <http://inthehouse.co.nz/node/13637> - the Hansard link will be added to the Depleted Uranium (Prohibition) Bill web page at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/dubill.htm> as soon as it goes online.
- The NZ Herald coverage of the debate 'Uranium weapons deal rejected after one MP down' is at http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=10815942
- This update is on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/notes/peace-movement-aotearoa/update-depleted-uranium-prohibition-bill-blocked/396359820411393>