

Tax Working Group Public Submissions Information Release

Release Document

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Key to sections of the Official Information Act 1982 under which information has been withheld.

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- [1] 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people;
- [2] 9(2)(k) - to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.

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In preparing this Information Release, the Treasury has considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

TAX REFORM SUBMISSION

Date: April 14, 2018.

1. GST: create exemptions

- a. Food except prepared food from Delis or restaurants. Lower income families struggle to buy food which is already expensive – a 15% surcharge is unacceptable, even cruel.
- b. Rates – GST on rates is effectively a tax on a tax!
- c. Electricity, the unavoidable commodity – householders are faced with high electricity rates and then must pay the 15% on top. We must not tax living essentials such as food and electricity.

2. INCOME TAX

- a. No tax on minimum wage; income tax must not be charge until the hourly rate rises above the liveable wage. Most our minimum wage earners need the money in each pay packet and cannot afford to wait until the end of the year to obtain a refund, (often not capable of applying)
- b. Increase the tax rate for higher income earners to a top bracket of 50%

3. NEW TAXES

- a. Tax the value of all property based on imputed income value with no deductions possible. For example a \$500,000 house could be rented for \$400 per week and therefore the imputed income value = \$20,800.
- b. Bank transaction tax
- c. Tax the beneficiaries for all trusts with no deductions – use the tax system to discourage tax avoidance

- d. Provide an amnesty period before taxing the black market economy. One way to flush out such tax avoidance is to require homeowners to provide an annual declaration regarding improvements/changes to their property including listing contractors used.