

LAWS 101

Statutory Interpretation: Student Protest Act 2005

Student Protest Act

1. This Act is the Student Protest Act 2005
2. Commencement
This Act comes into force on 1st April 2005
3. Purpose
The purpose of this Act is to control protest actions by students on university campuses.
4. Interpretation
In this Act, unless the content otherwise requires –

“campus” means the land and buildings occupied by a university in New Zealand.

“student” includes any person who is enrolled in a course of instruction in a university in New Zealand

“student card” means the identity card issued to a student by the university in which the student is enrolled as a student.

“premises occupied by a student” means a building of any kind, including temporary structures, whether or not a dwelling, visited or occupied by a student.

“security officer” means any person employed by a university to maintain order on the campus of a university.

PART 1 OFFENCES

5. Offence to protest
It is an offence punishable under this Act for any person enrolled as a student to protest anywhere on the campus of any New Zealand university.
6. Offence to possess weapons
It is an offence punishable under this Act for any student to have in his possession any knife, gun, blunt instrument or any other implement while on the campus of any New Zealand university.
7. Offence not to have a permit

It is an offence punishable under this Act for any person to be on the campus of any New Zealand university in the following circumstances:

- a) that person is a student and does not have in his or her possession at all times a student card
- b) that person does not produce his or her student card for inspection when asked to do so by a security officer.

PART 2 POWERS

8 Search and seizure

Security officers are hereby empowered to enter any premises occupied by a student and seize any implements and publications that may be used in the furtherance of student protest.

9 Expulsion

The Minister of Education is hereby empowered to expel any student from any university and except on the ground of lack of jurisdiction, no order, approval proceeding, or decision of the Minister of Education under this Act shall be liable to be challenged, reviewed, quashed or called in question in any Court of Law.

PART 3 PENALTIES

10 Penalties

Any person who commits an offence against this Act is liable to a term of imprisonment not exceeding 3 months or to a fine not exceeding \$15,000.