Dear Sir/ Madam

I strongly oppose the proposal for the following reasons:

1. The tax in New Zealand for income makers is already very high. People are already struggling with their daily life. The grocery, the gas, rent and mortgage rate is getting much more expensive nowadays. The government looks like just wanting to shift the financial burden to us instead of picking it on shoulder for the people in need.

2. There is already income protection and redundancy cover in the market. People who think they need such cover they can choose to buy it. Not everyone thinks they would need it. Our rights to choose to have the cover or not would be deprived.

3. It is not fair to have an equal rate of levy for all people, regardless of age and kind of work. In this case, younger worforce will only subsidise the elder people in the job market as it would be more likely for an older person to make a disability claim than a younger one. Besides, some jobs are very secure, like teacher and nurse, why do they need a redundancy cover? It would only mean some people would only have to pay but have little or no chance to make a redundancy claim. Furthermore, think about people who are already sick. Once the scheme starts, they can immediately make a claim. It would be totally unfair to healthy levy payers.

4. The government should let people to choose to buy the income and redundancy protection through insurance companies. It would be much more fair in terms of willingness to buy the cover or not, the age, health condition and also type of job. I believe the risk of disbaility is different for an admin person and a truck driver, right? It would be different between a 30yo man and 63yo man?! Insurance companies already have very well policy design, underwriting process and claims team. There is absolutely no point the government force us to pay the levy.
5. This proposed scheme would only make the employers to make redundancy easily without giving the best try to improve their business model or structure because they would know their employees would get paid by the scheme. The decision to layoff employees would be much easier.

Please respect our choice to have the cover or not. I do not want to have the scheme and being forced to pay that unfair levy.

Regards Pui Shan Ng