

## **HASANZ Submission on the Health and Safety at Work (Volunteer Associations) Amendment Bill**

### **Who we are**

HASANZ is the umbrella organisation for workplace health and safety professions in New Zealand. It is an incorporated society that was launched on 10 September 2014. HASANZ represents ten diverse organisations with a shared purpose – to raise professional standards to provide healthier and safer workplaces for New Zealanders. We promote excellence in workplace health and safety practice. Our Full Member organisations include:

- Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of New Zealand (HFESNZ)
- New Zealand Institute of Safety Management (NZISM)
- NZ Occupational Health Nurses Association (NZOHNA)
- NZ Occupational Hygiene Society (NZOHS)
- New Zealand Safety Council (NZSC)
- Physiotherapy New Zealand (Occupational Health Group) (PNZ)
- Occupational Therapy New Zealand - Whakaora Ngangahau Aotearoa (OTNZ-WNA).

### **Submission**

This Bill proposes to amend the Health and Safety at Work Act (HSWA) 2015 to allow volunteer associations that employ a person or persons for not greater than 100 hours per week to be excluded from the definition of a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU).

HASANZ is **against** the proposed amendment for two reasons:

1. The Bill would create an unnecessary loophole in the HSWA where volunteer associations, and those who work for them, would be exempt from basic provisions of the Act. Note that voluntary organisations are already exempt from many HSWA provisions.
2. All organisations that employ people have a primary duty of care to ensure that, as far as reasonably practicable, they ensure the health and safety of their workers and others. This should apply whatever the size of the organisation.

For any questions in relation to this submission, please contact [info@hasanz.org.nz](mailto:info@hasanz.org.nz).

Yours sincerely,



Philip Aldridge  
**HASANZ Executive Director**