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Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Act 1982

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Contents

	Page
Title	8
1 Short Title and commencement	9
2 Interpretation	9
2A Transitional, savings, and related provisions	12
Part 1	
Registrar and officers	
3 Registrar of Friendly Societies and Credit Unions	13
4 Deputy Registrar of Friendly Societies and Credit Unions	13
5 Registry Office and registers	13
6 Appointment of officers and employees	15
7 Functions of Registrar	15
8 Powers of inspection of records by Registrar	16
9 Registrar may publish statements, etc	17
10 Annual report <i>[Repealed]</i>	17

Note

The Parliamentary Counsel Office has made editorial and format changes to this version using the powers under subpart 2 of Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019.

Note 4 at the end of this version provides a list of the amendments included in it.

This Act is administered by the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment.

Part 2
Friendly and other societies

Registration

11	Societies which may be registered	17
12	Applications for registration of societies	19
13	Certain societies not disentitled to registration because of division of funds	20
14	Branches to be registered concurrently with society	20
15	Actuary to certify rates of contributions before registration	21
16	Revising Barrister may examine rules <i>[Repealed]</i>	21
17	Acknowledgment of registration	21
18	Refusal to register	22
19	Establishment of new branches	22
20	Secession or expulsion of branches	23
21	Seceded or expelled branch may apply for registration	23

Rules

22	Acknowledgment of registration deemed to be acknowledgment of rules	23
23	Amendment of rules	23
24	Actuary may examine amendments	24
25	Registration of amendment of rules	25
26	Amendment of rules by Registrar	25
27	Society or branch to supply copy of rules	25

Trustees and officers

28	Appointment of trustees	26
29	Property to vest in trustees	27
30	Registrar may authorise transfer of property to existing trustees	27
31	Delegation of duties by trustee	28
32	Notice to Registrar-General of Land of names of trustees	29
33	Dealing with land under Land Transfer Act	29
34	Officers required to give security	30
35	Duty of officers to account	31
36	Priority on death, bankruptcy, etc, of officer	31

Membership and rights of members

37	Members generally to have 1 vote only	32
38	Members' subscriptions not generally recoverable	32
39	Membership of minors	32
40	Register of members	32
41	Inspection of books and accounts of society <i>[Repealed]</i>	33

Benefits

42	Maximum gross sum for contracts of insurance	33
43	Member may nominate person to receive money on death	34

44	Payment on death of nominator	35
45	Evidence of death	35
46	Restriction on payments on account of death of minors	36
47	Power to make loans against surrender value of policies	36
48	Money payable by friendly societies to their members protected	37
	<i>Investment, funds, and property</i>	
49	Duties of trustees in relation to investments	37
50	Trustees of society may make investments for branch, etc	38
51	Borrowing powers, overdrafts	39
52	Investment powers	39
53	Society providing medical or surgical requisites may issue debentures and invest in certain shares	39
54	Subscriptions to hospitals or other institutions	40
55	Donations for charitable or other purposes	40
56	Participation in government of other society or branch or contribution to its funds	40
57	Powers of society or branch with respect to land	40
58	Public Trust or trustee company may hold securities and invest funds for societies	41
	<i>Friendly society securities</i>	
58A	Registered friendly society that is licensed insurer may offer friendly society securities	42
58B	Meaning of distribution	43
58C	Distribution must be authorised	43
58D	Distribution must not be authorised unless registered friendly society solvent	43
58E	Solvency test	43
	<i>Accounting records and financial reporting</i>	
59	Financial year	44
60	Accounting records must be kept	44
61	Non-application of section 63 if alternative financial reporting duties under financial markets legislation	45
62	Meaning of specified not-for-profit entity	45
63	Financial statements must be prepared	45
64	Registered society or branch may opt out	46
64A	Obligation to appoint auditors	46
64B	Registrar may appoint auditor	47
64C	Offences relating to accounting records and financial reporting	47
64D	Audit must be carried out in accordance with auditing and assurance standards	47
64E	Auditor must report to society or branch	47
65	Reappointment and removal of auditors	48

66	Notice of resolution relating to appointment and removal of auditors	48
67	Proceedings subsequent to notice of intention to move resolution	49
68	Auditors' report <i>[Repealed]</i>	50
69	Auditors' rights to attend and be heard at meetings	51
	<i>Annual returns and valuations</i>	
70	Annual return	51
71	Annual return by society under dissolution, etc	52
72	Annual return to be supplied to members	52
73	Financial statements must be available	52
74	Actuarial valuation and report	52
75	Obligation on branches to supply particulars for annual return or actuarial valuation and report	53
76	Appropriation and transfer of surplus funds	53
77	Registrar may advise society on financial position	54
	<i>Disputes</i>	
78	Settlement of disputes generally	54
79	Reference of dispute to Registrar	56
80	Statement of case, etc, in settlement of dispute	56
81	Reference of disputes to court otherwise than under rules	56
	<i>Special resolutions</i>	
82	Special resolutions	57
	<i>Amalgamations, transfers of engagements, and conversions</i>	
83	Amalgamation of societies and transfer of engagements	58
84	Society may apply to be registered as company	59
85	Objections to amalgamations and transfers of engagements	60
86	Registrar may approve amalgamations, transfers, and conversions	61
87	Branches amalgamating, transferring engagements, or converting to company	61
88	Conversion of society into branch	62
	<i>Inspection, winding up, and suspension of business</i>	
89	Registrar may appoint inspectors or call special meeting	63
90	Registrar may apply to put society into liquidation	64
90A	COVID-19 business debt hibernation may apply <i>[Repealed]</i>	64
90A	Transitional provisions applying to liquidation of societies <i>[Repealed]</i>	64
91	Registrar may forbid new business or the accepting of new members of society	64
	<i>Cancellation and suspension of registration, and dissolution</i>	
92	Registrar may cancel or suspend registration	65
93	Dissolution of societies and branches	67

94	Instrument of dissolution	68
95	Dissolution by award	69
96	Notice to Registrar of proceedings to oppose dissolution	70
97	Property to be transferred before final dissolution	70

Part 3
Credit unions

Incorporation

98	Credit unions to be incorporated under this Part	71
99	Exemptions from incorporation under this Part	72
100	Persons eligible to incorporate credit union	73
100A	Application for incorporation of credit union	73
100B	Incorporation of credit union	73
101	Objects of credit union	74
102	Qualifications for admission to membership of credit union	75
103	Name of credit union	76
104	Registration and rules of credit union <i>[Repealed]</i>	77
105	Effect of rules on members of credit union	77
106	Membership of credit union, voting rights	78
106A	Members not liable for obligations of credit union	79
106B	Amendment of credit union's rules	79
106C	Credit union to supply copy of rules	80

Shares and securities

107	Credit union to have shares	80
107A	Credit union may offer credit union securities	81

Capacity, powers, and validity of actions

107B	Capacity and powers of credit union	81
107C	Validity of actions	82
107D	Dealings between credit union and other persons	82
107E	No constructive notice	83
107F	High Court may restrain credit union from acting contrary to Act or credit union's rules	84
108	General prohibition on taking deposits <i>[Repealed]</i>	84
109	Power of credit union to borrow money <i>[Repealed]</i>	84
109A	Power of credit union to appoint supervisor for debt securities <i>[Repealed]</i>	84
110	Credit union may make loans to members and enterprises related to members, etc	84
111	Minister may fix maximum amount of loans to members <i>[Repealed]</i>	86
112	Credit union property to vest in trustees <i>[Repealed]</i>	86
113	Credit union may hold land <i>[Repealed]</i>	86
114	Officers of credit union to give security <i>[Repealed]</i>	86

115	Duty of officers of credit union to account <i>[Repealed]</i>	86
116	Priority on death, bankruptcy, etc, of officer <i>[Repealed]</i>	86
117	Investment of surplus funds <i>[Repealed]</i>	86
	<i>Distribution to members</i>	
117A	Meaning of distribution	87
117B	Distribution must be authorised	87
117C	Distribution must not be authorised unless credit union solvent	87
117D	Solvency test	87
	<i>Disputes</i>	
118	Disputes in relation to credit unions	88
	<i>Accounting records and financial reporting</i>	
119	Credit union to maintain general reserves <i>[Repealed]</i>	88
120	Financial year of credit union	88
121	Accounting records must be kept	89
122	Financial reporting	89
123	Obligation to appoint auditors	89
124	General matters relating to auditors	89
125	General matters relating to auditors, the auditors' report, and auditors' rights of access <i>[Repealed]</i>	90
126	Registrar may advise credit union on financial position	90
	<i>Annual returns</i>	
127	Annual return	90
128	Annual return by credit union under dissolution	91
129	Annual return to be supplied to members	91
	<i>Miscellaneous provisions</i>	
130	Register of members of credit union	91
131	Inspection of books and accounts of credit union <i>[Repealed]</i>	92
132	Financial statements must be available	92
133	Credit union to be insured against fraud or other dishonesty	92
133A	Method of contracting	93
133B	Attorneys	94
134	Guarantee funds <i>[Repealed]</i>	95
	<i>Amalgamations and transfers of engagements</i>	
135	Amalgamation of credit unions and transfer of engagements of 1 credit union to another credit union	95
135A	Members of credit union to be given information about proposed amalgamation or transfer of engagements	95
135B	Secured creditors and public notice	96
135C	Registration of special resolutions for amalgamation or transfer of engagements	96
135D	Other registers	98

135E	Powers of court in relation to proposed amalgamation or transfer of engagements	99
136	Registrar may approve amalgamations or transfers of engagements of credit unions	100
	<i>Inspection, liquidation, suspension of business, removal from register, and restoration to register</i>	
137	Registrar may appoint inspectors or call special meeting	100
137A	Members may resolve to put credit union into liquidation	101
138	High Court may put credit union into liquidation	101
138A	COVID-19 business debt hibernation may apply <i>[Repealed]</i>	102
138A	Transitional provisions applying to liquidation of credit unions <i>[Repealed]</i>	102
139	Registrar may suspend business of credit union	102
140	Removal from register	104
140A	Notice of intention to remove from register	104
140B	Objection to removal from register	105
140C	Objections under section 140B(1)(a), (b), or (c)	105
140D	Objections under section 140B(1)(d) or (e)	106
140E	Registrar must send information to person who requests removal	106
140F	High Court may order that credit union not be removed	106
140G	Liability of officers, members, and others to continue	107
140H	Restoration of credit union to register	107
140I	Registrar may restore credit union to register	107
140J	Notice of proposed restoration	107
140K	High Court may order restoration of credit union	108
140L	Registrar or High Court may require provisions of this Act to be complied with	108
140M	Other High Court orders	108
141	Liability of members on winding up	109
	<i>Nomination of shares</i>	
142	Nomination of shares in credit union	109
	<i>Associations of credit unions</i>	
143	Associations of credit unions may be incorporated under this Part	110
144	Membership of association	111
145	Application for incorporation of association	111
146	Incorporation of association	111

Part 4

Miscellaneous provisions

147	Changes of name	112
147A	Meetings may be held using audio, audio and visual, or electronic communication	113
147B	Postal, electronic, and proxy voting	113

148	Exemptions from Customs duty	113
149	Recovery of costs, etc, awarded by Registrar	113
150	Certain persons prohibited from managing societies or credit unions	114
151	Appeals	114
152	Regulations	115
152A	Validation of fees used to recover costs of other Companies Office registers, etc	116
153	Offences and penalties	118
154	Recovery of fines, etc, imposed on society or branch	119
155	Status of trustees and officers for purposes of Crimes Act 1961	119
156	Liability of officers and of members of committee on commission of offence	120
157	Institution of legal proceedings by or against society or branch	120
158	Proof of documents	121
159	Fines imposed under rules recoverable as a debt	121
160	Savings and transitional provisions	121
161	Amendments, repeals, and revocations	123
	Schedule 1AA	124
	Transitional, savings, and related provisions	
	Schedule 1	132
	Purposes for which friendly societies may be established	
	Schedule 2	134
	Matters to be provided for by the rules of societies registered under Part 2	
	Schedule 3	136
	Matters to be provided for by the rules of or for branches registered under Part 2	
	Schedule 4	138
	Matters to be provided for in rules of credit unions	
	Schedule 5	140
	Persons exempt from incorporation as a credit union	
	Schedule 6	141
	Enactments amended	
	Schedule 7	142
	Enactments repealed	

An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to friendly and certain other societies, to make better provision for the formation and administration of credit unions, and to provide for matters related thereto

1 Short Title and commencement

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Act 1982.
- (2) This Act shall come into force on 1 April 1983.

2 Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

accounting records includes all books, accounts, rolls, files, vouchers, receipts, cheques, records, registers, minutes, papers, documents, photographic plates, microfilms, photostatic negatives, prints, tapes (including videotapes), discs, computer reels, perforated rolls, and any other type of record whatsoever; and also includes all papers and other records relating to accounting operations and practice

actuary means a person qualified as a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries of London or as a Fellow of the Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland or as a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries of Australia or has such other qualification as an actuary as may, subject to such conditions as the Registrar thinks fit, be approved in any particular case by the Registrar for the purposes of this Act

actuarial report means the report from time to time supplied to the Registrar following an actuarial valuation made pursuant to section 74(1)

adult means a person who is at least 20 years of age

amendment of rule includes a new rule, and a resolution rescinding a rule

annual return means the return sent to the Registrar—

- (a) in the case of societies registered under Part 2, under section 70:
- (b) in the case of credit unions, under section 127

applicable auditing and assurance standard has the same meaning as in section 5 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013

applicable financial reporting standard has the same meaning as in section 5 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013

association means an association of credit unions incorporated under Part 3 in accordance with section 146

bank means a person carrying on in New Zealand the business of banking; and includes the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, the Post Office Bank Limited, any private savings bank company's successor under the Private Savings Banks (Transfer of Undertakings) Act 1992, and any trustee bank's successor company constituted under the Companies Act 1993

benevolent society means a society of the kind specified in section 11(1)(b)

branch means any number of the members of a society, under the control of a central body, having a separate fund administered by themselves or by a committee or officers appointed by themselves, and bound to contribute to a fund

under the control of a central body; and includes a branch of a branch of a society

central body means a body of persons which has the control of the fund or funds to which a branch of a society is bound to contribute, and which also has responsibilities under this Act in relation to that branch

committee and **committee of management** mean the directing body of a society or branch or a credit union, by whatever name that body is known

credit union—

- (a) means a credit union incorporated under Part 3 in accordance with section 100B; and
- (b) subject to section 146(8) and with any necessary modifications, includes an association of credit unions incorporated under Part 3 in accordance with section 146

document includes all instruments by way of security and title, membership and other registers, and all documents and records; but does not include accounting records

financial product has the meaning given in section 7(1) of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013

financial statements has the same meaning as in section 6 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013

financial year means the financial year of every registered society or branch or credit union, being a period of 12 months ending with 1 December or such other day as may be provided in the rules of the society, branch, or credit union

friendly society means a society of the kind specified in section 11(1)(a)

generally accepted accounting practice has the same meaning as in section 8 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013

land includes any interest in land

licensed insurer has the same meaning as in section 6(1) of the Insurance (Prudential Supervision) Act 2010

meeting includes (where the rules of a society or branch so allow) a meeting of delegates appointed by members

Minister means the Minister of the Crown having for the time being charge of the administration of this Act

non-GAAP standard has the same meaning as in section 5 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013

officer,—

- (a) in relation to a registered society or branch, includes any trustee, treasurer, secretary, or member of the committee of management of the soci-

ety or branch, and any person appointed by the society or branch to sue and be sued on its behalf; and

- (b) in relation to a credit union, means a person who—
- (i) is a member of the credit union’s committee of management; or
 - (ii) holds any other office provided for in the credit union’s rules

persons claiming through a member includes the nominee of the member where nomination is allowed

property means all property, whether real or personal (including accounting records and all documents)

qualified auditor has the same meaning as in section 35 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013

registered means registered in a register maintained by the Registrar for the purposes of this Act

registered society or branch means a society or branch registered or deemed to be registered under Part 2

Registrar means the Registrar of Friendly Societies and Credit Unions, and, where a Deputy Registrar of Friendly Societies and Credit Unions is lawfully acting, includes that Deputy Registrar

share, in relation to a credit union, means a share in the capital of that credit union

specially authorised society means a society of a kind authorised by the Minister pursuant to section 11(1)(d); but does not include a credit union

special resolution, where required under this Act, means a resolution passed in the manner prescribed by section 82

trustee company means a trustee company within the meaning of the Trustee Companies Act 1967

working men’s club means a society of the kind specified in section 11(1)(c).

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 2, 24; 1915 No 64 s 2; 1970 No 63 s 2(1)

Section 2 **applicable auditing and assurance standard**: inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 64(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 2 **applicable financial reporting standard**: inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 64(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 2 **association**: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 4(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 2 **bank**: amended, on 1 July 1997, pursuant to section 2(1) of the Companies Act Repeal Act 1993 (1993 No 126).

Section 2 **bank**: amended, on 30 June 1995, pursuant to section 2(2) of the Banking Act Repeal Act 1995 (1995 No 32).

Section 2 **bank**: amended, on 10 September 1993, pursuant to section 23(1) of the Private Savings Banks (Transfer of Undertakings) Act 1992 (1992 No 21).

Section 2 **bank**: amended, on 8 April 1992, pursuant to section 20 of the Private Savings Banks (Transfer of Undertakings) Act 1992 (1992 No 21).

Section 2 **bank**: amended, on 1 April 1987, by section 11(1) of the State-Owned Enterprises Amendment Act 1987 (1987 No 117).

Section 2 **committee** and **committee of management**: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 4(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 2 **credit union**: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 4(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 2 **exempt society** or **exempt branch** or **exempt credit union**: repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 64(2) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 2 **financial product**: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 4(4) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 2 **financial statements**: inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 64(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 2 **generally accepted accounting practice**: inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 64(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 2 **Government Actuary**: repealed, on 1 May 2011, by section 82 of the Financial Markets Authority Act 2011 (2011 No 5).

Section 2 **licensed auditor**: repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 64(3) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 2 **licensed insurer**: inserted, on 1 February 2011, by section 241(2) of the Insurance (Prudential Supervision) Act 2010 (2010 No 111).

Section 2 **non-GAAP standard**: inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 64(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 2 **officer**: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 4(5) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 2 **qualified auditor**: inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 64(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 2 **registered**: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 4(6) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 2 **registered audit firm**: repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 64(3) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 2 **Revising Barrister**: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 4(7) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

2A Transitional, savings, and related provisions

The transitional, savings, and related provisions set out in Schedule 1AA have effect according to their terms.

Section 2A: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 5 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Part 1

Registrar and officers

3 Registrar of Friendly Societies and Credit Unions

(1) There shall from time to time be appointed, pursuant to the Public Service Act 2020, a Registrar of Friendly Societies and Credit Unions.

(2) *[Repealed]*

(3) The Registrar shall have a seal of office of which judicial notice shall be taken.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 3(1), 5(2)

Section 3(1): amended, on 7 August 2020, by section 135 of the Public Service Act 2020 (2020 No 40).

Section 3(2): repealed, on 1 May 2011, by section 82 of the Financial Markets Authority Act 2011 (2011 No 5).

4 Deputy Registrar of Friendly Societies and Credit Unions

(1) There may from time to time be appointed, pursuant to the Public Service Act 2020, 1 or more Deputy Registrars of Friendly Societies and Credit Unions.

(2) *[Repealed]*

(3) Subject to the control of the Registrar, a Deputy Registrar shall have and may exercise all the functions, duties, and powers of the Registrar.

(4) On the occurrence from any cause of a vacancy in the office of Registrar (whether by reason of death, resignation, or otherwise), and in the case of absence from duty of the Registrar (from whatever cause arising), and so long as any such vacancy or absence continues, a Deputy Registrar shall have and may exercise all the functions, duties, and powers of the Registrar.

(5) The fact that a Deputy Registrar is exercising any function, duty, or power of the Registrar shall be conclusive evidence of his authority to do so.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 3(2)–(4), 5(2)

Section 4(1): amended, on 7 August 2020, by section 135 of the Public Service Act 2020 (2020 No 40).

Section 4(2): repealed, on 1 May 2011, by section 82 of the Financial Markets Authority Act 2011 (2011 No 5).

5 Registry Office and registers

(1) The Registrar shall have a Registry Office, and all documents, or information required by or pursuant to this Act to be sent to the Registrar shall be sent to the Registry Office.

(2) All documents or information required by or pursuant to this Act to be sent to the Registrar shall be deposited with the rules of the society, branch, or credit union to which the documents respectively relate and, together with such observations thereon as he thinks fit, shall be registered or recorded by the Registrar.

- (2A) Any register may—
- (a) be an electronic register; or
 - (b) be kept in any other manner that the Registrar thinks fit.
- (2B) The Registrar may amend any register if—
- (a) a society, branch, or credit union informs the Registrar of information that is different from the information entered on the register; or
 - (b) the Registrar is satisfied at any time that the register contains a typographical error or a mistake, or omits information supplied to the Registrar.
- (3) The following documents or information contained in any register shall be open to inspection by the public during ordinary office hours on payment of the prescribed fee (if any):
- (a) in respect of any registered society or branch, the rules and any amendments, notices of change of registered office and of the appointment of new trustees, annual returns, actuarial reports (except those requested by the Registrar pursuant to section 74(4)), notices of change of name and of special resolutions, and any order or award of the Registrar relating to the dissolution or suspension of any business, or the cancellation or suspension of registration of the society or branch:
 - (b) in respect of any credit union,—
 - (i) the rules and any amendments, notices of change of registered office and of the appointment of officers, annual returns, and notices of change of name and of special resolutions:
 - (ii) details of any action taken by the Registrar under section 139 in relation to the credit union:
 - (iii) if the credit union is removed from the register under section 140, the notice of the removal issued by the Registrar:
 - (iv) if the credit union is restored to the register under section 140H, the notice of the restoration issued by the Registrar.
- (4) On payment of the prescribed fee (if any), there shall be sent to any person requesting it in writing a copy of any specified document, except the rules or any amendments, which that person would otherwise be able to inspect pursuant to subsection (3).
- (5) The Governor-General may from time to time, by Order in Council, extend or restrict the range of accounting records and documents that are open to inspection by the public.
- (6) An order under this section is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 7

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under this section

Publication	PCO must publish it on the legislation website and notify it in the <i>Gazette</i>	LA19 s 69(1)(c)
Presentation	The Minister must present it to the House of Representatives	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Section 5(2A): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 6(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 5(2B): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 6(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 5(3)(b): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 6(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 5(6): inserted, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

6 Appointment of officers and employees

There shall from time to time be appointed under the Public Service Act 2020 such officers and employees as may be necessary for the effective and efficient carrying out of the functions and duties of the Registrar.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 6

Section 6: amended, on 7 August 2020, by section 135 of the Public Service Act 2020 (2020 No 40).

7 Functions of Registrar

- (1) Subject to the general direction and control of the Minister, the functions of the Registrar shall be to administer this Act and to carry out such duties as may be imposed upon him by this or any other enactment.
- (2) *[Repealed]*
- (3) The Registrar has such powers as may be necessary to adequately carry out his or her functions and duties, including—
 - (a) the power to request and be supplied with information or reports (including actuarial reports) from registered societies, branches (whether registered or not), or credit unions, whether regularly or otherwise, and whether in respect of any class or classes of society, branch, or credit union, or in respect of any society, branch, or credit union in particular; and
 - (b) the power to inspect any accounting records or other documents pursuant to section 8.

Section 7 heading: amended, on 1 May 2011, by section 82 of the Financial Markets Authority Act 2011 (2011 No 5).

Section 7(2): repealed, on 1 May 2011, by section 82 of the Financial Markets Authority Act 2011 (2011 No 5).

Section 7(3): amended, on 1 May 2011, by section 82 of the Financial Markets Authority Act 2011 (2011 No 5).

8 Powers of inspection of records by Registrar

- (1) The Registrar or any person authorised by him may, for the purpose of ascertaining whether a registered society, branch (whether registered or not), or credit union, or any officer or trustee of any such registered society, branch, or credit union is complying or has complied with this Act or of ascertaining whether the Registrar should exercise any of his functions, duties, or powers under this Act, or of detecting offences against this Act—
 - (a) require a registered society, branch (whether registered or not), or credit union, or any officer or trustee of any such registered society, branch, or credit union to produce for inspection any accounting records or documents that are kept by the registered society, branch, or credit union; and
 - (b) in any case where the Registrar or the person authorised by him considers that the aforesaid purpose cannot be achieved by inspecting only the accounting records or documents specified in paragraph (a), require any person (including a bank or receiver or assignee) to produce for inspection any accounting records or documents that contain information relating to any money or other property that is managed, supervised, controlled or held in trust by or for the registered society, branch, or credit union; and
 - (c) inspect and make records of any such accounting records or documents; and
 - (d) for the purpose of making records thereof, take possession of and remove from the premises where they are kept, for such period of time as is reasonable in the circumstances, any such accounting records or documents.
- (2) *[Repealed]*
- (3) *[Repealed]*
- (4) If any registered society, branch (whether registered or not), or credit union refuses or fails to produce for inspection to the Registrar, or to any person authorised by the Registrar for the purposes of subsection (1), any accounting record or document that the Registrar or authorised person has under that subsection required it to produce, the registered society, branch, or credit union commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.
- (5) If any officer or trustee of a registered society, branch (whether registered or not), or credit union, or any other person refuses or fails to produce for inspection to the Registrar, or to any person authorised by the Registrar for the purposes of subsection (1), any accounting record or document within the power or control of that officer or trustee or other person that the Registrar or authorised person has under that subsection required him to produce, that officer or trustee or other person commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

- (6) Any person who wilfully obstructs or hinders the Registrar, or any person authorised by the Registrar for the purposes of subsection (1), while the Registrar or authorised person is making an inspection or a record or taking possession of or removing any accounting record or document pursuant to that subsection commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 89 (UK)

Section 8(1): amended, on 1 April 1987, by section 25(1) of the Official Information Amendment Act 1987 (1987 No 8).

Section 8(2): repealed, on 1 April 1987, by section 25(1) of the Official Information Amendment Act 1987 (1987 No 8).

Section 8(3): repealed, on 1 April 1987, by section 25(1) of the Official Information Amendment Act 1987 (1987 No 8).

Section 8(4): amended, on 1 July 2013, by section 413 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81).

Section 8(5): amended, on 1 July 2013, by section 413 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81).

Section 8(6): amended, on 1 July 2013, by section 413 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81).

9 Registrar may publish statements, etc

The Registrar may from time to time prepare, cause to be circulated, or publish, for the use of registered societies or branches, or credit unions,—

- (a) model forms and model rules:
- (b) information on the subject of the statistics of life and sickness and its application to the business of friendly societies:
- (c) such particulars of annual returns and valuations, and reports, and such other information as the Registrar thinks fit.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 8

Section 9(a): amended, on 1 April 2014, by section 65 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

10 Annual report

[Repealed]

Section 10: repealed, on 26 March 2015, by section 4 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2015 (2015 No 13).

Part 2 Friendly and other societies

Registration

11 Societies which may be registered

- (1) Subject to this Act, the following societies may be registered under this Part—

- (a) societies (in this Act called friendly societies) established to provide by voluntary subscriptions of the members, with or without the aid of donations, for any of the purposes specified in Schedule 1:
 - (b) societies (in this Act called benevolent societies) established for any benevolent or charitable purpose:
 - (c) societies (in this Act called working men's clubs) established for the purposes of social intercourse, mutual helpfulness, and recreation:
 - (d) societies (in this Act called specially authorised societies) established for any purpose which the Minister may, by notice, authorise as a purpose to which the provisions of this Act, or such of them as are specified in the notice, ought to be extended.
- (2) No society or branch shall first be registered under this Part unless it consists of at least 7 adults.
- (3) No society or branch shall be registered under this Act which contracts with any person for the assurance of a gross sum or of an annuity in excess of the limits specified in section 42.
- (3A) Subsection (3) does not apply to a licensed insurer.
- (4) In the case of specially authorised societies and their registered branches (if any) established pursuant to subsection (1)(d)—
- (a) the rules shall bind the society or registered branch and its members, and all persons claiming through them respectively, to the same extent as if each member had subscribed his name and (where appropriate) affixed his seal, and there were in such rules a covenant on the part of himself, his executors and administrators, to conform to such rules subject to the provisions of this Act:
 - (b) all money payable by a member to the society or to a registered branch shall be deemed to be a debt due from such member to the society or registered branch, and shall be recoverable as such.
- (5) A notice under subsection (1)(d) is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 11, 18(2); 1915 No 64 s 6; 1975 No 21 s 2

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under this section		
Publication	The maker must publish it in the <i>Gazette</i>	LA19 ss 73, 74(1)(a), Sch 1 cl 14
	The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade considers that the secondary legislation may have international transparency obligations under the CPTPP. As a result the maker may also have to comply with s 75 of the Legislation Act 2019	LA19 ss 74(2), 75
Presentation	It is not required to be presented to the House of Representatives because a transitional exemption applies under Schedule 1 of the Legislation Act 2019	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Section 11(1)(d): amended, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

Section 11(3A): inserted, on 1 February 2011, by section 241(2) of the Insurance (Prudential Supervision) Act 2010 (2010 No 111).

Section 11(5): inserted, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

12 Applications for registration of societies

- (1) An application to register a society under this Part shall be signed by 7 adult members and the secretary of the society, and shall be sent to the Registrar.
- (2) Together with an application under subsection (1), there shall be sent a copy of the rules of the society signed by those persons who signed that application and a list of the names, addresses, and designations of the committee of management, the secretary, treasurer, and other principal officers, the trustees, and those persons who are authorised to sue and be sued on behalf of the society.
- (3) The rules of the society so sent shall either—
 - (a) contain provisions in respect of the matters mentioned in Schedule 2; or
 - (b) accord with any model rules applicable to the society as produced by the Registrar pursuant to section 9.
- (4) If the list so sent is signed by the secretary and every other person named, it shall on the registration of the society be evidence that the persons so named have been duly appointed to their office.
- (5) A society shall not be registered under a name identical with that under which any other existing society is registered, or so nearly resembling that name as to be likely, or in any name likely, in the opinion of the Registrar, to deceive the members or the public as to its nature or its identity or in any name which in his opinion is otherwise undesirable.
- (6) If—
 - (a) through inadvertence or otherwise, a society at its first registration, or on its registration by a new name, is registered by a name which is in contravention of subsection (5), or of any enactment (other than this Act), relating to restrictions on the use of any name; or

- (b) a society is for the time being registered by a name which, in the opinion of the Registrar, is undesirable,—

the society shall, within a period of 4 weeks from the date of its being required by the Registrar to do so, or such longer period as he may allow, change its name to a name that is not in contravention as aforesaid and is not, in the opinion of the Registrar, undesirable.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 12, 13

Section 12(2): amended, on 20 September 2007, by section 4 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2007 (2007 No 59).

13 Certain societies not disentitled to registration because of division of funds

A society which is neither a benevolent society nor a working men's club shall not be disentitled to registration by reason of any rule for, or practice of, dividing any part of its funds, if the rules of the society contain distinct provision for meeting all claims upon the society existing at the time of the division before any such division takes place.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 14

14 Branches to be registered concurrently with society

- (1) Where a society has existing branches, the application for registration of the society shall be accompanied by—
- (a) a list of all the branches and notice of the place where the registered office of each branch, to which all communications and notices may be addressed, is to be situated:
 - (b) a list of the names, addresses, and designations of the committee of management of each branch, the secretary, treasurer, and other principal officers, and the trustees of each branch:
 - (c) if any branch is to have persons authorised to sue and be sued on its behalf (other than the persons authorised to sue and be sued on behalf of the society), a list of the names of all such persons, distinguishing the branches for which they are authorised to sue and be sued:
 - (d) a copy of all branch rules.
- (2) The rules in respect of a branch shall either—
- (a) contain provisions in respect of the matters mentioned in Schedule 3; or
 - (b) accord with any model rules applicable to the branch as produced by the Registrar pursuant to section 9.
- (3) If a branch does not have separate rules, provision in respect of the matters mentioned in Schedule 3 shall be made (with respect to the branch) in the rules of the society or branch of which that branch forms part.
- (4) No branch shall be registered unless its objects are identical with or comprised in the objects of the society of which it forms part.

- (5) No society shall be registered until every branch of the society in being when the society makes application for registration is capable of being registered at the same time, and when the Registrar issues to the society an acknowledgment of registration under section 17, he shall at the same time issue to each branch of that society a separate acknowledgment of registration.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 18, 20, 21

Section 14(1)(d): amended, on 20 September 2007, by section 5 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2007 (2007 No 59).

15 Actuary to certify rates of contributions before registration

- (1) No society, whether a friendly society or otherwise, or branch of that society shall be registered under this Part until the rates of contributions for any benefits to be provided by the society or branch (being in accordance with the purposes specified in Schedule 1 and as set out in the rules submitted with the application for registration), are certified by an actuary as being appropriate for the business to which they relate.
- (2) The Registrar may, in writing, exempt wholly or in part from the requirements of subsection (1) any society or branch transacting business in respect of which he thinks those requirements to be inapplicable, and may from time to time review, vary, or revoke any exemption so given.

Compare: 1911 No 5 s 2

16 Revising Barrister may examine rules

[Repealed]

Section 16: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 7 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

17 Acknowledgment of registration

- (1) On being satisfied that the society or branch has complied with the provisions of this Part as to registration, the Registrar shall—
- (a) issue to that society or branch an acknowledgment of registration which, in the case of a society, shall specify the designation of that society according to the classification set out in section 11(1).
- (b) *[Repealed]*
- (2) An acknowledgment of registration under subsection (1) shall be conclusive evidence that the society or branch therein mentioned is duly registered under this Act, unless it is proved that the registration of the society or, in the case of a branch, the society of which it is a branch, has been suspended or cancelled.
- (3) If—
- (a) through inadvertence or otherwise, a society at its registration is wrongly designated according to the classification set out in section 11(1); or
- (b) a society is for the time being designated in a classification which, in the opinion of the Registrar, is incorrect for that society—

the Registrar may, after considering any representations of the society made within 4 weeks from the date of its being requested by the Registrar to do so, amend the designation.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 16(1), 17, 18(4)

Section 17(1)(b): repealed, on 20 September 2007, by section 7(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2007 (2007 No 59).

Section 17(3): amended, on 20 September 2007, by section 7(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2007 (2007 No 59).

18 Refusal to register

- (1) If the Registrar refuses to issue an acknowledgment of registration to a society, the society may, within 3 months after the date of the refusal, appeal from that refusal to the High Court.
- (2) If the refusal is overruled on appeal, then, subject to such terms and conditions as the court may impose or otherwise in pursuance of the court order, an acknowledgment of registration shall forthwith be issued to the society by the Registrar.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 16(2), (3)

19 Establishment of new branches

- (1) When a new branch of a registered society is established, the society shall send to the Registrar an application for the registration of that branch signed by the secretary of the branch and by 3 of its adult members, and countersigned by the secretary of the society.
- (2) All the provisions of section 14 shall apply, with any necessary modification, with respect to the establishment of a new branch as if it were a branch existing at the time of the registration of the society.
- (3) Every application under this section shall be made within 3 months after the establishment of the branch, but no such application shall be invalid because it is made after the expiration of that period.
- (4) If any branch continues in existence for more than 3 months without an application being made for its registration, or for more than 3 months after an application for its registration has been refused, every officer of the branch, or of the registered society of which it is a branch, shall be guilty of a continuing offence against this Act so long thereafter as the branch remains in existence and unregistered.
- (5) No society shall, in respect of any branch, be entitled to any privilege, benefit, or protection conferred by this Act or enactment relating to registered societies until such branch has been registered.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 19; Friendly Societies Act 1912 s 20 (NSW)

20 Secession or expulsion of branches

- (1) Every registered branch may, in accordance with the rules of the society of which it forms a part,—
 - (a) secede from that society; or
 - (b) be expelled from that society.
- (2) Every branch which has duly seceded or been expelled from the society of which it forms a part shall, 3 months after having so seceded or been expelled and subject to no application having been made for registration under section 21, be deemed to be no longer registered under this Act; but no such secession or expulsion shall affect any liability previously incurred by the branch or its officers.
- (3) A body which, having been a branch of a registered society, has wholly seceded or been expelled from that society, shall not use the name of that society or any name implying that it is a branch thereof, or the number or other means of identification allotted by the Registrar by which it was designated as such a branch.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 25, 27

21 Seceded or expelled branch may apply for registration

- (1) A body which, having been a branch of a registered society, has wholly seceded or been expelled from that society may, within 3 months after having so seceded or been expelled, apply pursuant to section 12 for registration as a society in its own right.
- (2) No such body shall be so registered unless there is produced to the Registrar a certificate, under the hand of the secretary or other principal officer of the society of which the body was a branch, that the body has seceded or has been expelled from the society, or the Registrar is otherwise satisfied on those matters.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 26

Rules

22 Acknowledgment of registration deemed to be acknowledgment of rules

An acknowledgment of the registration of a society or branch under section 17 shall also constitute an acknowledgment, and be conclusive evidence, of the registration of the rules of the society or branch in force at the date of the registration of the society or branch.

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 17 (UK)

23 Amendment of rules

- (1) An amendment of the rules of a registered society or branch has no effect until the amendment is registered.

- (1A) For the purposes of subsection (1), the following, signed by 3 members and the secretary of the registered society or branch, must be sent to the Registrar:
- (a) a copy of the amendment:
 - (b) a copy of the rules as amended.
- (2) Subsection (1) shall not apply to a change in the situation of the registered office of a society or branch; but—
- (a) notice of any change in the situation of the registered office of a society or branch, and a copy of the rules as amended, shall be sent to the Registrar and, in the case of a change in the situation of the registered office of a branch, shall be sent to the Registrar through the secretary of the society of which the branch forms part; and
 - (b) where notice of such a change is sent to the Registrar under paragraph (a), he shall register it as an amendment of the rules of the society or branch concerned.
- (3) No amendment of the rules of a society or branch shall be registered unless the rules as amended contain all the provisions that would be required, in accordance with Schedule 2 or Schedule 3 or any model rules produced by the Registrar, as the case may be, on an application for the registration of the society or branch.
- (4) No amendment of the rules of a branch shall be registered if the objects of the branch thereby cease to be identical with or comprised in the objects of the society of which the branch forms a part.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 28(1), 31, 34(2)

Section 23(1): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 8(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 23(1A): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 8(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 23(2)(a): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 8(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

24 Actuary may examine amendments

- (1) *[Repealed]*
- (2) If in the opinion of the Registrar any amendment of a rule may adversely affect the financial soundness of the society or branch or alters the rates of contribution certified pursuant to section 15(1), the amendment shall not be registered until an actuary has certified in writing that the amendment does not adversely affect the financial soundness of the society or branch or that the altered rates of contributions are appropriate for the business to which they relate.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 28(3), 30(1)

Section 24 heading: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 9(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 24(1): repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 9(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

25 Registration of amendment of rules

On being satisfied that any amendment of the rules of a registered society or branch complies with and is not contrary to the provisions of this Part, the Registrar must register the amendment.

Section 25: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 10 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

26 Amendment of rules by Registrar

- (1) Without limiting the responsibilities of any registered society or branch to comply with the provisions of this Act, the Registrar may, if he thinks the rules of a registered society or branch should be amended to comply with any provision of this Act, by notice in writing, require the society or branch within the period specified in the notice to amend the rules in the manner so specified or otherwise in a manner approved by the Registrar.
- (1A) A notice under this section may be served on a society or branch by—
 - (a) delivering it personally to the society or branch; or
 - (b) sending it by post to the usual or last known address of the society or branch; or
 - (c) emailing it to the society or branch at an email address that is used by the society or branch.
- (1B) In the absence of proof to the contrary, a notice that is emailed to a society or branch must be treated as served on the society or branch on the second working day after the date on which it is emailed, and, in proving that the notice was emailed, it is sufficient to prove that the notice was properly addressed and sent to the email address.
- (2) Subject to this Act, if within the period specified in the notice the society or branch fails to amend the rules as required, the Registrar may himself, by notation upon the registered copy of the rules, amend the rules of the society or branch.
- (3) The Registrar shall give a society or branch notice in writing of any amendment effected by him under this section and of the date on which the amendment comes into effect.

Compare: Credit Unions Act 1976 s 20 (SA)

Section 26(1): amended, on 16 December 2017, by section 68(1) of the Electronic Interactions Reform Act 2017 (2017 No 50).

Section 26(1A): inserted, on 16 December 2017, by section 68(2) of the Electronic Interactions Reform Act 2017 (2017 No 50).

Section 26(1B): inserted, on 16 December 2017, by section 68(2) of the Electronic Interactions Reform Act 2017 (2017 No 50).

27 Society or branch to supply copy of rules

- (1) Every registered society or branch shall deliver to any person on request, on payment of a sum not exceeding \$5 or such other sum as may be prescribed

from time to time by the Governor-General by Order in Council, a copy of the rules of the society or branch.

- (2) An order under this section is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 33; 1975 No 21 s 3

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under this section

Publication	PCO must publish it on the legislation website and notify it in the <i>Gazette</i>	LA19 s 69(1)(c)
Presentation	The Minister must present it to the House of Representatives	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Section 27(2): inserted, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

Trustees and officers

28 Appointment of trustees

- (1) Every registered society and branch is to have 1 or more trustees, who must be appointed from time to time by a resolution of a majority of the members of the society or branch entitled to vote and voting on the matter.
- (2) As soon as practicable after any trustee of a registered society or branch dies, or resigns his office or is removed from office, a new trustee shall be appointed in his place in the manner prescribed by subsection (1).
- (3) A registered society or branch may at any time by resolution passed in the same manner remove any trustee and appoint a new trustee in his place.
- (4) No act done by any person appointed as a trustee shall be invalidated by any irregularity or defect in the mode of his appointment, or by the fact that there is any vacancy in the full number of the trustees.
- (5) Within 14 days after any resolution appointing a trustee, the society or branch, as the case may be, shall send to the Registrar a copy of the resolution signed by the trustee appointed and by the secretary of the society or branch.
- (6) In the case of a branch the copy of the resolution shall be sent to the Registrar through the secretary of the society of which the branch forms part.
- (7) The same person shall not be secretary or treasurer of a registered society or branch and also a trustee of that society or branch; but, with the consent in writing of the Registrar, the same person may be both the secretary and the treasurer of that society or branch.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 43

Section 28(1): replaced, on 30 May 2017, by section 102 of the Regulatory Systems (Commercial Matters) Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 12).

29 Property to vest in trustees

- (1) All property belonging to a registered society, whether acquired before or after the society is registered, shall vest in the trustees for the time being of the society for the use and benefit of the society and its members, and of all persons claiming through the members according to the rules of the society.
- (2) The property of a registered branch of a society, whether acquired before or after the branch is registered, shall, as the rules of the society provide, vest wholly or partly in the trustees for the time being of that branch, or of any other branch of which that branch forms part, or in the trustees of the society, for the use and benefit either of the members of any such branch and persons claiming through those members, or of the members of the society generally and persons claiming through them according to the rules of the society; but, in the absence of any such rules, or so far as the rules of the society do not extend, the property of a registered branch of a society, whether acquired before or after the branch is registered, shall vest in the trustees for the time being of that branch for the use and benefit of the members of that branch and persons claiming through them.
- (3) Upon the death, resignation, or removal of a trustee of a registered society or branch the property vested in that trustee shall, without conveyance, transfer, or assignment, vest (subject to the same trusts) in the succeeding trustees of that society or branch, either solely or together with any surviving or continuing trustees, and until the appointment of succeeding trustees pursuant to section 28(2), in the surviving or continuing trustees only, or in the executors or administrators of the last surviving or continuing trustee.
- (4) Where any property (other than land dealt with pursuant to section 33) is vested in trustees under this section and, for the purposes of registering the title to or for any other dealing in connection with that property, an instrument is required to be executed by the trustees, that instrument may be executed by the trustees denoted by their official titles and not by their proper names; and no person claiming under any such instrument shall be affected by any notice, actual or constructive, that the property so dealt with was not vested in the persons executing the instrument, or that such execution was in contravention of the rules of the society or branch of which those persons were, or purported to be, trustees.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 44

30 Registrar may authorise transfer of property to existing trustees

- (1) Where any person, being a trustee of a registered society or branch,—
 - (a) becomes a person subject to a property order under the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988; or
 - (b) has had issued in respect of his person a property order under the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988; or

- (c) has been adjudicated a bankrupt or is bound by a composition in favour of his creditors; or
- (d) is missing or whose whereabouts are unknown, and is not known to the surviving trustees of the society or branch to be alive or dead,—

then, on application in writing by the secretary and 3 adult members of the society or branch and on proof of the facts to his satisfaction, the Registrar may, by direction in writing, direct and authorise the transfer of any property of the society or branch held in the name of the trustee into the names of the existing trustees of the society or branch, or, in the case of a branch which has ceased to exist, into the names of the existing trustees of the society of which the branch formed part; and every such direction in writing shall be sufficient authority to all persons to make such a transfer accordingly in the same manner as if the said property had been assigned to the said existing trustees in due course of law.

- (2) The Registrar and all persons acting in pursuance of any such direction in writing are hereby indemnified for all things done by him or them in pursuance of this section, or of such direction against any claim or demand of any person injuriously affected thereby.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 47

Section 30(1)(a): amended, on 1 October 1988, pursuant to section 117(3) of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988 (1988 No 4).

Section 30(1)(b): amended, on 1 October 1988, pursuant to section 117(3) of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988 (1988 No 4).

31 Delegation of duties by trustee

- (1) Where a trustee of a registered society or branch—
 - (a) is absent from New Zealand or is about to depart therefrom; or
 - (b) is by reason of illness or of any other cause unable to perform his duties as trustee,—

he may, by an instrument in writing sent to and registered by the Registrar, delegate his duties as trustee.

- (2) A trustee may not delegate his duties under subsection (1) unless—
 - (a) his co-trustees and the committee of management of the registered society or branch consent to the delegation; and
 - (b) the delegation is to a person residing in New Zealand who is a co-trustee or is capable of being appointed a trustee of the registered society or branch.
- (3) A delegation may be made under this section in respect of the whole or any part of the duties of the trustee.

- (4) A delegation under this section shall operate until revoked by the trustee who made the delegation or by the committee of management of the registered society or branch by a notice of revocation sent to and registered by the Registrar.
- (5) Two or more trustees may concurrently delegate their duties under this section.
- (6) A trustee of a registered society or branch shall remain answerable for all acts and omissions of his delegate within the scope of the delegation as if they were the acts or omissions of the trustee, and the delegate shall be subject to the provisions of this Act so far as it relates to the performance of the duties delegated in the same manner as if he were the trustee.

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1912 s 32B (NSW)

32 Notice to Registrar-General of Land of names of trustees

- (1) Every registered society or branch shall forward to the Registrar-General of Land, as and when required by him, a notice setting forth the names of the trustees in whom the property of the society or branch is vested, and also a copy of the rules of the society or branch.
- (2) Every such notice shall be accompanied by a statutory declaration made by one of the trustees of the society or branch, stating that the declarant is one of the trustees in whom the property of the society or branch is vested, and verifying the statements contained in the notice.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 45

Section 32 heading: amended, on 12 November 2018, by section 250 of the Land Transfer Act 2017 (2017 No 30).

Section 32(1): amended, on 12 November 2018, by section 250 of the Land Transfer Act 2017 (2017 No 30).

33 Dealing with land under Land Transfer Act

- (1) Land under the Land Transfer Act 2017 may be transferred, leased, or mortgaged to the registered society or branch by memorandum of transfer, lease, or mortgage made to the trustees (denoted by their official titles and not by their own proper names) in whom the property of the society or branch, or any part of that property, is for the time being vested; and such trustees for the time being shall be deemed to be the registered owners of the land so transferred, or of such lease or mortgage.
- (2) Where any instrument affecting the land included in any such transfer, lease, or mortgage is presented to the Registrar-General of Land for registration, he shall register the same if it purports to be executed by the persons in whom the property thereby affected appears to him to have been vested at the time of the execution of the instrument or by a majority of those persons in any case where the rules of the society or branch authorise the execution of such an instrument by a majority of those persons.
- (3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), any discharge of a mortgage vested in a society or branch of land under the Land Transfer Act 2017 or any alteration in the

terms of any such mortgage (or any variation of priority in relation to any such mortgage) shall be registered by the Registrar-General of Land if it appears to him to be executed by a majority of the trustees for the time being of the society or branch, as the case may require.

- (4) No person claiming under any such instrument so registered shall be affected by notice, actual or constructive, that the property of the society or branch was not vested in the persons executing the same, or that the instrument was executed in contravention of the rules of the society or branch.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 46; 1962 No 70 s 3; 1963 No 89 s 2(1)

Section 33(1): amended, on 12 November 2018, by section 250 of the Land Transfer Act 2017 (2017 No 30).

Section 33(2): amended, on 12 November 2018, by section 250 of the Land Transfer Act 2017 (2017 No 30).

Section 33(3): amended, on 12 November 2018, by section 250 of the Land Transfer Act 2017 (2017 No 30).

34 Officers required to give security

- (1) Before taking upon himself the execution of his office, every officer of a registered society or branch having the receipt or charge of money shall, notwithstanding any rule of the society or branch to the contrary, give security in accordance with subsection (2) for his rendering a just and true account of all sums of money received and paid by him on account of the society or branch at such times as its rules appoint, or as the society or branch or its trustees or committee require him to do, and for the payment by him of all sums due from him to the society or branch.
- (2) Where an officer of a registered society or branch is required to give security in accordance with subsection (1), he shall do so either—
- (a) by becoming bound with at least 1 sufficient surety in such form of bond as may from time to time be prescribed by the Registrar for the purpose; or
 - (b) by giving the security of a guarantee society—
- in such sum as the Registrar may from time to time recommend or, in the absence of such a recommendation, as the society or branch directs.
- (3) In this section the term **guarantee society** means—
- (a) any incorporated company carrying on the business of insurance in New Zealand; or
 - (b) any society registered under this Part as a specially authorised society and duly authorised to guarantee the fidelity of officers of registered societies or branches.
- (4) In the case of any registered friendly society which makes provision by its rules in accordance with clause 8 of Schedule 1 for guaranteeing the performance of their duties by officers of the society or its branches, it shall be a suffi-

cient compliance with this section if any officer of the society or of any branch thereof gives the security of the society in accordance with those rules.

- (5) The Registrar may from time to time, either generally or specifically, review any security or bond given pursuant to this section and may require amendments to the sums secured or conditions applying or both.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 94

35 Duty of officers to account

- (1) Every officer of a registered society or branch having the receipt or charge of money shall—
- (a) at such times as he is required to do so by the rules of the society or branch; or
 - (b) on demand; or
 - (c) on notice in writing requiring him to do so given or left at his last or usual place of residence,—

render such account as may be required by the society or branch, or by the trustees or committee of management of the society or branch; and shall, on demand or on notice as in paragraph (c), pay over all money and deliver all property in his hands or custody to such person as the society or branch, or the committee or the trustees, may appoint.

- (2) In case of any neglect or refusal to deliver the account or to pay over the money or to deliver the property in accordance with subsection (1), the trustees or authorised officers of the society or branch—
- (a) may sue upon any bond or security given under section 34; or
 - (b) may apply to the District Court for an order requiring the officer to remedy that neglect or to comply with the provisions of subsection (1).

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 94(1)(b)

36 Priority on death, bankruptcy, etc, of officer

Where any officer (other than a trustee) of a registered society or branch, having in his possession by virtue of his office any money or property belonging to the society or branch, dies or becomes bankrupt or becomes a party to any arrangement for the benefit of his creditors, or where any execution, attachment, or other process is issued against such officer or against his property, in any such case his executors or administrators, or the Official Assignee or other person executing such process, shall, upon demand in writing by the trustees of the society or of the branch, or by any 2 of them, or by any person authorised by the society or branch or by its committee of management to make such demand, pay the money and deliver over the property to the trustees of the society or branch in preference to any other debts or claims against the estate of the officer notwithstanding any other enactment or rule of law to the contrary.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 54

*Membership and rights of members***37 Members generally to have 1 vote only**

- (1) Subject to any provision in the rules of a registered society or branch as to voting by a chairman who has a casting vote, on every matter which is determined by a vote of members of a registered society or branch every member shall be entitled to vote and shall have 1 vote only.
- (2) The rules of a registered society or branch may provide that, at any meeting of delegates, the manner of voting and the number of votes to be cast by the delegates shall be as set out in the rules.

38 Members' subscriptions not generally recoverable

Except as provided in this Part, the subscription of a person who is or has been a member of a registered society or branch shall not be recoverable at law.

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 61 (UK)

39 Membership of minors

- (1) A person 16 years of age or younger may be a member of a registered society or branch if the rules so provide.
- (2) A person over the age of 16 years may be a member of a registered society or branch unless the rules provide to the contrary.
- (3) A minor shall not be a trustee nor hold office as treasurer of any registered society or branch.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 91; 1970 No 137 s 6; Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 25 (UK)

40 Register of members

- (1) Every registered society or branch shall set up and maintain an indexed register for each separate category of its members showing—
 - (a) the name and address of each member:
 - (b) the date on which the member joined the society or branch:
 - (c) the date on which any person ceased to be a member.
- (2) The register of members shall also show such other particulars as may from time to time be prescribed, by notice, by the Registrar.
- (3) The register shall be kept at the registered office of the society or branch, and shall be open to inspection during ordinary office hours by any member of the society or branch.
- (4) A notice under subsection (2) is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under this section

Publication It is not required to be published

LA19 s 73(2)

Presentation	It is not required to be presented to the House of Representatives because a transitional exemption applies under Schedule 1 of the Legislation Act 2019	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives <i>This note is not part of the Act.</i>	LA19 ss 115, 116

Section 40(2): amended, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

Section 40(4): inserted, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

41 Inspection of books and accounts of society

[Repealed]

Section 41: repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 66 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Benefits

42 Maximum gross sum for contracts of insurance

- (1) No member or person claiming through a member shall receive from any registered society or branch or from any registered society including its branches taken together more than \$100,000 by way of gross sum together with any bonuses or additions declared upon assurances not exceeding that sum, or more than \$5,000 a year by way of annuity together with any bonus or addition declared upon that annuity.
- (2) The Governor-General may, from time to time by Order in Council, amend any amount specified in subsection (1) as being a maximum gross sum of assurances or annuity.
- (3) In this section, the term **assurance** includes all life and endowment assurance, and any assurance payable on the member's death provided by the society or branch in respect of any shares in or loans by a credit union.
- (4) This section does not apply to a licensed insurer.
- (5) An order under this section is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 51; 1972 No 61 s 2(1); 1975 No 21 s 4

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under this section

Publication	PCO must publish it on the legislation website and notify it in the <i>Gazette</i>	LA19 s 69(1)(c)
Presentation	The Minister must present it to the House of Representatives	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives <i>This note is not part of the Act.</i>	LA19 ss 115, 116

Section 42(1): amended, on 30 October 2008, by clause 3 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Maximum Gross Sum) Order 2008 (SR 2008/353).

Section 42(1): amended, on 5 August 2004, by clause 3 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Maximum Annuity) Order 2004 (SR 2004/210).

Section 42(4): added, on 1 February 2011, by section 241(2) of the Insurance (Prudential Supervision) Act 2010 (2010 No 111).

Section 42(5): inserted, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

43 Member may nominate person to receive money on death

- (1) Subject to this section, a member of a registered society (other than a benevolent society or working men's club) or of a branch thereof who is not under the age of 16 years may, by writing under his hand delivered at or sent to the registered office of the society or branch, or made in a register kept at that office, nominate a person or persons to whom any sum of money payable by the society or branch on the death of that member or any specified amount of money so payable shall be paid at his decease.
- (2) The total amount which may be nominated under this section shall not exceed \$2,000, but where a nomination under this section does not specify the maximum sum of money which is to be payable by virtue of the nomination, and the sum to which the nomination relates exceeds \$2,000 the nomination shall not be invalidated by reason only of the excess.
- (3) A person nominated under this section shall not at the date of the nomination be an officer or employee of the society or branch, unless that officer or employee is the spouse, civil union partner, de facto partner, father, mother, child, brother, sister, nephew, or niece of the nominator.
- (4) A nomination so made may be revoked or varied by any similar document under the hand of the nominator delivered, sent or made as mentioned in subsection (1).
- (5) The marriage or civil union of a member of the society or branch shall operate as a revocation of any nomination previously made by that member under this section.
- (6) A nomination, or a variation or revocation of a nomination, by writing under the hand of a member of a registered branch and delivered at or sent to the registered office of that branch, or made in a register kept at that office, shall be effectual notwithstanding that the money to which the nomination relates, or some part thereof, is not payable by that branch but is payable by the society or some other branch.
- (7) If the nomination is in favour of 2 or more persons, the sum payable shall be paid in the shares specified, and if no shares are so specified, then in equal shares.
- (8) No person shall be capable of making separate and successive nominations in favour of different persons, and if successive nominations are so made by any person the earlier shall be deemed to be revoked by the later.
- (9) The Governor-General may, from time to time by Order in Council, amend the amount specified in subsection (2) as being the maximum amount that may be nominated under this section.

- (10) An order under this section is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 57; 1975 No 21 s 6; Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 66 (UK)

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under this section

Publication	PCO must publish it on the legislation website and notify it in the <i>Gazette</i>	LA19 s 69(1)(c)
Presentation	The Minister must present it to the House of Representatives	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Section 43(3): amended, on 26 April 2005, by section 7 of the Relationships (Statutory References) Act 2005 (2005 No 3).

Section 43(5): amended, on 26 April 2005, by section 7 of the Relationships (Statutory References) Act 2005 (2005 No 3).

Section 43(10): inserted, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

44 Payment on death of nominator

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), on receiving satisfactory proof of the death of a nominator, the registered society or branch shall pay to his nominee or nominees the amount due to the deceased or, as the case may be, the amount specified in the nomination.
- (2) The total amount paid by virtue of a nomination (whether in favour of 1 nominee or more) shall not exceed the amount specified in section 43(2) as being the maximum amount payable pursuant to a nomination.
- (3) The receipt of a nominee over 16 years of age for any amount paid in accordance with this section shall be valid.
- (4) Where a society or branch has paid money to a nominee in ignorance of a marriage or civil union subsequent to the nomination, the receipt of the nominee shall be a valid discharge to the society or branch.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 57(1), (5), (13)

Section 44(4): amended, on 26 April 2005, by section 7 of the Relationships (Statutory References) Act 2005 (2005 No 3).

45 Evidence of death

- (1) A registered society or branch shall not pay any sum of money upon the death of a member or other person whose death is, or ought to be, entered in any register of deaths, except upon the production—
 - (a) of a death certificate (within the meaning of section 4 of the Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 2021) relating to the death of the member or other person; or
 - (ab) of a certificate of cause of death (as defined in section 2(1) of the Burial and Cremation Act 1964) relating to the death of the member or other person; or

- (b) of the grant of probate of the will of the member or other person or of letters of administration to his estate.
- (2) Subsection (1)(a) shall not apply to deaths at sea or out of New Zealand, nor to a death where the body cannot be found, nor to any death certified by a coroner or an associate coroner to be the subject of a pending inquiry, nor to any case where the Registrar, on being satisfied of the fact of death, grants an exemption from this section.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 56; Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 70 (UK)

Section 45(1)(a): substituted, on 24 January 2009, by section 47 of the Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Amendment Act 2008 (2008 No 48).

Section 45(1)(a): amended, on 15 June 2023, by section 147 of the Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 2021 (2021 No 57).

Section 45(1)(ab): inserted, on 24 January 2009, by section 47 of the Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Amendment Act 2008 (2008 No 48).

Section 45(1)(ab): amended, on 31 January 2018, by section 11 of the Burial and Cremation Amendment Act 2016 (2016 No 74).

Section 45(2): amended, on 5 April 2023, by section 36 of the Coroners Amendment Act 2023 (2023 No 8).

Section 45(2): amended, on 1 July 2007, by section 146 of the Coroners Act 2006 (2006 No 38).

46 Restriction on payments on account of death of minors

Sections 67B to 67E of the Life Insurance Act 1908 shall, with all necessary modifications, apply in respect of a registered society or branch as if—

- (a) every reference therein (except section 67B(1)(b)) to a company were a reference to a registered society or branch; and
- (b) the reference in section 67B(1)(a) to premiums paid under the policy issued by the company on the life of the minor were a reference to any contributions paid to the registered society or branch in order to obtain the benefit payable on the death of the minor.

Section 46: substituted, on 1 April 1986, by section 2 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 1985 (1985 No 118).

47 Power to make loans against surrender value of policies

- (1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Act, where the rules of a registered society or branch provide that a member who elects to cease contributing for a sum payable at death or on survival to a specified date shall be entitled on such election to receive a cash payment, the society or branch may (if its rules so provide) make a loan to any member so entitled to cease contributing of an amount not exceeding 90% of the cash payment to which the member would be entitled if he elected on the day the loan is granted so to cease contributing.
- (2) The amount of the loan, or such part as has not been repaid, together with any interest which may then be owing, shall be a first charge on the sum payable at

death or on survival to the specified date or if the member subsequently elects to cease contributing.

Compare: 1942 No 18 s 7

48 Money payable by friendly societies to their members protected

- (1) No money paid or payable by a registered friendly society or a registered branch of any such society to a member, or on the death of a member, shall be assets in the bankruptcy of that member, or pass to the trustee or assignee in that bankruptcy, or be seized, attached, or otherwise taken in execution under the process of any court, or pass under a general assignment of the member's property; nor shall any such money, unless otherwise expressly and specifically directed by the will of the member, become available for the payment of his debts or liabilities on his death.
- (2) Nothing in this section shall apply to—
 - (a) any money which is paid or payable by a registered friendly society or branch to any member otherwise than in his capacity as a member; or
 - (b) any money which is paid or payable by a registered friendly society or branch to a member, or on the death of a member, by virtue of that member's membership of a credit union; or
 - (c) any money paid or payable under any agreement or transaction whereby the member has attempted to defeat or delay his creditors.
- (3) This section shall bind the Crown.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 99; 1950 No 54 s 5(2)

Investment, funds, and property

49 Duties of trustees in relation to investments

- (1) The trustees of a registered society or branch may, with the consent given either generally or specifically by the committee or by a resolution of a majority of the members of the society or branch entitled to vote and voting on the matter, from time to time invest the funds of the society or branch or any part of them in accordance with this Act.
- (2) Without limiting the matters to which a trustee may have regard under section 59 of the Trusts Act 2019, in the exercise of his powers of investment a trustee of a registered society or branch shall have regard—
 - (a) to the need to ensure that sufficient funds are readily available to meet the operating expenses and other outgoings of the society or branch:
 - (b) to a consideration of whether or not any investment is consistent with the objectives of the society or branch and is within its rules:
 - (c) to the need for diversification and balance in the investments, both as to the nature of the investments and to the time elapsing before maturity or

realisation, in so far as is appropriate having regard to the circumstances of the society or branch,—

but shall not be obliged to make any investment that he considers to be of an undesirable nature or that he would otherwise regard as being imprudent.

- (3) Before exercising any power of investment under this Act, a trustee shall obtain and consider proper advice as to whether or not the investment is authorised and is satisfactory after having regard to the matters referred to in subsection (2).
- (4) The trustee or trustees of a registered society or branch shall formulate, and from time to time review, a policy relating to the retention of investments and the circumstances under which investments should be realised or changed having regard to the matters referred to in subsection (2), and, in cases of doubt, shall obtain proper advice.
- (5) For the purposes of subsections (3) and (4) but subject, in the case of real property, to section 52(2), proper advice is the advice of a person who is reasonably believed by the trustee to be qualified to give it by reason of his profession or occupation and his personal expertise and experience in financial and investment matters, and may be given by a person notwithstanding that he gives it in the course of his employment as an officer or employee of the society or branch, or is a co-trustee.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 49(1); Trustee Investments Act 1961 s 6 (UK)

Section 49(1): amended, on 30 May 2017, by section 103 of the Regulatory Systems (Commercial Matters) Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 12).

Section 49(2): amended, on 30 January 2021, by section 161 of the Trusts Act 2019 (2019 No 38).

Section 49(2): amended, on 1 October 1988, by section 14(1) of the Trustee Amendment Act 1988 (1988 No 119).

50 Trustees of society may make investments for branch, etc

- (1) The rules of a registered society with branches, and of any registered branch of that society, may provide for the investment of funds of the society or of that branch—
 - (a) by the trustees of the society; or
 - (b) by the trustees of any branch of that society.
- (2) The consent required for any such investment shall be the consent given either generally or specifically by the committee or by a resolution of a majority of the members of the society or branch by whose trustees the funds are invested, being members entitled to vote and voting on the matter.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 49(2)

Section 50(2): amended, on 30 May 2017, by section 104(1) of the Regulatory Systems (Commercial Matters) Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 12).

Section 50(2): amended, on 30 May 2017, by section 104(2) of the Regulatory Systems (Commercial Matters) Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 12).

51 Borrowing powers, overdrafts

- (1) Except as provided in this Act and notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the rules of a society or branch, no registered society or branch shall be entitled to borrow money nor shall any person lend money to any registered society or branch.
- (2) Any bank carrying on business in New Zealand may grant, and any registered society or branch may receive, accommodation by way of overdraft in aid of any account established with that bank by that society or branch, and that account may be overdrawn accordingly for a term not exceeding 6 months at any one time unless a longer term or an extension of an existing term is authorised in writing by the Registrar.
- (3) This section does not limit what may be done under section 58A.

Section 51(3): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 11 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

52 Investment powers

Subject to this Act, a trustee may invest the funds of a registered society or branch in accordance with the Trusts Act 2019.

Section 52: substituted, on 1 October 1988, by section 14(1) of the Trustee Amendment Act 1988 (1988 No 119).

Section 52: amended, on 30 January 2021, by section 161 of the Trusts Act 2019 (2019 No 38).

53 Society providing medical or surgical requisites may issue debentures and invest in certain shares

- (1) A registered society whose object, or 1 of whose objects, is to provide medical or surgical requisites (not being medical or surgical attendance) for its members or for the members of any registered societies or branches contributing to its funds may (if its rules so provide)—
 - (a) issue debentures to member societies or branches for the purpose of raising the capital money required for commencing or extending its business of providing such medical or surgical requisites:
 - (b) without limiting the powers of investment contained in section 52, invest in the shares of any company in which it is necessary to hold shares in order to obtain supplies for the business of providing medical or surgical requisites or in which it is necessary to hold shares to enable such business of providing medical or surgical requisites to be carried on.
- (2) Every branch of such registered society and every registered society or branch contributing to its funds may take up any debentures issued under subsection (1)(a), and may invest any portion of their funds in them.
- (3) The debentures issued under subsection (1)(a) shall be of such amount, and for such term, and shall bear such rate of interest as the committee or a majority of the members of the society issuing them approves.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 49(1)(g); 1922 No 56 s 3

Section 53(1)(b): amended, on 1 October 1988, by section 14(1) of the Trustee Amendment Act 1988 (1988 No 119).

54 Subscriptions to hospitals or other institutions

A registered society or branch may subscribe to any hospital, infirmary, or charitable or provident institution, any annual or other sum necessary to secure to members of the society or branch and their families the benefits of that hospital, infirmary, or other institution.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 52

55 Donations for charitable or other purposes

A registered society or branch may (if its rules so provide) out of any surplus which has arisen in its management fund, and within the limits prescribed by the rules, make donations for charitable, benevolent, philanthropic, or cultural purposes.

56 Participation in government of other society or branch or contribution to its funds

- (1) A registered society or branch may contribute to the funds or take part by delegates or otherwise in the government of any other registered society or branch in any manner provided by the rules of that first-named society or branch, without becoming a branch of that other society or branch.
- (2) A registered society or branch shall not withdraw from contributing to the funds of a medical society (being a society established to provide medical or surgical attendance, relief, or requisites) except on not less than 6 months' notice and on payment of all contributions accrued or accruing due on or before the date of the expiration of the notice.
- (3) All money payable by a member of any registered society or branch to meet any contributions payable by that society or branch to a medical society shall be deemed to be a debt due from the member to his society or branch, and shall be recoverable as such.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 53; 1922 No 56 s 5

57 Powers of society or branch with respect to land

- (1) Subject to this Act, a registered society or branch may (if its rules so provide)—
 - (a) hold, purchase, acquire by gift, devise, bequest, or otherwise, or take on lease, any land in the names of the trustees of the society or branch:
 - (b) sell, exchange, mortgage, or lease that land:
 - (c) erect, alter, pull down, or rebuild buildings on that land:
 - (d) provide, equip, furnish, and maintain on any such land holiday accommodation for its members and their families:
 - (e) establish and conduct convalescent homes for the aged:

- (f) establish and conduct retirement villages and day care centres for persons who are aged, sick, or infirm.
- (2) A registered society or branch may (if its rules so provide) enter into any arrangement by which it may purchase, build, take on lease, or otherwise provide, and equip, furnish, alter, and maintain such building or part of a building as is sufficient for the purpose of conducting its business therein.
- (3) No purchaser, assignee, mortgagee, or tenant shall be bound to inquire as to the authority for any sale, exchange, mortgage, or lease by the trustees, and the receipt of the trustees shall be a discharge for all money arising from or in connection with the sale, exchange, mortgage, or lease.
- (4) Subject, in the case of an instrument affecting land under the Land Transfer Act 2017, to the provisions of section 33, every document to be executed by a registered society or branch in the exercise of any powers conferred on it by this section may (if its rules so provide) be executed by a majority of the trustees in whom the property of the society or branch is vested.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 50(1)–(4); 1949 No 30 s 5; 1953 No 62 s 2; 1963 No 89 s 2(2); 1975 No 21 s 7

Section 57(1)(f): added, on 10 July 1987, by section 2 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 1987 (1987 No 142).

Section 57(4): amended, on 12 November 2018, by section 250 of the Land Transfer Act 2017 (2017 No 30).

58 Public Trust or trustee company may hold securities and invest funds for societies

- (1) Notwithstanding section 29, any part of the funds of a registered society or of any branch of such a society, and any stocks, shares, or securities held by or on behalf of such a society or branch, may be transferred to Public Trust or a trustee company if—
 - (a) Public Trust or the trustee company agrees to the transfer; and
 - (b) rules of the society or branch are being, or have been, made for the purpose.
- (2) Public Trust or the trustee company shall invest, in accordance with the rules, any funds so transferred and shall pay the interest on any stocks, shares, or securities acquired by or transferred pursuant to this section to the trustees of the society or branch, and shall, where the trustees so require, transfer the capital of the stocks, shares, or securities to them, or realise the same and transfer the proceeds to them.
- (3) Public Trust or the trustee company shall not be under any liability in relation to any stock, shares, or securities held under this section, and no action shall lie against Public Trust or the trustee company in respect of any such stock, shares, or securities where it acts in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 55 (UK)

Section 58 heading: amended, on 1 March 2002, by section 170(1) of the Public Trust Act 2001 (2001 No 100).

Section 58(1): amended, on 1 March 2002, by section 170(1) of the Public Trust Act 2001 (2001 No 100).

Section 58(1)(a): amended, on 1 March 2002, by section 170(1) of the Public Trust Act 2001 (2001 No 100).

Section 58(2): amended, on 1 March 2002, by section 170(1) of the Public Trust Act 2001 (2001 No 100).

Section 58(3): amended, on 1 March 2002, by section 170(1) of the Public Trust Act 2001 (2001 No 100).

Friendly society securities

Heading: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 12 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

58A Registered friendly society that is licensed insurer may offer friendly society securities

- (1) If authorised by, and in accordance with its rules, a registered friendly society that is a licensed insurer may offer friendly society securities to members for subscription.
- (2) Friendly society securities—
 - (a) are transferable only between members; and
 - (b) confer no voting rights upon holders.
- (3) In the event of a registered friendly society being wound up, claims for friendly society securities must not be paid until all creditors' claims have been paid.
- (4) In the event of a registered friendly society incurring losses that exceed its retained earnings and reserves, the value of friendly society securities issued by it must be written down accordingly.
- (5) The following provisions of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013 apply for the purposes of that Act in relation to a registered friendly society and any friendly society securities that it issues as they apply in relation to a credit union and any financial products that it issues:
 - (a) paragraph (a) of the definition of special resolution in section 6(1):
 - (b) section 120(1)(c).
- (6) A registered friendly society may, in relation to friendly society securities issued or to be issued by it, appoint a supervisor and sign or amend a trust deed for the purposes of subpart 1 of Part 4 of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013.
- (7) Subsection (6) applies regardless of anything to the contrary in the rules of the registered friendly society.

Section 58A: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 12 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

58B Meaning of distribution

- (1) In sections 58C to 58E, unless the context otherwise requires, **distribution**, in relation to a distribution by a registered friendly society to a member, means—
- (a) the direct or indirect transfer of money or property to or for the benefit of the member; or
 - (b) the incurring of a debt to or for the benefit of the member.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1),—
- (a) the distribution must relate to friendly society securities held by the member to whom the distribution is being made; and
 - (b) a transfer may be made, or a debt incurred, by means of a purchase of property, the redemption or other acquisition of friendly society securities, a distribution of indebtedness, or by some other means.

Section 58B: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 12 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

58C Distribution must be authorised

A distribution must be authorised in writing by the committee, or committee of management, as the case may be, of the registered friendly society.

Section 58C: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 12 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

58D Distribution must not be authorised unless registered friendly society solvent

The committee, or committee of management, as the case may be, of the registered friendly society must not authorise a distribution unless the committee is satisfied on reasonable grounds that, immediately after the distribution is made, the registered friendly society will be solvent.

Section 58D: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 12 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

58E Solvency test

- (1) A registered friendly society is solvent for the purposes of the payment of a distribution if—
- (a) the registered friendly society is able to pay its debts as they become due in the normal course of business; and
 - (b) the value of the registered friendly society's assets is greater than its liabilities, including its contingent liabilities.
- (2) In determining whether the value of the registered friendly society's assets is greater than its liabilities, the committee, or committee of management, as the case may be, of the registered friendly society—
- (a) must have regard to all circumstances that the committee knows or ought to know affect, or may affect, the value of the registered friendly soci-

- ety's assets and the value of its liabilities, including its contingent liabilities; and
- (b) may rely on valuations of assets or estimates of liabilities that are reasonable in the circumstances.
- (3) In determining, for the purposes of this section, the value of a contingent liability, account may be taken of—
- (a) the likelihood of the contingency occurring; and
 - (b) any claim that the registered friendly society is entitled to make, and can reasonably expect to be met, to reduce or extinguish a contingent liability.

Section 58E: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 12 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Accounting records and financial reporting

Heading: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 67 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

59 Financial year

- (1) The first financial year of a registered society or branch may extend from the date of its registration to such date not later than 18 months from the date of its registration as may be specified in its rules.
- (2) Where the rules of a registered society or branch are amended to alter its financial year, the amendment may provide that the financial year current at the date of amendment shall be extended for such period not exceeding 6 months as may be specified in its rules or that the financial year next following the financial year that is so current shall be for such period exceeding 12 months but not exceeding 18 months as may be specified in its rules.
- (3) *[Repealed]*

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1912 s 26A (NSW)

Section 59(3): repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 68 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

60 Accounting records must be kept

- (1) Every registered society or branch must ensure that there are kept at all times accounting records that—
 - (a) correctly record the transactions of the society or branch; and
 - (b) will enable the society or branch to ensure that the financial statements of the society or branch comply with the requirements of this Act or any other Act (if those statements are required to be prepared); and
 - (c) will enable the financial statements of the society or branch to be readily and properly audited (if those statements are required to be audited).

- (2) Every registered society or branch must establish and maintain a satisfactory system of control of its accounting records.
- (3) The accounting records must be kept—
 - (a) in written form in English; or
 - (b) in a form or manner in which they are easily accessible and convertible into written form in English.

Section 60: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 69 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

61 Non-application of section 63 if alternative financial reporting duties under financial markets legislation

Section 63 does not apply to a registered society or branch in relation to a financial year if financial statements in relation to the society or branch and that financial year are required to be prepared under subpart 3 of Part 7 of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013 or section 55 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013.

Section 61: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 69 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

62 Meaning of specified not-for-profit entity

In sections 63 to 64A, a registered society or branch is, in respect of a financial year, a **specified not-for-profit entity** if it is such an entity in respect of that year under section 46 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013.

Section 62: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 69 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

63 Financial statements must be prepared

- (1) Every registered society or branch must ensure that, within 3 months after the end of the financial year of the society or branch, financial statements are—
 - (a) completed in relation to the society or branch and that financial year; and
 - (b) dated and signed on behalf of the society or branch by the secretary of the society or branch and either by 2 members of its committee of management acting on behalf of that committee, or by 1 member of its committee of management acting on behalf of that committee and by 1 of the trustees of the society or branch.
- (2) The financial statements must be prepared in accordance with,—
 - (a) in the case of a specified not-for-profit entity, generally accepted accounting practice; or
 - (b) in any other case, either generally accepted accounting practice or a non-GAAP standard that applies for the purposes of this section.
- (3) A registered society or branch must not publish any financial statements unless—

- (a) those financial statements have been audited by the auditor or auditors last appointed to audit the financial statements of the society or branch; and
 - (b) those financial statements include, or are accompanied by, a report by the auditor or auditors.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not apply if the financial statements are not required to be audited.
- (5) This section is subject to sections 61 and 64.

Section 63: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 69 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

64 Registered society or branch may opt out

- (1) This section applies to a registered society or branch that would, but for this section, be required to comply with section 63 unless the rules of the society or branch expressly provide that this section does not apply.
- (2) However, this section does not apply to a registered society or branch in respect of a financial year if, in each of the 2 preceding financial years, the total operating expenditure of the society or branch is \$33 million or more.
- (3) The members of a registered society or branch may, at a meeting of the society or branch held within 6 months from the start of a financial year, opt out of compliance with section 63 in relation to that financial year by way of a resolution of a majority of the members of the registered society or branch.
- (4) If the members opt out of compliance with section 63 in relation to a financial year under this section, the section does not apply to the society or branch in relation to that financial year.
- (5) A financial reporting standard (or a part of a standard) issued by the External Reporting Board that is expressed as applying for the purposes of this section must be applied in determining whether subsection (2) applies.

Section 64: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 69 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 64(2): amended, on 1 January 2022, by regulation 11 of the Financial Reporting (Inflation Adjustments) Regulations 2021 (LI 2021/307).

64A Obligation to appoint auditors

- (1) Every registered society or branch that is a specified not-for-profit entity in respect of a financial year must appoint a qualified auditor to audit its financial statements for that year (whether the financial statements are prepared under this Act or another Act).
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if financial statements for that year are not required to be prepared under any Act.

- (3) *See* sections 37 to 39 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013 (which provide for the appointment of a partnership and access to information in relation to a registered society or branch).
- (4) If a registered society or branch is not a specified not-for-profit entity in respect of a financial year, the society or branch must appoint a qualified auditor to audit its financial statements for that year if the rules of the society or branch require an auditor to be appointed.

Section 64A: inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 69 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

64B Registrar may appoint auditor

The Registrar may appoint an auditor if—

- (a) no auditor is appointed as required by section 64A; or
- (b) a casual vacancy in the office of auditor is not filled within 1 month of the vacancy occurring.

Section 64B: inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 69 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

64C Offences relating to accounting records and financial reporting

Every registered society or branch commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$50,000 if—

- (a) the society or branch fails to comply with section 60, 63(3), or 64A; or
- (b) the society or branch is required to comply with section 63 and the financial statements of the society or branch—
 - (i) are not completed and signed within the time specified in that section; or
 - (ii) fail to comply with an applicable financial reporting standard or a non-GAAP standard (as the case may be).

Section 64C: inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 69 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

64D Audit must be carried out in accordance with auditing and assurance standards

An auditor must, in carrying out an audit of the financial statements of a registered society or branch, comply with all applicable auditing and assurance standards.

Section 64D: inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 69 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

64E Auditor must report to society or branch

- (1) The auditor of a registered society or branch must make a report to the society or branch on the financial statements audited by the auditor.

- (2) The auditor's report must comply with the requirements of all applicable auditing and assurance standards.

Section 64E: inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 69 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

65 Reappointment and removal of auditors

- (1) Subject to this Act, a qualified auditor appointed to audit the financial statements of a registered society or branch for the preceding financial year shall be deemed to be reappointed as auditor of the society for the current financial year unless—
- (a) a resolution has been passed at a general meeting of the society or branch appointing another auditor or other auditors or providing expressly that the present auditor shall not be reappointed; or
 - (ab) financial statements for the current financial year are not required to be prepared; or
 - (ac) the society or branch is not required under section 64A or any other enactment to appoint an auditor for the current financial year; or
 - (b) he has given to the society or branch notice in writing of his unwillingness to be reappointed; or
 - (c) he is ineligible for appointment as auditor of the society or branch for the current financial year; or
 - (d) he has ceased to act as auditor of the society or branch by reason of death or incapacity.
- (2) Where notice is given of an intended resolution to appoint at a general meeting some person or persons in place of a retiring auditor or auditors and the resolution cannot be proceeded with at the meeting because of the death or incapacity of that person or persons, or because he or they are ineligible for appointment as auditor or auditors of the society or branch for the current financial year (as the case may be), the retiring auditor shall not be automatically reappointed by virtue of subsection (1).

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 33 (UK)

Section 65(1): amended, on 1 April 2014, by section 70(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 65(1)(ab): inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 70(2) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 65(1)(ac): inserted, on 1 April 2014, by section 70(2) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

66 Notice of resolution relating to appointment and removal of auditors

- (1) For the purposes of section 65(1)(a), a resolution at a general meeting of a registered society or branch—
- (a) appointing another auditor or auditors in place of a retiring qualified auditor; or

- (b) providing expressly that a retiring qualified auditor shall not be reappointed,—

shall not be effective unless notice of the intention to move the resolution has been given to the society or branch not less than 28 days before the meeting at which it is moved.

- (2) Where notice of the intention to move any such resolution has been given under subsection (1) to a society or branch which is required by its rules to give notice to its members of the meeting at which the resolution is to be moved, the society or branch shall, if it is practicable to do so, give them notice of the resolution at the same time and in the same manner as it gives notice of the meeting.
- (3) Where notice of the intention to move any such resolution has been given to a registered society or branch under subsection (1), and that society or branch does not give notice of the resolution under subsection (2), it shall give notice of the resolution to its members not less than 14 days before the meeting at which the resolution is to be moved either by advertisement in a newspaper having an appropriate circulation or in any other way allowed by the rules of the society or branch.
- (4) Where—
- (a) for any of the reasons mentioned in section 65(2), an intended resolution to appoint another auditor or auditors in place of a retiring qualified auditor cannot be proceeded with at the meeting; and
- (b) by the rules of the registered society or branch an auditor can only be appointed by a resolution passed at a general meeting after notice of the intended resolution has been given to the society or branch before the meeting,—

a resolution passed at that meeting reappointing the retiring auditor or appointing an auditor in place of the retiring auditor shall be effective notwithstanding that no notice of that resolution has been given to the society or branch under its rules.

- (5) Any provision in this section which requires notice to be given to the members of a society or branch shall be construed, in the case of a meeting of delegates appointed by members, as requiring the notice to be given to those delegates.

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 34 (UK)

67 Proceedings subsequent to notice of intention to move resolution

- (1) On receipt by a registered society or branch of notice of intention to move a resolution under section 66(1), the society or branch shall forthwith send a copy of the notice to the retiring auditor.
- (2) On receipt of a copy of such a notice, the retiring auditor may at any time before the date of the general meeting make concise representations in writing to the society or branch with respect to the intended resolution and may also—

- (a) notify the society or branch that he intends to make such representations; and
 - (b) request that notice of his intention, or of any such representations made by him and received by the society or branch before notice of the intended resolution is given to its members, shall be given to members of the society or branch.
- (3) Subject to subsection (5), a society or branch which receives such representations or such a notification before the date when notice of the intended resolution is required by subsection (2) or (as the case may be) subsection (3) of section 66 is to be given to its members shall—
- (a) in any notice of the resolution given to its members, state that it has received those representations or that notification (as the case may be); and
 - (b) in any such notice, state that any member may receive on demand made before the date of the general meeting a copy of any representations which have been or may be received by the society or branch before that date; and
 - (c) send a copy of any representations received by the society or branch before the date of the meeting to any member on demand made before that date.
- (4) Without prejudice either to subsection (3) or to any right to be heard orally, the retiring auditor may also require that any representations made by him before the date of the general meeting shall be read out at the meeting.
- (5) Copies of any such representations need not be sent out, and the representations need not be read out at the meeting, if, on the application either of the society or branch or of any other person, the District Court is satisfied that the rights conferred by this section are being abused to secure needless publicity for defamatory matter; and the court may order the costs of the society or branch on an application under this section to be paid, in whole or in part, by the auditor, notwithstanding that he is not a party to the application.
- (6) Any provision in this section which requires notice to be given to the members of a society or branch or confers any right upon a member (as the case may be) shall be construed, in the case of a meeting of delegates appointed by members, as requiring a notice to be given to the delegates so appointed or as conferring the right upon a delegate (as the case may be).

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 35 (UK)

68 Auditors' report

[Repealed]

Section 68: repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 71 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

69 Auditors' rights to attend and be heard at meetings

- (1) *[Repealed]*
- (2) The auditors of a registered society or branch shall be entitled—
 - (a) to attend any general meeting of the society or branch, and to receive all notices of, and other communications relating to, any general meeting which any member of the society or branch is entitled to receive; and
 - (b) to be heard at any meeting which they attend on any part of the business of the meeting which concerns them as auditors.

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 39 (UK)

Section 69 heading: amended, on 1 April 2014, by section 72(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 69(1): repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 72(2) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Annual returns and valuations

70 Annual return

- (1) Every registered society and branch shall once in every year, within 3 months after the close of the financial year of the society or branch or such extended period as the Registrar may in any particular case allow, send to the Registrar an annual return.
- (2) Every annual return shall relate to the affairs of the society or branch for the financial year preceding that in which the return is required to be sent, and, subject to subsection (3), shall be made in such form and contain such particulars as the Registrar may from time to time require.
- (3) Every annual return—
 - (a) shall be made up for the financial year to which the return relates; and
 - (b) must contain, if financial statements are required by this Act or any other Act to be prepared in relation to the society or branch for the financial year to which the return relates, a copy of those financial statements; and
 - (c) *[Repealed]*
 - (d) shall have attached a list containing the names, addresses, and designations of the committee of management, the secretary, treasurer, and other principal officers, the trustees, and those persons who are authorised to sue and be sued on behalf of the society or branch; and
 - (e) shall be accompanied by a statement giving details of the total number of members in each category of member as recorded in the register kept pursuant to section 40.
- (4) In the case of a branch, the annual return, list, and statement shall be sent to the Registrar under the hand of the secretary of the society of which the branch

forms part or, alternatively, may be comprised in the annual return of that society.

- (5) The annual return sent to the Registrar must be accompanied by the auditor's report on the financial statements referred to in subsection (3)(b) (if any).

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 36; Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 43(4) (UK)

Section 70(3)(b): replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 73(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 70(3)(c): repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 73(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 70(5): replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 73(2) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

71 Annual return by society under dissolution, etc

- (1) Any registered society or branch which is being terminated by an instrument of dissolution under section 94 or the award of the Registrar under section 95 shall make up its annual return to the date of that instrument of dissolution or that award.
- (2) In the case of a society or branch amalgamating or transferring its engagements pursuant to section 83 or converting to a company pursuant to section 84, the Registrar may require an annual return made up to the date of such amalgamation, transfer of engagements, or conversion, or to such other date as he may specify.

72 Annual return to be supplied to members

- (1) A registered society or branch must, on the application of a member or person interested in its funds, supply to the member or person without charge a copy of the last annual return of the society or branch.
- (2) A registered society or branch must provide, together with every copy of an annual return supplied under subsection (1), a copy of the auditor's report on the financial statements contained in the return (if any).

Section 72: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 74 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

73 Financial statements must be available

Every registered society or branch must keep available for inspection (without charge), by a member or person interested in its funds, at its office during ordinary office hours a copy of the last financial statements completed and signed in accordance with this Act or any other Act (if any), together with the auditor's report (if any) and a copy of the last actuarial report.

Section 73: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 75 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

74 Actuarial valuation and report

- (1) Every registered society shall—

- (a) at least once in every 5 years; or
 - (b) sooner, if requested by the Registrar in writing and within the time specified by him,—
cause its assets and liabilities (including the assets and liabilities of its branches) to be valued by an actuary and the financial condition of the society and branches reported on to the Registrar within the time specified.
- (2) Every report shall be in such form and contain such particulars as the Registrar may require.
 - (3) The Registrar may, in writing, exempt wholly or in part from the requirements of subsection (1) any society transacting business in respect of which he thinks those requirements to be inapplicable, and may from time to time review, vary, or revoke any exemption so given.
 - (4) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Registrar, may at any time, or at such time or times as he may specify, require any registered society to have a report or reports prepared by an actuary in respect of such business of the society and its branches or any of them as he may specify, and to send a copy of that report to him within such time as he may specify.
 - (5) The requirements of this Act relating to the actuarial valuation shall not apply to benevolent societies or working men's clubs or licensed insurers.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 37; 1915 No 64 s 3

Section 74(5): amended, on 1 February 2011, by section 241(2) of the Insurance (Prudential Supervision) Act 2010 (2010 No 111).

75 Obligation on branches to supply particulars for annual return or actuarial valuation and report

It shall be the duty of every branch of a registered society to supply the secretary of the society with all such information as he requires to enable him to prepare the returns he is directed by this Act to furnish to the Registrar, and also with all information required to enable a valuation of the assets and liabilities of the society and its branches to be made or any reports to be prepared in accordance with this Act.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 42

76 Appropriation and transfer of surplus funds

- (1) A registered society or branch which has been reported to possess a surplus at the last actuarial valuation may, if the rules of the society so provide and with the consent of the Registrar and subject to such conditions as he may prescribe, appropriate and transfer between any of the funds of the society or, as the case may be, branch so much of the surplus as can be safely and equitably used for all or any of the following purposes:
 - (a) an increase in benefits:
 - (b) a reduction in the contributions of members:

- (c) assistance to any fund or funds in deficiency:
 - (d) such other purposes as may properly be determined in accordance with the rules in force at the time of the surplus or as may be subsequently amended for the purpose.
- (2) If, in the opinion of the Registrar, the circumstances in any case are exceptional, the registered society or, as the case may be, branch may, if the rules of the society or branch so provide and with the consent of the Registrar and subject to such conditions as he may prescribe, appropriate and transfer so much of any surplus in any fund as can safely and equitably be used for any of the purposes specified in subsection (1), notwithstanding that the society or branch may not possess a surplus when all its funds are taken into account.
- (3) A registered society may, in accordance with subsection (1) or subsection (2), transfer so much of any surplus of a fund as can be safely and equitably used to any deficient fund of any registered branch of the society.
- (4) A registered branch of any registered society may, in accordance with subsection (1) or subsection (2), transfer so much of any surplus of a branch fund as can be safely and equitably used to any deficient fund of the society of which it is a branch.
- (5) This section does not apply to a licensed insurer.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 41, 41A; 1977 No 152 s 2(1)

Section 76(5): added, on 1 February 2011, by section 241(2) of the Insurance (Prudential Supervision) Act 2010 (2010 No 111).

77 Registrar may advise society on financial position

- (1) If, after consideration of the actuarial valuation or any report made in respect of any registered society or branch under section 74 or pursuant to section 7(3)(a), it appears to the Registrar to be necessary or desirable that the financial structure of the business or activities or any part of them of that society or branch should be amended or improved, he may advise the society or branch of his opinion and require them to submit to him such proposals (whether by way of increase in the rate of contribution or otherwise) as will effect that financial amendment or improvement.
- (2) This section does not apply to a licensed insurer.

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1912 s 31 (NSW)

Section 77(2): added, on 1 February 2011, by section 241(2) of the Insurance (Prudential Supervision) Act 2010 (2010 No 111).

Disputes

78 Settlement of disputes generally

- (1) In this section, the expression **dispute**—

- (a) includes any dispute arising on the question whether a member or person aggrieved is entitled to be, or to continue to be, a member or to be reinstated as a member:
 - (b) in the case of a person who has ceased to be a member, does not (except as provided in paragraph (a)) include any dispute other than one on a question between him and the registered society or branch, or an officer thereof, which arose when he was a member, or arises out of his membership of that society or branch.
- (2) Subject to this Act, every dispute between—
- (a) a member, or a person claiming through a member (unless that member or person is a supervisor appointed for the purposes of subpart 1 of Part 4 of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013) or under the rules of a registered society or branch, and the society or branch or an officer of the society or branch; or
 - (b) any person aggrieved who has ceased to be a member of a registered society or branch, or any person claiming through such person aggrieved (unless that person aggrieved or other person claiming through that person is a supervisor appointed for the purposes of subpart 1 of Part 4 of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013), and the society or branch or an officer of the society or branch; or
 - (c) any registered branch of any society or branch and the society or branch of which it is a branch; or
 - (d) an officer of any such registered branch and the society or branch of which that registered branch is a branch; or
 - (e) any 2 or more registered branches of any society or branch or any officers thereof respectively,—
- shall be decided in the manner directed by the rules of the society or branch (including the appointment of an arbitrator or umpire); and the decision so made shall be binding and conclusive on all parties.
- (3) Where the rules of a registered society or branch direct that disputes must be referred to Justices, or to a District Court Judge, or to the District Court, the dispute must be determined by way of action in the District Court, and the decision of that court is final.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 72(1), (4); Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 76(4) (UK)

Section 78(2)(a): replaced, on 1 December 2014, by section 150 of the Financial Markets (Repeals and Amendments) Act 2013 (2013 No 70).

Section 78(2)(b): replaced, on 1 December 2014, by section 150 of the Financial Markets (Repeals and Amendments) Act 2013 (2013 No 70).

Section 78(3): replaced, on 1 March 2017, by section 261 of the District Court Act 2016 (2016 No 49).

79 Reference of dispute to Registrar

- (1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the rules of any registered society or branch, any party to a dispute of a kind mentioned in section 78(2) may refer the dispute to the Registrar—
 - (a) with the consent of the other party or parties to the dispute:
 - (b) where the rules do not appear to apply in the circumstances of the case.
- (2) The Registrar, when a dispute is referred to him and after he is satisfied that every effort has been made to have the dispute decided in the manner directed by the rules (if applicable) of a society or branch (including the appointment of an arbitrator or umpire), may either decline the reference or may hear and determine the dispute, in which case he shall have power to order the expenses of the hearing and determination to be paid either out of the funds of the society or branch or by such parties to the dispute as he may think fit, and may administer oaths and require the attendance of all parties concerned and of witnesses, and the production of all accounting records and other documents relating to the matter in question.
- (3) The determination of the Registrar under this section shall have the same effect and be enforceable in the same manner as a decision made pursuant to the rules of the society or branch.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 72(3); Friendly Societies Act 1912 s 73(1) (NSW)

80 Statement of case, etc, in settlement of dispute

- (1) Notwithstanding anything in any other Act, the Registrar, or any arbitrator or umpire to whom a dispute of a kind mentioned in section 78(2) is referred, shall not be compelled to state a special case on any question of law arising, but may, if he thinks fit, at the request of any party, state a case for the opinion of the High Court.
- (2) The Registrar, or any arbitrator or umpire to whom such a dispute is referred, may grant to any party such discovery as to documents and otherwise, or such inspection of documents, as might be granted by the High Court, and the discovery shall be made on behalf of the society or branch by such of their officers as the Registrar, arbitrator, or umpire may determine.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 72(6), (7)

Section 80(1): amended, on 1 July 1997, by section 17 of the Arbitration Act 1996 (1996 No 99).

81 Reference of disputes to court otherwise than under rules

- (1) Where, in relation to a dispute of a kind mentioned in section 78(2), no decision is made on the dispute within 40 days after application to the registered society or branch in question for a reference under its rules or the Registrar has declined a reference under section 79, then, subject to subsection (2), any person, society, or branch such as is mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (e) of the said section 78(2) who is a party to the dispute may apply to any court of competent

jurisdiction, and the court to which the application is made may hear and determine the matter in dispute.

- (2) In the case of a society with branches, the period of 40 days referred to in subsection (1) shall not begin to run until application has been made in succession to all the bodies entitled to determine the dispute under the rules of the society or branch; but the rules of the society or branch shall not require a greater delay than 3 months between each successive determination of a dispute by the bodies entitled under the rules to determine the dispute.
- (3) For the purposes of this section, the term **court** includes the Disputes Tribunal established under the Disputes Tribunal Act 1988.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 72(5); Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 79 (UK)

Section 81(3): substituted, on 1 March 1989, by section 82(2) of the Disputes Tribunals Act 1988 (1988 No 110).

Section 81(3): amended, on 1 March 2017, by section 261 of the District Court Act 2016 (2016 No 49).

Special resolutions

82 Special resolutions

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, a special resolution, in relation to a registered society or branch, is a resolution passed—
 - (a) at a general meeting of which notice, specifying the intention to propose that resolution, has been duly given in accordance with the rules of the society or branch; and
 - (b) by not less than 75% of those members of the society for the time being entitled under the society's rules to vote who vote on the matter or, in the case of a meeting of delegates appointed by members, by not less than 75% of the votes of the delegates who vote on the matter.
- (2) *[Repealed]*
- (3) A copy of every special resolution signed by the chairman of the meeting and countersigned by the secretary, shall be sent to the Registrar and, subject to subsection (4), shall forthwith be registered; but until that copy is so registered the special resolution shall not take effect.
- (4) Where, in accordance with subsection (3), there is sent to the Registrar a copy of a special resolution passed at a meeting of a registered friendly society for the purpose of—
 - (a) amalgamating with another registered society or societies; or
 - (b) transferring its engagements to another registered society or company registered under the Companies Act 1993—

the Registrar shall not register the copy before the expiry of a period of 6 weeks commencing with the day on which he receives it, or, where objection

has been made under section 85, he shall not register the copy until the period specified in subsection (3) of that section has expired.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 60, 63(1)(a), (2); Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 86 (UK)

Section 82(1)(b): amended, on 30 May 2017, by section 105(1) of the Regulatory Systems (Commercial Matters) Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 12).

Section 82(1)(b): amended, on 30 May 2017, by section 105(2) of the Regulatory Systems (Commercial Matters) Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 12).

Section 82(2): repealed, on 30 May 2017, by section 105(3) of the Regulatory Systems (Commercial Matters) Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 12).

Section 82(4)(b): amended, on 5 December 2013, by section 14 of the Companies Amendment Act 2013 (2013 No 111).

Amalgamations, transfers of engagements, and conversions

83 Amalgamation of societies and transfer of engagements

- (1) Any 2 or more registered societies may, by special resolution of each of them, become amalgamated together as 1 society, with or without any dissolution or division of the funds of those societies or any of them.
- (2) A registered society may by special resolution transfer its engagements to any other registered society which may (by special resolution or in such other manner as may be authorised by its rules) undertake to fulfil the engagements of that society.
- (3) A registered society may by special resolution determine to transfer its engagements to a company registered under the Companies Act 1993.
- (4) A society which has branches shall not amalgamate or transfer its engagements pursuant to this section except with the consent of the central body of the society.
- (5) Before a society amalgamates or transfers its engagements pursuant to this section, information relating to the terms of the proposed amalgamation or transfer shall be given to the members of the society—
 - (a) by sending to each member of the society, not less than 14 days before the date of the general meeting at which the resolution for the amalgamation or transfer is to be proposed, a notice the contents of which have been approved for the purpose by the Registrar; or
 - (b) if the Registrar so allows in the case of all or any of the members of the society, by placing an advertisement, the contents of which have been approved for the purpose by him, in such newspaper or newspapers, and at such time or times, as he may specify.
- (6) For the purposes of subsection (5), the information to be given to members shall relate, at the least, to—
 - (a) the financial position of the relevant society and that of the other society or societies or company concerned:

- (b) the interest of the officers of the relevant society and of the other society or societies or company concerned in the union or transfer:
 - (c) the compensation or other consideration (if any) proposed to be paid to the officers of the relevant society, and of the other society or societies or company concerned:
 - (d) the payments (if any) to be made to the members of the relevant society, and of the other society or societies concerned, in consideration of the union or transfer of engagements.
- (7) Subject to section 97, where a registered society transfers all its engagements to a company registered under the Companies Act 1993, the registration of that society under this Act and the registration of its branches shall thereupon become void and shall be cancelled by the Registrar.
- (8) Where a registered society transfers part of its engagements to a company registered under the Companies Act 1993, then, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in section 52, the society may, with the approval of the Registrar, hold shares in that company subject to such conditions as the Registrar thinks fit.
- (9) No amalgamation or transfer of engagements shall prejudice any right of a creditor of either or any society which is a party thereto.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 62, 63(1); Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 82(4), (5) (UK)

Section 83(3): amended, on 5 December 2013, by section 14 of the Companies Amendment Act 2013 (2013 No 111).

Section 83(7): amended, on 5 December 2013, by section 14 of the Companies Amendment Act 2013 (2013 No 111).

Section 83(8): amended, on 5 December 2013, by section 14 of the Companies Amendment Act 2013 (2013 No 111).

84 Society may apply to be registered as company

- (1) A registered society may, by special resolution, determine to apply to be registered as a company under the Companies Act 1993.
- (2) A society that has branches shall not pass a resolution of the kind referred to in subsection (1) except with the consent of the central body of the society.
- (3) A copy of every special resolution passed for the purposes of subsection (1) shall be sent or delivered to the Registrar of Companies together with the application for registration under section 12 of the Companies Act 1993.
- (4) Subject to subsection (5) and to section 97, if a registered society is registered as a company under the Companies Act 1993, the registration of that society under this Act shall thereupon cease and shall be cancelled by the Registrar.
- (5) Registration of a registered society as a company shall not affect any right or claim subsisting against the society or any penalty incurred by the society, and—

- (a) for the purpose of enforcing any such right, claim, or penalty, the society may be sued and proceeded against in the same manner as if it had not become registered as a company:
- (b) every such right or claim, or the liability to any such penalty, shall have priority as against the property of the company over all other rights or claims against or liabilities of the company.

Section 84: substituted, on 1 September 1996, by section 51 of the Co-operative Companies Act 1996 (1996 No 24).

85 Objections to amalgamations and transfers of engagements

- (1) Where a special resolution has been passed for the amalgamation, or transfer of the engagements, of a registered friendly society—
 - (a) any member of the society may object on the ground that any provision of this Act or of any rules of the society relating to the procedure for deciding on the resolution have not been complied with:
 - (b) any person (whether a member of the society or not) who claims that he is one of a class of persons who to a substantial extent would be adversely affected by the amalgamation or transfer may object on that ground:
 - (c) any person (whether a member of the society or not and whether a creditor or not) who claims to be entitled to receive any form of benefit from the society may object on the ground that he is dissatisfied with the provision made for satisfying his claim.
- (2) Every objection under this section shall be made in writing to the Registrar.
- (3) No objection under this section shall be made after the expiry of the period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the special resolution concerned is received by the Registrar pursuant to section 82(4); but where such an objection is properly made, the special resolution shall not be registered until the expiry of the period of 6 weeks or the objection is finally determined or is withdrawn, whichever is the later.
- (4) Where an objection is made under this section, the Registrar shall have the same powers to hear and determine it as he has under section 79(2) in relation to a dispute; and he may either dismiss the objection or, after giving the objector and the registered society concerned an opportunity of being heard, and finding the objection to be justified, he may either—
 - (a) so declare, but make no other declaration or order under this subsection; or
 - (b) declare the special resolution to be invalid; or
 - (c) make such order as he thinks fit modifying the terms of the amalgamation or transfer and, where appropriate, specifying the steps which must be taken before the special resolution may be registered under section 82,—

and he shall furnish a statement, either written or oral, of the reasons for any decision which he gives under this section.

- (5) In the course of proceedings on an objection under this section, the Registrar may, if he thinks fit, at the request of the objector or of the registered society concerned, state a case for the opinion of the High Court on any question of law arising in the proceedings; and the decision of the High Court on a case stated under this subsection shall be final.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 63(1)(b), (3); Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 83 (UK)

86 Registrar may approve amalgamations, transfers, and conversions

- (1) If, after notice has been given of a general meeting at which it is proposed to put a special resolution amalgamating or transferring the engagements of the society pursuant to section 83 or converting the society into a company pursuant to section 84, the meeting lapses for want of the quorum specified in the rules of the society, the committee or trustees of the society may apply to the Registrar to confirm the amalgamation, transfer, or conversion as if the special resolution had been properly passed.
- (2) Notice of every such application shall be published by the society in the *Gazette*, and in such newspaper or newspapers as the Registrar may require.
- (3) Objections in writing may be made to the Registrar, and for this purpose the provisions of section 85, with any necessary modifications, shall apply to the application as if it were a special resolution passed in respect of a friendly society and the date of publication of the application were the date the special resolution was received by the Registrar under subsection (3) of that section.

87 Branches amalgamating, transferring engagements, or converting to company

- (1) For the purposes of this Part,—
- (a) the provisions relating to amalgamation and the transfer of engagements shall, subject to subsection (2), apply to any registered branch of a society:
- (b) the provisions relating to conversion to a company shall apply to any registered branch of a society,—

but no such amalgamation, transfer of engagements, or conversion shall take place unless in accordance with the rules of the society relating to such matters (if any) to which the branches belong and with the consent of the central body of the society.

- (2) No registered branch shall transfer its engagements to a company unless the society of which it is a branch and all other branches of that society also transfer their engagements to the same company at the same time.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 64

88 Conversion of society into branch

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), a registered society may, by resolution, determine to become a branch of another registered society or of any registered branch of that other society.
- (2) A resolution under this section shall be passed in the same manner as if it were a special resolution specified under section 82(1) with the words “a majority” substituted for the words “75%” in both places where they occur in paragraph (b) of that subsection.
- (3) If the rules of the society do not comply with all the provisions of this Act in respect of the registration of branches, the meeting at which the resolution is passed may amend the rules so as to bring them into compliance with this Act.
- (4) Where a resolution under this section has been passed at a general meeting of a registered society, there shall be sent to the Registrar—
 - (a) a copy of the rules of the society marked to show the amendments (if any) made at the meeting; and
 - (b) a copy of the resolution and of any such amendment of rules, each being signed by the chairman of the meeting and by the secretary of the society and countersigned by the secretary of the society or branch of which it is to become a branch.
- (5) If the Registrar finds that the rules of a society, with or without any such amendment, comply with the provisions of this Part, he shall—
 - (a) without further request or notice, cancel the registration of the society and register it as a branch of the other society referred to in the resolution and also, if it is so specified in that resolution, of any branch of that other society; and
 - (b) without further application or evidence, register any such amendment of rules,—and until such registration the resolution shall not take effect.
- (6) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Act, publication of a notice of any cancellation of registration under this section shall not be required.
- (7) The rules of a society which becomes a branch under this section shall, so far as they are not contrary to any express provision of this Part and subject to any amendment made under the preceding provisions of this section, continue in force as the rules of the branch until amended.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 71

Section 88(4)(b): amended, on 20 September 2007, by section 9(a) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2007 (2007 No 59).

Section 88(4)(b): amended, on 20 September 2007, by section 9(b) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2007 (2007 No 59).

Inspection, winding up, and suspension of business

89 Registrar may appoint inspectors or call special meeting

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), upon the application of—
 - (a) one-fifth of the whole number of members of a registered society which, including its branches, does not have more than 1 000 members; or
 - (b) 200 members in the case of a society which, including its branches, has more than 1 000 members,—or of his own volition in respect of any particular registered society or branch, the Registrar may—
 - (c) appoint 1 or more inspectors to investigate the affairs of the society or any branch, and to report thereon; or
 - (d) call a special meeting of the society or branch; or
 - (e) do both of those things, whether on the same or on different occasions.
- (2) Where an application is made under paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) of subsection (1) by a society having branches, the Registrar shall confer with the central body of the society before proceeding further with the application.
- (3) Where such an application is made by the requisite number of members, the following provisions shall apply:
 - (a) the application shall be supported by such evidence as the Registrar may direct for the purpose of showing that the applicants have good reason for requiring an investigation or a special meeting, as the case may be, and that they are not actuated by malice in making the application:
 - (b) such notice of the application shall be given to the society or branch by the applicants or 1 or more of them as the Registrar may direct:
 - (c) the Registrar may require the applicants to give security for the costs of the proposed investigation or meeting before the inspector is appointed or the meeting is called:
 - (d) all expenses of and incidental to the investigation or meeting shall be defrayed by the applicants, or out of the funds of the society or branch, or by the members or officers or former members or officers of the society or branch, in such proportions as the Registrar may direct.
- (4) Where acting under subsection (1) of his own volition, the Registrar may direct that all or any of the expenses of and incidental or preliminary to the investigation or meeting shall be defrayed out of the funds of the society, or by the members or officers, or former members or officers, of the society in such proportions as he may direct.
- (5) An inspector appointed under this section may examine or require the production of all or any accounting records or documents of the society or branch (and for that purpose the provisions of section 8 shall apply); and may examine on

oath any of its officers, members, agents, and employees, and may administer an oath accordingly.

- (6) Notwithstanding anything in the rules of a society or branch, where a special meeting is called under this section—
- (a) the Registrar may direct at what time and place the meeting is to be held, and what matters are to be discussed and determined at the meeting, and may give such other directions as he thinks fit with respect to the calling, holding, and conduct of the meeting;
 - (b) the Registrar may appoint a person to be chairman at the meeting; and if he does not do so the meeting may appoint its own chairman;
 - (c) the meeting shall have all the powers of a meeting called according to the rules of the society or branch.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 73; Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 90 (UK)

90 Registrar may apply to put society into liquidation

- (1) If, after an investigation carried out or meeting held pursuant to section 89, or otherwise howsoever, it appears to the Registrar that it is in the best interests of members of the society or of the public that the society should be put into liquidation, then, unless the society has already been put into liquidation, the Registrar may apply to the High Court for the society to be put into liquidation in accordance with the Companies Act 1993 if the court thinks it just and equitable that this should be done.
- (2) The provisions of this section shall apply in relation to a branch of a registered society as they apply in relation to such a society.

Section 90: substituted, on 1 July 1994, by section 2 of the Company Law Reform (Transitional Provisions) Act 1994 (1994 No 16).

90A COVID-19 business debt hibernation may apply

[Repealed]

Section 90A: repealed, on the close of 31 May 2022, by section 90A(2).

90A Transitional provisions applying to liquidation of societies

[Repealed]

Section 90A: repealed, on 5 December 2013, by section 14 of the Companies Amendment Act 2013 (2013 No 111).

91 Registrar may forbid new business or the accepting of new members of society

- (1) Subject to this section, the Registrar may, if he considers it expedient to do so in the interests of the members of a registered society or the public, give a direction forbidding the society to accept any new members or to enter into a new contract with any of its members.

- (2) Not less than 1 month before giving a direction under subsection (1) the Registrar shall give the society notice in writing that he proposes to do so, and shall set out in the notice his reasons for doing so.
- (3) The Registrar shall consider any representations with respect to a notice under subsection (2) which may be made to him by the society within such period (being not less than 1 month) as he may allow from the date on which the society is given the notice or such further period as he may allow, and, if the society so requests, shall afford it an opportunity of being heard by him within that period or further period.
- (4) Where the Registrar gives a direction under subsection (1) he shall give the society notice in writing of the direction setting out his reasons for doing so; but he shall not give such a direction unless all the reasons set out were those, or were among those, which were set out in the notice given to the society under subsection (2).
- (5) Notice of the giving of a direction under subsection (1) shall be published by the Registrar in the *Gazette* and in some newspaper in general circulation in the neighbourhood of the registered office of the society.
- (6) A direction given under this section may be revoked by the Registrar, and notice of the revocation shall be published in the same manner as notice of the giving of the direction.
- (7) A society may, within 1 month after the date of publication of a direction in the *Gazette* under subsection (5), appeal to the High Court against the whole or any part of the direction; but, until the appeal is determined, the direction shall have effect according to its tenor.
- (8) The provisions of this section shall apply in relation to a branch of a registered society as they apply in relation to such a society.

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 88 (UK)

Cancellation and suspension of registration, and dissolution

92 Registrar may cancel or suspend registration

- (1) Subject to this section, the Registrar may suspend for any term not exceeding 3 months and may from time to time renew the suspension for any term not exceeding 3 months each time or may cancel the registration of a society or branch if he is satisfied—
 - (a) that registration has been obtained for the society or branch by fraud or mistake; or
 - (b) that the society or branch exists for an illegal purpose; or
 - (c) that the society or branch has wilfully, and after notice from the Registrar, contravened any of the provisions of this Act; or

- (d) that the society or branch has not commenced business within 1 year of registration or has voluntarily suspended business for more than 6 months; or
 - (e) that the society or branch has less than 7 adult members; or
 - (f) that the society or branch has ceased to exist; or
 - (g) that, at the request of the society or branch, there is good reason for the cancellation or suspension.
- (2) Any cancellation or suspension of registration under this section shall be effected under the seal of the Registrar.
- (3) Before cancelling or suspending the registration of a society or branch under this section, the Registrar shall give to the society or, as the case may be, branch not less than 2 months' notice in writing, specifying briefly the reasons for the proposed cancellation or suspension, except no notice need be given in the case of—
- (a) a cancellation or suspension pursuant to subsection (1)(f) or (g); or
 - (b) the renewal of a suspension for a further period under subsection (1).
- (4) The Registrar shall consider any representations with respect to the proposed cancellation or suspension that may be made to him by the society or branch within the said period of 2 months or such further period as he may allow, and, if the society or branch so requests, shall afford it an opportunity of being heard by him within such period or further period allowed.
- (5) A notice of every such cancellation or every such suspension or renewal of suspension shall as soon as practicable be published in the *Gazette* and in some newspaper in general circulation in the neighbourhood of the registered office of the society or branch.
- (6) A society or branch may,—
- (a) within 1 month after receiving notice from the Registrar, appeal to the High Court from the cancellation of its registration:
 - (b) within 1 month after receiving notice from the Registrar that its suspension has been renewed where such renewal will exceed a total term of suspension of 6 months, appeal to the High Court from that renewal.
- (7) A society or branch whose registration has been cancelled under this section, and every registered branch of any such society or branch, shall from the time of the cancellation (but subject to the right of appeal given under subsection (6)) be deemed to be no longer registered under this Act.
- (8) Such cancellation shall not relieve any society or branch, or any officer, from any liability previously incurred, and any such liability may be enforced as if the cancellation had not taken place.
- (9) A society whose registration has been suspended, and every registered branch thereof, shall during the period of suspension (but subject to the right of appeal

given under subsection (6)) absolutely cease to enjoy as such the privileges of a registered society or branch, but shall for all other purposes be deemed to continue to be a duly registered society or branch.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 70; Friendly Societies Act 1912 s 25(6) (NSW); Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 91 (UK)

93 Dissolution of societies and branches

- (1) Subject to this section, a registered society or branch may terminate or be dissolved in any of the following ways:
 - (a) upon the happening of any event declared by the rules to lead to the termination of the society or branch; or
 - (b) by the consent of not less than 75% of the members of the society or branch testified by their signatures to the instrument of dissolution and also, in the case of a branch of a society, with the consent of the central body of the society and in accordance with the society's rules; or
 - (c) by the award of the Registrar under section 95.
- (2) A society which has branches shall not be dissolved except with the consent of the central body of the society.
- (3) If any member of a registered friendly society or branch in respect of which an instrument of dissolution has been registered in accordance with section 94, or if any person claiming any relief, annuity, or other benefit from the funds of such a society or branch is dissatisfied with the provision made for satisfying his claim, he may within the period of 3 months referred to in subsection (6) of that section, make an application to any court of competent jurisdiction, and the court to which the application is made may hear and determine the matter.
- (4) For the purposes of subsection (3), the term **court** includes the Disputes Tribunal established under the Disputes Tribunal Act 1988.
- (5) If, as a result of the dissolution of any registered friendly society or branch, any annuity ceases or would cease to be paid or any contract for the payment of an annuity fails or would fail either in whole or in part, no payment shall be made out of the funds of the society or branch to the annuitant or person entitled to the benefit of the contract; but any sum which would otherwise have been paid to that person shall be applied in purchasing for the benefit of the annuitant an annuity (for a similar term and subject to similar conditions against surrender, commutation, or assignment) from any person lawfully carrying on a business in New Zealand of granting annuities on human life.

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 65, 69; Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 93 (UK)

Section 93(4): substituted, on 1 March 1989, by section 82(2) of the Disputes Tribunals Act 1988 (1988 No 110).

Section 93(4): amended, on 1 March 2017, by section 261 of the District Court Act 2016 (2016 No 49).

94 Instrument of dissolution

- (1) When a registered society or branch is terminated by an instrument of dissolution, the instrument shall set forth—
 - (a) the liabilities and assets of the society or branch in detail:
 - (b) the number of members, and the nature of their interests in the society or branch:
 - (c) the claims of creditors (if any), and the provision to be made for their payment:
 - (d) the intended appropriation or division of the funds and property of the society or branch, unless it is expressly stated in the instrument that the appropriation or division shall be left to the award of the Registrar.
- (2) Alterations in the instrument of dissolution may be made with the consent in writing of not less than 75% of the members of the society or branch and also, in the case of a branch of a society or in the case of a society with branches, with the consent of the central body of the society.
- (3) A statutory declaration that the provisions of this Act have been complied with shall be made either by one of the trustees or by 3 adult members and the secretary of the society or branch, and shall be sent to the Registrar with the instrument of dissolution.
- (4) The instrument of dissolution and all alterations to it shall be registered in the manner, with any necessary modifications, provided by sections 23 to 25 for the registration of amendments of rules, and shall be binding upon all the members of the society or branch.
- (5) The instrument of dissolution shall not, in the case of a registered friendly society or branch, direct or contain any provision for a division or appropriation of the funds of the society or branch, or any part thereof, except for the purpose of carrying into effect the objects of the society or branch as declared in their rules, unless the claim of every member or person claiming any relief, annuity, or other benefit from the funds of the society or branch is first duly satisfied or adequate provision is made for satisfying those claims.
- (6) The Registrar shall, as soon as practicable, cause a notice of the dissolution to be advertised at the expense of the society or branch in the *Gazette* and in some newspaper in general circulation in the neighbourhood of the registered office of the society or branch; and unless—
 - (a) within 3 months from the date of the *Gazette* in which that advertisement appears a member or other person interested in or having any claim on the funds of the society or branch commences proceedings to set aside the dissolution of the society or branch; and
 - (b) that dissolution is set aside accordingly,—the society or branch shall, subject to section 97, be legally dissolved from the date of the advertisement in the *Gazette*, and the requisite consents to the

instrument of dissolution shall be deemed to have been duly obtained without proof of the signatures thereto.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 66; Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 94(5) (UK)

95 Dissolution by award

- (1) On receipt of an application under this section relating to a registered society or branch and after giving not less than 1 month's notice in writing to the society or branch, the Registrar may cause the affairs of the society or branch to be investigated.
- (2) An application under this section shall be made in writing under the hands of the like proportion or number of members as are required for the making of an application to appoint inspectors under section 89(1) and (2) and shall—
 - (a) state that the funds of the society or branch are insufficient to meet the existing claims on them, or that the rates of contribution fixed in the rules of the society or branch are insufficient to cover the benefits assured; and
 - (b) set forth the reasons for which the insufficiency is alleged; and
 - (c) request an investigation into the affairs of the society or branch with a view to its dissolution.
- (3) Subject to subsection (4) and, in the case of a society with branches, to the Registrar first conferring with the central body of the society, if upon an investigation under this section it appears that the funds of the society or branch are insufficient to meet the existing claims on them, or that the rates of contribution fixed in the rules of the society or branch are insufficient to cover the benefits assured to be given by the society or branch, the Registrar may, if he thinks fit, award that the society or branch be dissolved and its affairs wound up, and where such an award is made the Registrar shall direct in what manner the assets of the society or branch shall be divided or appropriated.
- (4) Where the Registrar makes an award under subsection (3), he may suspend its operation for such period as he thinks necessary to enable the society or branch to make such alterations and adjustments of contributions and benefits as will, in his judgment, prevent the necessity of the award of dissolution coming into operation; and where within that period the society makes such alterations and adjustments the Registrar may cancel the award.
- (5) The Registrar proceeding under this section shall have the same powers, enforceable by the same penalties, as he has in the case of a dispute referred to him under this Act.
- (6) Within 21 days after the making of an award of dissolution of a society or branch, the Registrar shall cause notice of the award of dissolution to be advertised in the *Gazette* and in some newspaper in general circulation in the neighbourhood of the registered office of the society or branch; and unless—

- (a) within 3 months from the date on which that advertisement appears in the *Gazette*, a member or other person interested in or having any claim on the funds of the society or branch commences proceedings to set aside the dissolution of the society or branch consequent upon the award; and
 - (b) the dissolution is set aside accordingly,—
the society or branch shall, subject to section 97, be legally dissolved from the date of the advertisement in the *Gazette*, and the requisite consents to the application under this section shall be deemed to have been duly obtained without proof of the signatures thereto.
- (7) The expenses of every investigation and award under this section and of advertising every notice of dissolution shall be paid out of the funds of the society or branch before any other appropriation is made.
- (8) Every award under this section shall be final and conclusive on—
- (a) the society or branch in respect of which the award is made; and
 - (b) all members of that society or branch; and
 - (c) all other persons having any claim on the funds of that society or branch,—

and every such award shall be enforced in the same manner as a decision on a dispute under this Act.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 67; Friendly Societies Act 1974 ss 95(4), 96 (UK)

96 Notice to Registrar of proceedings to oppose dissolution

- (1) Where any person takes proceedings to set aside the dissolution of a society or branch, he shall give notice of the proceedings to the Registrar not later than the expiry of whichever of the following periods first expires:
- (a) the period of 7 days after the commencement of the proceedings;
 - (b) the period of 3 months referred to in section 94(6)(a) or, as the case may require, section 95(6)(a).
- (2) Where an order is made setting aside the dissolution of a society or branch, the society or branch shall give notice of the order to the Registrar within 7 days after the order is made.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 68; Friendly Societies Act 1974 s 97 (UK)

97 Property to be transferred before final dissolution

Where a registered society or branch amalgamates or transfers its engagements pursuant to section 83, converts to a company pursuant to section 84, or is to be dissolved in accordance with section 94 or section 95, the society shall not be dissolved, and the registration of the society shall not be cancelled, until there has been lodged with the Registrar a certificate signed by the liquidator or by the secretary or some other officer of the society approved by the Registrar that

all property vested in the society has been duly conveyed or transferred by the society to the persons entitled.

Compare: Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965 s 59 (UK)

Part 3

Credit unions

Incorporation

Heading: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 13 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

98 Credit unions to be incorporated under this Part

- (1) No person, other than a credit union incorporated under this Part in accordance with section 100B, may trade or carry on business as a credit union.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), to trade or carry on business as a credit union means—
 - (a) administering a fund into which members of a group contribute money that is to be applied wholly or principally—
 - (i) in loans to those members; or
 - (ii) in both of the following:
 - (A) loans to those members:
 - (B) loans of the kind referred to in section 110(1)(b):
 - (b) representing the person as being a credit union:
 - (c) using, in reference to the person, any name, title, or descriptive expression containing the words “credit union”, “money club”, “savings society”, or “loan society”, or any cognate term or any derivative of those words, when trading, carrying on business, or advertising for share capital, deposits, or loan funds.
- (3) Nothing in subsection (2)(c) shall apply to—
 - (a) the use by an officer or employee of a credit union of a title or descriptive expression indicating his office or post with the credit union; or
 - (b) the use with reference to an association of credit unions of a name which has been approved in writing by the Registrar.

Compare: Credit Union Act 1969 s 28 (NSW)

Section 98 heading: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 14(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 98(1): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 14(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 98(2)(a): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 14(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 98(2)(b): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 14(4) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 98(2)(c): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 14(5) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

99 Exemptions from incorporation under this Part

- (1) Section 98 shall not apply to—
- (a) any person specified in Schedule 5; or
 - (b) any person lawfully carrying on the business of banking; or
 - (c) any building society registered under the Building Societies Act 1965; or
 - (d) *[Repealed]*
 - (e) the members of any fund in existence as at the commencement of this Act, being a fund which may otherwise be trading or carrying on business as a credit union but which is an integral part of an associated commercial or trading activity involving those members.
- (2) Schedule 5 may, from time to time by the Governor-General by Order in Council, be amended by adding, omitting, or amending the name of any person.
- (3) No person to which, by virtue of subsection (1), section 98 does not apply shall use, in reference to itself, any name, title, or descriptive expression containing the words “credit union”, “money club”, “savings society”, or “loan society”, or any cognate term or any derivative of those words:
- provided that the prohibition effected by this subsection shall not apply to any person using the words “savings society” or “loan society” or any cognate term or derivative of those words in reference to itself as at the commencement of this Act.
- (4) An order under subsection (2) is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Compare: Credit Union Act 1969 s 28(3) (NSW)

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under this section

Publication	PCO must publish it on the legislation website and notify it in the <i>Gazette</i>	LA19 s 69(1)(c)
Presentation	The Minister must present it to the House of Representatives	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Section 99 heading: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 15(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 99(1)(a): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 15(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 99(1)(b): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 15(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 99(1)(d): repealed, on 1 December 2014, by section 150 of the Financial Markets (Repeals and Amendments) Act 2013 (2013 No 70).

Section 99(2): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 15(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 99(3): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 15(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 99(3) proviso: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 15(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 99(4): inserted, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

100 Persons eligible to incorporate credit union

- (1) Any 21 or more persons falling within subsection (2) may apply to the Registrar in accordance with section 100A for the incorporation of a credit union under this Part.
- (2) The persons referred to in subsection (1) are as follows:
 - (a) an adult;
 - (b) a charitable entity as defined by the Charities Act 2005;
 - (c) an incorporated society registered under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908.

Section 100: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 16 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

100A Application for incorporation of credit union

- (1) An application under section 100 for the incorporation of a credit union must—
 - (a) be signed by each of the applicants; and
 - (b) include a copy of the credit union’s proposed rules; and
 - (c) include a list of the names, addresses, and designations of the officers proposed for the credit union; and
 - (d) include such information or evidence as the Registrar may reasonably require in relation to any of the matters referred to in section 100B(1)(a) to (f).
- (2) The credit union’s proposed rules must either—
 - (a) contain provisions in respect of the matters mentioned in Schedule 4; or
 - (b) accord with any model rules applicable to credit unions produced by the Registrar under section 9.

Section 100A: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 16 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

100B Incorporation of credit union

- (1) Subsection (2) applies if an application is made under section 100 for the incorporation of a credit union and the Registrar is satisfied—
 - (a) that the credit union will have at least 21 members who fall within section 100(2); and

- (b) that the credit union's proposed rules comply with section 100A(2); and
 - (c) that the only objects of the credit union will be those of a credit union specified in section 101; and
 - (d) that the credit union will have a common bond as defined in section 102; and
 - (e) that the credit union's name will comply with section 103; and
 - (f) that there is no reason to expect that the credit union will not be operated in accordance with its rules and this Part.
- (2) The Registrar must—
- (a) register the credit union's name; and
 - (b) issue a certificate of incorporation; and
 - (c) register the credit union's rules (together with any other documents or information relating to the credit union that the Registrar thinks appropriate).
- (3) The credit union is, on and after the date of incorporation set out in the certificate of incorporation, a body corporate that has—
- (a) perpetual succession; and
 - (b) the capacity, rights, powers, and privileges provided for in section 107B.
- (4) The credit union continues in existence until it is removed from the register under section 140.
- (5) The certificate of incorporation is conclusive evidence that—
- (a) all the requirements of this Part as to incorporation have been complied with; and
 - (b) on and after the date of incorporation set out in the certificate, the credit union is registered and incorporated under this Part.
- (6) If the Registrar refuses to act under subsection (2) in relation to an application, the applicants may, within 3 months after the date on which they are notified of the refusal, appeal against the refusal to the High Court.
- (7) If the refusal is overruled on appeal, then, subject to such terms and conditions as the court may impose or otherwise in pursuance of the court order, the Registrar must act under subsection (2) as soon as practicable.

Section 100B: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 16 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

101 Objects of credit union

(1AA) A credit union is to operate, on the basis of this Act, for the mutual benefit and assistance of its members.

- (1) The objects of a credit union shall be—

- (a) the promotion of thrift among its members by the accumulation of their savings; and
 - (b) the use and control of the members' savings for their mutual benefit, including—
 - (i) for making loans to members; and
 - (ii) if authorised by the credit union's rules, for making loans under section 110(1)(b); and
 - (ba) if authorised by, and in accordance with, the credit union's rules, the provision of products or services under section 110(2); and
 - (c) the training and education of the members in the wise use of money and in the management of their financial affairs; and
 - (d) at the discretion of the credit union and as a minor adjunct to the other objects set out in this subsection, the welfare of its members and the making of donations for charitable, cultural, benevolent, or philanthropic purposes.
- (2) *[Repealed]*

Compare: Credit Unions Act 1979 s 1(3) (UK)

Section 101(1AA): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 17(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 101(1)(b): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 17(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 101(1)(ba): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 17(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 101(2): repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 17(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

102 Qualifications for admission to membership of credit union

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, a credit union has a **common bond** if the qualification for membership is—
- (a) following a particular occupation or particular occupations:
 - (b) residing in a particular locality or particular localities:
 - (c) being employed in a particular locality or particular localities:
 - (d) being employed by a particular employer or particular employers:
 - (e) being a member of a bona fide organisation or bona fide organisations or being otherwise associated with members of the organisation or organisations for a purpose other than that of incorporating a credit union:
 - (f) any other qualification that can be objectively determined:
 - (g) a mixture of any qualifications in paragraphs (a) to (f).
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a qualification can be objectively determined if it—

- (a) includes every person who fulfills the qualification; and
 - (b) is able to be determined by a person who is not a member of the credit union; and
 - (c) does not depend on any person's subjective judgement.
- (3) For the purposes of this Act, if the rules of a credit union so provide, a person shall be treated as fulfilling a qualification for admission to membership stated in those rules if he is a member of the same household as, and is a relative of, another person who is a member of the credit union and fulfils that qualification directly.
- (4) In subsection (3), **relative**, in relation to any person, means—
- (a) any current or former spouse, civil union partner or de facto partner of the person; and
 - (b) any lineal ancestor, lineal descendant, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, or first cousin of the person or of any current or former spouse, civil union partner, or de facto partner of the person; and
 - (c) any current or former spouse, civil union partner, or de facto partner of any person referred to in paragraph (b).

Compare: Credit Unions Act 1979, ss 1(4), (5), (6), 31 (UK)

Section 102(1): substituted, on 22 November 2006, by section 5 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2006 (2006 No 65).

Section 102(1)(e): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 18 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 102(2): substituted, on 22 November 2006, by section 5 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2006 (2006 No 65).

Section 102(4): substituted, on 26 April 2005, by section 7 of the Relationships (Statutory References) Act 2005 (2005 No 3).

103 Name of credit union

- (1) Except where otherwise authorised in writing by the Registrar in the circumstances of any case, the name of every credit union shall contain the words “credit union”.
- (2) A credit union's name must not—
- (a) be identical, or almost identical, to that of—
 - (i) any other credit union; or
 - (ii) any other body corporate established or registered in New Zealand or carrying on activities in New Zealand; or
 - (b) be, in the Registrar's opinion, likely to mislead the credit union's members or the public as to the credit union's nature or identity; or
 - (c) be, in the Registrar's opinion, offensive; or
 - (d) be a name the use of which by the credit union contravenes any other enactment.

- (3) If, at any time, a credit union's name contravenes (through inadvertence or otherwise) this section,—
- (a) the Registrar may by notice to the credit union require the credit union to change its name so that the name does not contravene this section; and
 - (b) if the Registrar does so, the credit union must change its name accordingly within the period of 4 weeks from the date on which it receives the Registrar's notice or within such longer period as the Registrar may allow.

Compare: Credit Unions Act 1979 s 3 (UK)

Section 103 heading: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 19(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 103(1): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 19(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 103(2): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 19(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 103(3): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 19(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

104 Registration and rules of credit union

[Repealed]

Section 104: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 20 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

105 Effect of rules on members of credit union

- (1) The rules of a credit union are binding, in accordance with their terms, as between—
- (a) the credit union and each member; and
 - (b) each member.
- (1A) Subsection (1) is subject to the rest of this Act.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), all money payable by a member to a credit union shall be deemed to be a debt due from the member to the credit union, and shall be recoverable as such.
- (3) A member of a credit union shall not, without his consent in writing having been first obtained, be bound by any amendment of the credit union's rules registered after he became a member, if and so far as that amendment requires him to take or subscribe for more shares than the number held by him at the date of registration of the amendment, or to pay upon the shares so held any sum exceeding the amount unpaid upon them at that date, or in any other way increases the liability of that member to contribute to the share capital of the credit union.
- (4) Fees for admission to membership, or levies, or charges for management or other services are payable by a member to a credit union only if the rules of the credit union set out—

- (a) the amount of the fees, levies, or charges; or
- (b) the mechanism for charging the fees, levies, or charges.

Compare: 1915 No 64 s 6; Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965 s 14(2) (UK)

Section 105(1): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 21 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 105(1A): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 21 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 105(4): substituted, on 22 November 2006, by section 7 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2006 (2006 No 65).

106 Membership of credit union, voting rights

- (1) An individual, a charitable entity as defined by the Charities Act 2005, or an incorporated society registered under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 can be a member of a credit union, except that—
 - (a) section 39(1) and (2) (which relates to the membership of minors) applies to any credit union as if it were a society registered under Part 2; and
 - (aa) no person under the age of 18 years can be an officer of a credit union; and
 - (b) no charitable entity as defined by the Charities Act 2005 or incorporated society registered under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 can be an officer of a credit union.
- (2) Members need have no more than \$10 in fully paid-up shares, although a credit union's rules may allow for a deposit of more or less than \$10 in fully paid-up shares.
- (3) *[Repealed]*
- (4) A member of a credit union who ceases to fulfil the qualifications for admission to membership shall be entitled, subject to subsection (5), to retain his membership unless the rules of the credit union provide otherwise; and in this Act, the term **non-qualifying member**, in relation to a credit union, means a person who remains a member of the credit union by virtue of this subsection:

provided that, where the rules of the credit union so provide, a member shall not cease to fulfil the qualifications for membership by reason merely of retirement from following a particular occupation or employment with a particular employer.
- (5) The number of non-qualifying members of a credit union shall not at any time exceed 10% of the total membership of the credit union.
- (6) Non-qualifying members of a credit union shall be left out of account in determining for any purpose whether a common bond exists between the members of the credit union.
- (7) *[Repealed]*

- (8) Subject to any provision in the rules of a credit union as to voting by a chairman who has a casting vote or to voting by delegates at any conference or meeting relating to credit unions, on every matter which is determined by a vote of members of a credit union every member shall be entitled to vote and shall have 1 vote only.
- (9) Section 82 (special resolutions) applies in relation to a credit union with any necessary modifications.

Compare: Credit Unions Act 1979 s 5 (UK)

Section 106(1): substituted, on 22 November 2006, by section 8 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2006 (2006 No 65).

Section 106(1)(a): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 22(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 106(1)(aa): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 22(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 106(2): substituted, on 22 November 2006, by section 8 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2006 (2006 No 65).

Section 106(3): repealed, on 31 August 2012, by section 4(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64).

Section 106(7): repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 22(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 106(9): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 22(4) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

106A Members not liable for obligations of credit union

- (1) A member of a credit union is not liable for an obligation of the credit union by reason only of being a member.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not affect—
 - (a) section 141; or
 - (b) any liability that a member of a credit union has to the credit union—
 - (i) under its rules or a contract; or
 - (ii) for any tort, breach of a fiduciary duty, or other actionable wrong committed by the member.

Section 106A: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 23 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

106B Amendment of credit union's rules

- (1) A credit union's rules may be amended by a resolution of a majority of its members entitled to vote and voting on the matter.
- (2) Section 26 (which permits the Registrar to amend rules) applies (with any necessary modifications) to a credit union's rules as it applies to a registered society's rules.
- (3) An amendment of a credit union's rules has no effect until the amendment is registered.

- (4) For the purposes of subsection (3), the following, signed by 3 members, must be sent to the Registrar for registration (unless the amendment is made by the Registrar under section 26):
 - (a) a copy of the amendment:
 - (b) a copy of the rules as amended.
- (5) Subsections (3) and (4) do not apply to a change in the situation of a credit union's registered office, but notice of the change, and a copy of the rules as amended, must be sent promptly to the Registrar for registration.
- (6) An amendment of a credit union's rules may be registered only if the rules as amended either—
 - (a) contain provisions in respect of the matters mentioned in Schedule 4; or
 - (b) accord with any model rules applicable to credit unions produced by the Registrar under section 9.
- (7) Before registering an amendment of a credit union's rules, the Registrar may require from the credit union such information or evidence as may be reasonable to show that, after the amendment takes effect, the credit union will be operated in accordance with its rules and this Part.

Section 106B: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 23 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

106C Credit union to supply copy of rules

A credit union must deliver to any person on request, on payment of any reasonable charge imposed by the credit union, a copy of the rules of the credit union.

Section 106C: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 23 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Shares and securities

Heading: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 24 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

107 Credit union to have shares

- (1) Every credit union shall have shares, which shall all rank equally and be of a fixed amount of \$1 denomination and may, subject to the rules of the credit union, be subscribed for either in full or by periodical or other subscriptions; but no share shall be allotted to a member until it has been fully paid in cash.
- (2) Shares in a credit union shall not be transferable and a credit union shall not issue to a member a certificate denoting ownership of a share.
- (3) The rules of a credit union may provide for a share to be held by 2 or more members jointly; but, for the purposes of this Act, one of those joint holders (to be ascertained in the manner provided in the rules) shall be deemed to be the

member to whom the share was allotted and to whom the provisions of this Act apply accordingly.

- (4) Subject to subsection (5), shares in a credit union shall be withdrawable; but a credit union shall not issue shares except on terms enabling it to require not less than 60 days' notice of withdrawal.
- (5) If a withdrawal of shares would reduce a member's paid-up shareholding in the credit union to less than his total liability (including any contingent liability) to the credit union whether as borrower, guarantor, or otherwise, then—
 - (a) in the case of a non-qualifying member, the withdrawal shall not be permitted; and
 - (b) in any other case, the withdrawal shall be permitted only at the discretion of the committee of management of the credit union.

Compare: Credit Unions Act 1979 s 7 (UK)

Section 107(1): amended, on 17 December 1985, by section 2 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act (No 2) 1985 (1985 No 177).

107A Credit union may offer credit union securities

- (1) A credit union may, if authorised by and in accordance with its rules, offer credit union securities to members for subscription.
- (2) Credit union securities—
 - (a) are transferable only between members; and
 - (b) confer no voting rights upon holders.
- (3) In the event of a credit union being wound up, claims for credit union securities must not be paid until all creditors' claims and claims relating to the shares referred to in section 107 have been paid.
- (4) In the event of a credit union incurring losses that exceed its retained earnings and reserves, the value of the credit union securities must be written down accordingly.
- (5) To avoid doubt, credit union securities do not include shares under section 107.

Section 107A: inserted, on 31 August 2012, by section 5 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64).

Section 107A(1): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 25 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 107A(5): replaced, on 1 December 2014, by section 150 of the Financial Markets (Repeals and Amendments) Act 2013 (2013 No 70).

Capacity, powers, and validity of actions

Heading: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 26 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

107B Capacity and powers of credit union

- (1) A credit union has, both within and outside New Zealand,—

- (a) full capacity to carry on or undertake any business or activity, to do any act, or to enter into any transaction, if the carrying on or undertaking of the business or activity, the doing of the act, or the entering into the transaction—
 - (i) is directly in pursuance of the credit union’s objects or is incidental to the credit union’s objects; and
 - (ii) is authorised by this Act or the credit union’s rules; and
- (b) for the purposes of paragraph (a), full rights, powers, and privileges.
- (2) Subsection (1) is subject to this Act, any other enactment, and the general law.
- (3) The credit union’s rules may contain the following provisions:
 - (a) provisions giving authority for the purposes of subsection (1)(a)(ii):
 - (b) provisions restricting the capacity, rights, powers, or privileges that the credit union would otherwise have.

Section 107B: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 26 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

107C Validity of actions

- (1) An act of a credit union or the transfer of property to or by a credit union is not invalid merely because the credit union did not have the capacity, right, or power to do the act or to transfer or take a transfer of the property.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not limit—
 - (a) section 107F or 118; or
 - (b) any proceedings that may otherwise be taken—
 - (i) by a member of a credit union against the credit union or an officer of the credit union to prevent an act of, or a transfer of property to or by, the credit union that would be invalid apart from subsection (1); or
 - (ii) by a credit union or a member or former member of a credit union against an officer or a former officer of the credit union in relation to an act of, or a transfer of property to or by, the credit union that would have been invalid apart from subsection (1).
- (3) The fact that an act is not, or would not be, in the best interests of a credit union does not affect the capacity of the credit union to do the act.

Section 107C: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 26 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

107D Dealings between credit union and other persons

- (1) A credit union may not assert against a person dealing with the credit union that—
 - (a) this Act has not, or the credit union’s rules have not, been complied with; or

- (b) a person named as an officer of the credit union in any register—
 - (i) is not an officer of the credit union; or
 - (ii) has not been duly appointed; or
 - (iii) does not have authority to exercise a power that, given the nature of the credit union, an officer customarily has authority to exercise; or
 - (c) a person held out by the credit union as an officer, employee, or agent of the credit union—
 - (i) has not been duly appointed; or
 - (ii) does not have authority to exercise a power that, given the nature of the credit union, a person appointed to that capacity customarily has authority to exercise; or
 - (d) a person held out by the credit union as an officer, employee, or agent of the credit union does not have the authority to exercise a power that the credit union holds the person out as having; or
 - (e) a document issued on behalf of the credit union by an officer, employee, or agent of the credit union with actual or usual authority to issue the document is not valid or not genuine.
- (2) However, a credit union may assert any of the matters referred to in subsection (1)(a) to (e) against a person dealing with the credit union if that person had, or ought to have had, by virtue of the person's position with or relationship to the credit union, knowledge of those matters.
- (3) Subsection (1) applies even though a person of a kind referred to in subsection (1)(b) to (e) acts fraudulently or forges a document that appears to have been signed on behalf of the credit union, unless the person dealing with the credit union has actual knowledge of the fraud or forgery.
- (4) In this section, **person dealing**—
- (a) means, in the case of a transaction with a credit union, the other party to the transaction; and
 - (b) includes a person who has acquired property, rights, or interests from a credit union.

Section 107D: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 26 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

107E No constructive notice

A person is not affected by, or deemed to have notice or knowledge of the contents of, the rules of, or any other document relating to, a credit union merely because—

- (a) the rules are, or the document is,—
 - (i) registered; or

- (ii) available to the public under section 5(3) or (4); or
- (iii) available for inspection at an office of the credit union; or
- (b) in the case of the rules, a copy of them can be requested under section 106C.

Section 107E: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 26 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

107F High Court may restrain credit union from acting contrary to Act or credit union's rules

- (1) The High Court may, on an application by a person listed in subsection (2), make an order restraining a credit union from acting contrary to this Act or the credit union's rules.
- (2) The application may be made by—
 - (a) a member of the credit union; or
 - (b) the Registrar; or
 - (c) the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, but only if the credit union is an NBDT as defined in section 5 of the Non-bank Deposit Takers Act 2013.

Section 107F: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 26 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

108 General prohibition on taking deposits

[Repealed]

Section 108: repealed, on 31 August 2012, by section 6 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64).

109 Power of credit union to borrow money

[Repealed]

Section 109: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 27 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

109A Power of credit union to appoint supervisor for debt securities

[Repealed]

Section 109A: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 27 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

110 Credit union may make loans to members and enterprises related to members, etc

- (1) A credit union may make loans (with or without security) as follows:
 - (a) to members:
 - (b) to enterprises in cases where—
 - (i) the enterprise (when the loan is made)—
 - (A) is related to a member; and

- (B) has no more than 19 full-time equivalent employees; and
 - (ii) the loan is to be used for the purposes of a business being, or to be, carried on by the enterprise.
- (2) A credit union may provide products or services as follows:
 - (a) to members:
 - (b) to enterprises which have loans with the credit union under subsection (1)(b):
 - (c) to enterprises in cases where—
 - (i) the enterprise (when the product or service is provided)—
 - (A) is related to a member; and
 - (B) has no more than 19 full-time equivalent employees; and
 - (ii) the product or service is for the purposes of a business being, or to be, carried on by the enterprise.
- (3) In this section, **enterprise** means any of the following:
 - (a) a body corporate;
 - (b) a firm under the Partnership Law Act 2019;
 - (c) the trustee or trustees of a trust.
- (4) For the purposes of this section, an enterprise is **related** to a member (**M**) if—
 - (a) the enterprise is a body corporate and M has the power, directly or indirectly, to exercise, or to control the exercise of, the rights to vote attaching to 25% or more of the voting products (as defined in section 6(1) of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013) of the body corporate; or
 - (b) the enterprise is a firm under the Partnership Law Act 2019 in which M is a partner and—
 - (i) M's share of the firm's profits in accordance with the terms of the partnership is 25% or more; or
 - (ii) if M's share of the firm's profits cannot be determined in accordance with the terms of the partnership, M's share of the most recent distribution of the firm's profits was 25% or more; or
 - (c) the enterprise is the trustee or trustees of a trust and M has, or the members of M's family (taken together) have, a beneficial entitlement to 25% or more of the trust's assets.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (4)(c), the members of M's family are—
 - (a) M; and
 - (b) any current or former spouse, civil union partner, or de facto partner of M; and
 - (c) any brother, sister, lineal ancestor, or lineal descendant of M; and

- (d) any current or former spouse, civil union partner, or de facto partner of a person covered by paragraph (c).

Section 110: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 28 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 110(3)(b): amended, on 21 April 2020, by section 86 of the Partnership Law Act 2019 (2019 No 53).

Section 110(4)(b): amended, on 21 April 2020, by section 86 of the Partnership Law Act 2019 (2019 No 53).

111 Minister may fix maximum amount of loans to members

[Repealed]

Section 111: repealed, on 31 August 2012, by section 9 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64).

112 Credit union property to vest in trustees

[Repealed]

Section 110: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 29 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

113 Credit union may hold land

[Repealed]

Section 113: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 29 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

114 Officers of credit union to give security

[Repealed]

Section 114: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 29 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

115 Duty of officers of credit union to account

[Repealed]

Section 115: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 29 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

116 Priority on death, bankruptcy, etc, of officer

[Repealed]

Section 116: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 29 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

117 Investment of surplus funds

[Repealed]

Section 117: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 29 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Distribution to members

Heading: inserted, on 31 August 2012, by section 13 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64).

117A Meaning of distribution

- (1) In sections 117B to 117D, unless the context otherwise requires, **distribution**, in relation to a distribution by a credit union to a member, means—
 - (a) the direct or indirect transfer of money or property to or for the benefit of the member; or
 - (b) the incurring of a debt to or for the benefit of the member.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1),—
 - (a) the distribution must relate to credit union securities held by the member to whom the distribution is being made; and
 - (b) a transfer may be made, or a debt incurred, by means of a purchase of property, the redemption or other acquisition of credit union securities or shares, a distribution of indebtedness, or by some other means.

Compare: 1993 No 105 s 2

Section 117A: inserted, on 31 August 2012, by section 13 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64).

117B Distribution must be authorised

A distribution must be authorised in writing by the committee, or committee of management, as the case may be, of the credit union.

Compare: 2008 No 1 s 40

Section 117B: inserted, on 31 August 2012, by section 13 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64).

117C Distribution must not be authorised unless credit union solvent

The committee, or committee of management, as the case may be, of the credit union must not authorise a distribution unless the committee is satisfied on reasonable grounds that, immediately after the distribution is made, the credit union will be solvent.

Compare: 2008 No 1 s 41

Section 117C: inserted, on 31 August 2012, by section 13 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64).

117D Solvency test

- (1) A credit union is solvent for the purposes of the payment of a distribution if—
 - (a) the credit union is able to pay its debts as they become due in the normal course of business; and
 - (b) the value of the credit union's assets is greater than its liabilities, including its contingent liabilities.

- (2) In determining whether the value of the credit union's assets is greater than its liabilities, the committee, or committee of management, as the case may be, of the credit union—
- (a) must have regard to all circumstances that the committee knows or ought to know affect, or may affect, the value of the credit union's assets and the value of its liabilities, including its contingent liabilities; and
 - (b) may rely on valuations of assets or estimates of liabilities that are reasonable in the circumstances.
- (3) In determining, for the purposes of this section, the value of a contingent liability, account may be taken of—
- (a) the likelihood of the contingency occurring; and
 - (b) any claim that the credit union is entitled to make and can reasonably expect to be met to reduce or extinguish a contingent liability.

Compare: 2008 No 1 s 42

Section 117D: inserted, on 31 August 2012, by section 13 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64).

Disputes

118 Disputes in relation to credit unions

For the purposes of this Part, the following provisions shall, as far as they are applicable and with any necessary modification, apply in respect of credit unions as if they were societies registered under Part 2:

- (a) section 78 (which relates to the settlement of disputes generally); and
- (b) section 79 (which provides for a reference of a dispute to the Registrar); and
- (c) section 80 (which authorises the statement of a case on a matter of law for the opinion of the High Court); and
- (d) section 81 (which relates to the reference of disputes to court).

Accounting records and financial reporting

Heading: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 76 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

119 Credit union to maintain general reserves

[Repealed]

Section 119: repealed, on 31 August 2012, by section 14 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64).

120 Financial year of credit union

- (1) The first financial year of a credit union may extend from the date of its registration to such date not later than 18 months from the date of its registration as may be specified in its rules.

- (2) Where the rules of a credit union are amended to alter its financial year, the amendment may provide that the financial year current at the date of amendment shall be extended for such period not exceeding 6 months as may be specified in its rules or that the financial year next following the financial year that is so current shall be for such period exceeding 12 months but not exceeding 18 months as may be specified in its rules.

- (3) *[Repealed]*

Section 120(3): repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 77 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

121 Accounting records must be kept

Every credit union must comply with subpart 2 of Part 7 of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013 (which relates to accounting records).

Section 121: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 78 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

122 Financial reporting

Every credit union must comply with subpart 3 of Part 7 of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013 (which relates to the preparation, audit, and lodgement of financial statements).

Section 122: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 78 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

123 Obligation to appoint auditors

- (1) Every credit union must, in each financial year, appoint a qualified auditor to audit its financial statements for that year.
- (2) *See* sections 37 to 39 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013 (which provide for the appointment of a partnership and access to information in relation to a credit union).

Section 123: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 78 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

124 General matters relating to auditors

For the purposes of this Part, the following provisions of this Act, as far as they are applicable and with the necessary modifications, apply in respect of credit unions as if they were societies registered under Part 2:

- (a) section 64B (which relates to the Registrar appointing an auditor):
- (b) sections 64D and 64E (which relate to compliance with auditing and assurance standards):
- (c) section 65 (which relates to the reappointment and removal of auditors):
- (d) section 66 (which relates to notices of resolution affecting the appointment or removal of auditors):

- (e) section 67 (which relates to proceedings subsequent to a notice of intention to move a resolution):
- (f) section 69 (which relates to auditors' rights to attend and be heard at meetings).

Section 124: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 78 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

125 General matters relating to auditors, the auditors' report, and auditors' rights of access

[Repealed]

Section 125: repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 78 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

126 Registrar may advise credit union on financial position

Where it appears to the Registrar to be necessary or desirable that the financial structure of the business or activities or any part of them of a credit union should be amended or improved, he may advise the credit union of his opinion and require it to submit to him such proposals (whether by way of levy on members or the writing down of share capital or otherwise) as will effect that financial amendment or improvement.

Annual returns

127 Annual return

- (1) Every credit union shall once in every year, within 4 months after the close of the financial year of the credit union or such extended period as the Registrar in any particular case may allow, send to the Registrar an annual return.
- (2) Every annual return shall relate to the affairs of the credit union for the financial year preceding that in which the return is required to be sent, and, subject to subsection (3), shall be made in such form and contain such particulars as the Registrar may from time to time require.
- (3) Every annual return—
 - (a) shall be made up for the financial year to which the return relates; and
 - (b) must contain a copy of the financial statements that are prepared in relation to the credit union for the financial year; and
 - (c) *[Repealed]*
 - (d) must have attached a list containing the names, addresses, and designations of the officers of the credit union; and
 - (e) shall be accompanied by a statement giving details of the total number of members in each category of member as recorded in the register kept pursuant to section 130.

- (4) The annual return sent to the Registrar must be accompanied by the auditor's report on the financial statements referred to in subsection (3)(b).

Section 127(1): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 30(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 127(3)(b): replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 79(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 127(3)(c): repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 79(1) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Section 127(3)(d): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 30(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 127(4): replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 79(2) of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

128 Annual return by credit union under dissolution

- (1) *[Repealed]*

- (2) In the case of a credit union amalgamating or transferring its engagements pursuant to section 135, the Registrar may require an annual return made up to the date of such amalgamation or transfer of engagements, or to such other date as he may specify.

Section 128(1): repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 31 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

129 Annual return to be supplied to members

- (1) A credit union must, on the application of a member or person interested in its funds, supply to the member or person without charge a copy of the last annual return of the credit union.
- (2) A credit union must provide, together with every copy of an annual return supplied under subsection (1), a copy of the auditor's report on the financial statements contained in the return.

Section 129: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 80 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Miscellaneous provisions

130 Register of members of credit union

- (1) Every credit union shall set up and maintain an indexed register of members showing separately—
- (a) ordinary members:
 - (b) non-qualifying members within the meaning of section 106(4).
- (2) The register shall show—
- (a) the name and address of each member:
 - (b) the date on which the member joined the credit union or changed category as a member:

- (c) the date on which any person ceased to be a member.
- (3) The register of members shall also show such other particulars as may from time to time be prescribed, by notice, by the Registrar.
- (4) The register shall be kept at the registered office of the credit union, and shall be open to inspection during ordinary office hours by any member of the credit union.
- (5) A notice under subsection (3) is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under this section

Publication	It is not required to be published	LA19 s 73(2)
Presentation	It is not required to be presented to the House of Representatives because a transitional exemption applies under Schedule 1 of the Legislation Act 2019	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Section 130(3): amended, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

Section 130(5): inserted, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

131 Inspection of books and accounts of credit union

[Repealed]

Section 131: repealed, on 1 April 2014, by section 81 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

132 Financial statements must be available

Every credit union must keep available for inspection (without charge), by a member or person interested in its funds, at its office during ordinary office hours a copy of the last financial statements completed and signed in accordance with the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013 or any other Act, together with the auditor's report.

Section 132: replaced, on 1 April 2014, by section 82 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

133 Credit union to be insured against fraud or other dishonesty

- (1) A credit union must have a policy of insurance that complies with the requirements of this section.
- (2) In order to comply with this section, a policy of insurance—
- (a) subject to such exceptions as may be prescribed, shall insure the credit union in respect of every description of loss suffered or liability incurred by reason of the fraud or other dishonesty of any of its officers or employees; and

- (b) shall so insure the credit union up to a limit of not less than such amount as may be prescribed in respect of any one claim, except that the liability of the insurer may be restricted to a prescribed amount in respect of the total of the claims made in any one year; and
 - (c) shall not, except with the consent in writing of the Registrar, provide in relation to any claim for any amount greater than 1% of the limit referred to in paragraph (b) to be met by the credit union; and
 - (d) shall comply with such other conditions as may be prescribed.
- (3) In this section, **prescribed** means prescribed from time to time by the Governor-General by Order in Council; and different exceptions, amounts, limits, and conditions may be prescribed in respect of different credit unions or classes of credit union.
- (4) *[Repealed]*
- (5) Every credit union which, at any time, fails to maintain in force a policy of insurance complying with the requirements of this section, and every member of the committee of management of such a credit union, commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.
- (6) An order under this section is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Compare: Credit Unions Act 1979 s 15 (UK)

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under this section

Publication	PCO must publish it on the legislation website and notify it in the <i>Gazette</i>	LA19 s 69(1)(c)
Presentation	The Minister must present it to the House of Representatives	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Section 133(1): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 32(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 133(4): repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 32(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 133(5): amended, on 1 July 2013, by section 413 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81).

Section 133(6): inserted, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

133A Method of contracting

- (1) A contract or other enforceable obligation may be entered into by a credit union as follows:
- (a) an obligation that, if entered into by a natural person, would, by law, be required to be by deed may be entered into on behalf of the credit union in writing signed under the name of the credit union by—
 - (i) 2 or more officers of the credit union; or

- (ii) if the credit union's rules so provide, an officer, or other person or class of persons, whose signature or signatures must be witnessed; or
 - (iii) 1 or more attorneys appointed by the credit union in accordance with section 133B:
 - (b) an obligation that, if entered into by a natural person, is, by law, required to be in writing may be entered into on behalf of the credit union in writing by a person acting under the credit union's express or implied authority:
 - (c) an obligation that, if entered into by a natural person, is not, by law, required to be in writing may be entered into on behalf of the credit union in writing or orally by a person acting under the credit union's express or implied authority.
- (2) A credit union may, in addition to complying with subsection (1), affix its common seal, if it has one, to the contract or document containing the enforceable obligation.
- (3) Subsection (1) applies to a contract or other obligation—
- (a) whether or not that contract or obligation was entered into in New Zealand; and
 - (b) whether or not the law governing the contract or obligation is the law of New Zealand.

Section 133A: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 33 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

133B Attorneys

- (1) A credit union may, by an instrument in writing executed in accordance with section 133A(1)(a), appoint a person as its attorney either generally or in relation to a specified matter.
- (2) Subsection (1) is subject to the credit union's rules.
- (3) An act of the attorney in accordance with the instrument binds the credit union.
- (4) Sections 19 to 21 of the Property Law Act 2007 apply, with all necessary modifications, in relation to a power of attorney executed by a credit union—
- (a) to the same extent as if the credit union were a natural person; and
 - (b) as if the commencement of the liquidation of the credit union or, if there is no liquidation, the removal of the credit union from the register under section 140 were an event revoking the power of attorney within the meaning of those sections.

Section 133B: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 33 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

134 Guarantee funds

[Repealed]

Section 134: repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 34 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Amalgamations and transfers of engagements

Heading: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 35 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

135 Amalgamation of credit unions and transfer of engagements of 1 credit union to another credit union

- (1) Two or more credit unions may, by special resolution of each of them, amalgamate as 1 credit union.
- (2) The amalgamated credit union may continue as—
 - (a) one of the amalgamating credit unions; or
 - (b) a new credit union.
- (3) A credit union may, by special resolution, transfer its engagements to any other credit union that, by special resolution or in any other manner that may be authorised by its rules, has undertaken to fulfil the engagements of that credit union.
- (4) A credit union, other than an association, must not—
 - (a) amalgamate with—
 - (i) an association; or
 - (ii) a body that is not a credit union; or
 - (b) transfer its engagements to, or accept a transfer of engagements from,—
 - (i) an association; or
 - (ii) a body that is not a credit union.
- (5) An association must not—
 - (a) amalgamate with a body that is not an association; or
 - (b) transfer its engagements to, or accept a transfer of engagements from, a body that is not an association.

Section 135: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 35 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

135A Members of credit union to be given information about proposed amalgamation or transfer of engagements

- (1) Before a credit union amalgamates, or transfers its engagements, information relating to the terms of the proposed amalgamation or transfer must be given to the credit union's members by sending to each member, not less than 14 days before the date of the general meeting at which the resolution for the amalgam-

ation or transfer is to be proposed, a notice the contents of which have been approved for the purpose by the Registrar.

- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the information to be given must relate, at the least, to the following:
 - (a) the financial position of the credit union and that of the other credit union concerned;
 - (b) the interest of the officers of the credit union, and of the officers of the other credit union concerned, in the amalgamation or transfer;
 - (c) the compensation or other consideration (if any) proposed to be paid to any officers referred to in paragraph (b);
 - (d) the payments (if any) to be made to the members of the credit union, and to the members of the other credit union concerned, in consideration of the amalgamation or transfer.

Section 135A: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 35 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

135B Secured creditors and public notice

Before a credit union amalgamates, transfers its engagements, or accepts a transfer of engagements from another credit union, the credit union must, at or before the prescribed time,—

- (a) send to every secured creditor of the credit union the prescribed information relating to the proposed amalgamation or transfer; and
- (b) give public notice of the proposed amalgamation or transfer in the prescribed manner and containing the prescribed information relating to the proposed amalgamation or transfer.

Section 135B: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 35 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

135C Registration of special resolutions for amalgamation or transfer of engagements

- (1) Section 85 applies, with any necessary modifications, if a special resolution is passed for the amalgamation, or transfer of engagements, of a credit union.
- (2) Further, the Registrar must not register the special resolution unless satisfied that the requirements of section 100B(1)(a) to (f) or 146(1)(a) to (d) are met in relation to, as the case requires,—
 - (a) the amalgamated credit union; or
 - (b) the credit union to which the transfer of engagements is being made.
- (3) Once each special resolution relating to an amalgamation, or to a transfer of engagements, has been registered, the Registrar must,—
 - (a) in the case of an amalgamation,—
 - (i) issue a certificate of amalgamation; and

- (ii) if the amalgamated credit union is one of the amalgamating credit unions, make any necessary changes to that credit union's registration (for example, registering its new rules); and
 - (iii) if the amalgamated credit union is a new credit union, act under section 100B(2) or 146(2) in relation to that credit union (and section 100B(3) to (5) or 146(3) to (5) applies accordingly); and
 - (iv) remove from the register under section 140 any amalgamating credit union that is not the amalgamated credit union; or
 - (b) in the case of a transfer of engagements,—
 - (i) issue a certificate of transfer of engagements; and
 - (ii) make any necessary changes to the registration of the credit union to which the transfer is being made (for example, registering its new rules); and
 - (iii) remove the other credit union from the register under section 140.
- (4) On and after the date set out in the certificate of amalgamation or transfer of engagements,—
 - (a) in the case of an amalgamation,—
 - (i) the amalgamation is effective in accordance with its terms; and
 - (ii) the amalgamated credit union succeeds to all the property, rights, powers, and privileges of each of the amalgamating credit unions; and
 - (iii) the amalgamated credit union succeeds to all the liabilities and obligations of each of the amalgamating credit unions; and
 - (iv) proceedings pending by, or against, an amalgamating credit union may be continued by, or against, the amalgamated credit union; and
 - (v) a conviction, ruling, order, or judgment in favour of, or against, an amalgamating credit union may be enforced by, or against, the amalgamated credit union; or
 - (b) in the case of a transfer of engagements,—
 - (i) the transfer is effective in accordance with its terms; and
 - (ii) the credit union to which the transfer is made succeeds to all the property, rights, powers, and privileges of the other credit union; and
 - (iii) the credit union to which the transfer is made succeeds to all the liabilities and obligations of the other credit union; and
 - (iv) proceedings pending by, or against, the other credit union may be continued by, or against, the credit union to which the transfer is made; and

- (v) a conviction, ruling, order, or judgment in favour of, or against, the other credit union may be enforced by, or against, the credit union to which the transfer is made.
- (5) The date set out in the certificate of amalgamation or transfer of engagements must be—
 - (a) the date immediately after the date on which it is issued; or
 - (b) if later, the date on which the amalgamation or transfer of engagements is to become effective in accordance with its terms.
- (6) In this Part, **non-qualifying member**,—
 - (a) in relation to an amalgamated credit union, includes a person who does not fulfil the qualifications for admission to membership of the credit union but became a member of it by virtue of the amalgamation, having been, immediately before the amalgamation became effective, a non-qualifying member of one of the amalgamating credit unions; and
 - (b) in relation to a credit union to which there is a transfer of engagements, includes a person who does not fulfil the qualifications for admission to membership of the credit union but became a member of it by virtue of the transfer, having been, immediately before the transfer became effective, a non-qualifying member of the credit union whose engagements are transferred.

Section 135C: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 35 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

135D Other registers

- (1) The Registrar-General of Land, the Registrar of Deeds, or any other person charged with keeping any books or registers is not obliged to change the name of a transferor credit union to that of a transferee credit union in those books or registers or in any documents solely because an amalgamation or a transfer of engagements has been effected.
- (2) The presentation to a Registrar or any other person of a specified instrument is, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, sufficient evidence that the property to which the instrument relates has become the property of the transferee credit union.
- (3) In subsection (2), a **specified instrument** is an instrument that—
 - (a) is executed or purports to be executed by the transferee credit union; and
 - (b) relates to any property held immediately before the amalgamation or transfer of engagements by a transferor credit union; and
 - (c) states that the property has become the property of the transferee credit union by virtue of section 135C(4).
- (4) Subsection (5) applies if—

- (a) any financial products issued by a person (A) or any rights or interests in property of a person (A) become, by virtue of section 135C(4), the property of a transferee credit union; and
 - (b) a certificate signed on behalf of the committee of management of the transferee credit union is presented to A, stating that those products, rights, or interests have by virtue of section 135C(4) become the property of the transferee credit union.
- (5) Despite subsections (1) and (2) and any other enactment or rule of law, A, on presentation of the certificate, must register the transferee credit union as the holder of the financial products or as the person entitled to the rights or interests.
- (6) Except as provided in this section, nothing in sections 135 to 135C derogates from the provisions of the Land Transfer Act 1952 or the Land Transfer Act 2017.
- (7) In this section,—
- transferee credit union,—**
- (a) in relation to an amalgamation, means the amalgamated credit union:
 - (b) in relation to a transfer of engagements, means the credit union to which the transfer is made
- transferor credit union,—**
- (a) in relation to an amalgamation, means an amalgamating credit union:
 - (b) in relation to a transfer of engagements, means the credit union from which the transfer is made.

Section 135D: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 35 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

135E Powers of court in relation to proposed amalgamation or transfer of engagements

- (1) This section applies if a creditor of a relevant credit union, or any other person to whom a relevant credit union is under an obligation, believes that the creditor or other person would be unfairly prejudiced by a proposed amalgamation or transfer of engagements.
- (2) The creditor or other person may apply to the District Court for an order under subsection (3).
- (3) The court may, if it is satisfied that the creditor or other person would be unfairly prejudiced by the proposed amalgamation or transfer of engagements, make any order the court thinks fit in relation to the proposal, including—
 - (a) directing that effect must not be given to the proposal:
 - (b) modifying the proposal in any manner specified in the order:

- (c) directing the relevant credit union or its committee of management to reconsider the proposal or any part of it.
- (4) An order may be made under subsection (3) on the conditions that the court thinks fit.
- (5) In this section, **relevant credit union** means,—
 - (a) in relation to a proposed amalgamation, an amalgamating credit union:
 - (b) in relation to a proposed transfer of engagements, the credit union making the transfer or the credit union to which the transfer would be made.

Section 135E: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 35 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

136 Registrar may approve amalgamations or transfers of engagements of credit unions

- (1) If, after notice has been given of a general meeting at which it is proposed to put a special resolution amalgamating or transferring the engagements of the credit union pursuant to section 135 the meeting lapses for want of the quorum specified in the rules of the credit union, the committee of the credit union may apply to the Registrar to confirm the amalgamation or transfer as if the special resolution had been properly passed.
- (2) Notice of every such application shall be published by the credit union in the *Gazette*, and in such newspaper or newspapers as the Registrar may require.
- (3) Objections in writing may be made to the Registrar, and for this purpose the objection provisions of section 85 with any necessary modifications shall apply to the application as if it were a special resolution passed in respect of a friendly society and the date of publication of the application were the date the special resolution was received by the Registrar under subsection (3) of that section.

Section 136(1): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 36 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Inspection, liquidation, suspension of business, removal from register, and restoration to register

Heading: substituted, on 1 July 1994, by section 2 of the Company Law Reform (Transitional Provisions) Act 1994 (1994 No 16).

Heading: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 37 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

137 Registrar may appoint inspectors or call special meeting

Section 89 (which relates to the appointment of inspectors or the calling of special meetings) shall, as far as it is applicable and with any necessary modification, apply in respect of a credit union as if it were a society registered under Part 2.

Compare: Credit Unions Act 1979 s 18 (UK)

137A Members may resolve to put credit union into liquidation

- (1) A credit union may be put into liquidation by the appointment of a liquidator by the credit union's members.
- (2) The liquidator must be appointed by a special resolution.
- (3) Part 16 of the Companies Act 1993 applies to the liquidation of a credit union under subsection (1), with all necessary modifications, as if the credit union were a company that has been put into liquidation under section 241(2)(a) of that Act.

Section 137A: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 38 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

138 High Court may put credit union into liquidation

- (1) On an application under this section, the High Court may appoint a liquidator of a credit union for the liquidation of the credit union if—
 - (a) the credit union is unable to pay its debts; or
 - (aa) the credit union has not commenced operations within 1 year of incorporation or has suspended its operations for more than 6 months; or
 - (ab) incorporation has been obtained for the credit union by fraud or mistake; or
 - (ac) the credit union exists for an illegal purpose; or
 - (ad) the requirement about membership in section 100B(1)(a) is not met in relation to the credit union; or
 - (b) there has been, in relation to that credit union, failure to comply with any provision of, or any direction given under, this Act; or
 - (c) there is no longer a common bond between the members of the credit union; or
 - (d) the liquidation of the credit union is in the public interest or is just and equitable having regard to the interests of all members of the credit union.
- (2) An application under this section may be made by any of the following:
 - (a) the credit union;
 - (b) a member of the credit union;
 - (c) a creditor of the credit union;
 - (d) the Registrar.
- (3) Part 16 of the Companies Act 1993 applies, with any necessary modifications,—
 - (a) to an application under this section as if the application were an application under section 241(2)(c) of that Act; and

- (b) to the liquidation as if the liquidator had been appointed under section 241(2)(c) of that Act.

Section 138: substituted, on 22 November 2006, by section 10 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2006 (2006 No 65).

Section 138 heading: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 39(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 138(1): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 39(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 138(1): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 39(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 138(1)(a): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 39(4) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 138(1)(aa): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 39(4) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 138(1)(ab): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 39(4) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 138(1)(ac): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 39(4) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 138(1)(ad): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 39(4) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 138(2): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 39(5) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 138(3): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 39(5) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

138A COVID-19 business debt hibernation may apply

[Repealed]

Section 138A: repealed, on the close of 31 May 2022, by section 138A(2).

138A Transitional provisions applying to liquidation of credit unions

[Repealed]

Section 138A: repealed, on 5 December 2013, by section 14 of the Companies Amendment Act 2013 (2013 No 111).

139 Registrar may suspend business of credit union

- (1) Subject to this section, where the Registrar is satisfied that, having regard to the interests of all the members of the credit union or in the interests of potential members of the credit union it is expedient to do so, he may give a direction prohibiting the credit union to such extent and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the direction from carrying on all or any of the following activities:
- (a) borrowing money:
 - (b) accepting a payment representing the whole or any part of an amount due by way of subscription for a share in the credit union other than a payment which fell due before the making of the order:

- (c) lending money:
 - (d) repaying share capital:
 - (e) accepting new members.
- (2) Not less than 1 month before giving a direction under subsection (1), the Registrar shall give the credit union notice in writing that he proposes to give such a direction, and shall set out in the notice his reasons for doing so.
 - (3) The Registrar shall consider any representations with respect to a notice under subsection (2) which may be made to him by the credit union within such period (being not less than 1 month) as he may allow from the date on which the credit union is given the notice or such further period as he may allow; and, if the credit union so requests, shall afford it an opportunity of being heard by him within that period or further period.
 - (4) Where the Registrar gives a direction under subsection (1) he shall give the credit union notice in writing of it setting out his reasons for doing so; but he shall not give such a direction under the said subsection (1) unless all the reasons set out were those, or were among those, which were set out in the notice given to the credit union under subsection (2).
 - (5) Notice of the giving of a direction under subsection (1) shall be published by the Registrar in the *Gazette* and in some newspaper in general circulation in the neighbourhood of the registered office of the credit union.
 - (6) Nothing in any direction given under this section shall make it unlawful for a credit union to borrow from a bank if the credit union has first obtained the consent in writing of the Registrar.
 - (7) For the purposes of this section and of any direction given under it, if any indebtedness of a member to a credit union is set off to any extent against the share capital credited to him, then, to that extent, the setting off shall be treated as a repayment of that share capital.
 - (8) A direction given under this section may be revoked by the Registrar, and notice of the revocation shall be published in the same manner as notice of the giving of the direction.
 - (9) Where a direction under this section is revoked, any obligation of any person to make a payment to the credit union which fell due at a time when the credit union was prohibited by the direction from accepting it shall be suspended for a period equal to the period for which the prohibition was in force.
 - (10) Subject to subsection (9), any obligation to make to a credit union a payment which the credit union is prohibited from accepting by a direction under this section shall be wholly rescinded.
 - (11) A credit union may, within 1 month after the date of publication of a direction in the *Gazette* under subsection (5), appeal to the High Court against the whole

or any part of the direction; but, until the appeal is determined, the direction shall have effect according to its tenor.

Compare: Credit Unions Act 1979 s 19 (UK)

Section 139(6): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 40 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140 Removal from register

- (1) A credit union is removed from the register when the Registrar, acting under subsection (2), registers a notice issued by the Registrar stating that the credit union is removed from the register.
- (2) The Registrar may remove a credit union from the register—
 - (a) in accordance with section 135C(3)(a)(iv) or (b)(iii) on the date set out in the certificate of amalgamation or transfer of engagements; or
 - (b) if a request that the credit union be removed from the register on a ground specified in subsection (3) is given to the Registrar in accordance with the credit union's rules; or
 - (c) if the credit union has been put into liquidation, and—
 - (i) no liquidator is acting; or
 - (ii) the documents referred to in section 257(1)(a) of the Companies Act 1993 (as applied by section 137A or 138 of this Act) have not been sent or delivered to the Registrar within 6 months after the liquidation is completed; or
 - (d) if a liquidator sends or delivers to the Registrar—
 - (i) the documents referred to in section 257(1)(a) of the Companies Act 1993 (as applied by section 137A or 138 of this Act); and
 - (ii) a copy of the notice referred to in section 140A(1)(a).
- (3) A request may be made on the grounds—
 - (a) that the credit union has ceased to operate, has discharged in full its liabilities to all its known creditors, and has distributed its remaining assets to those persons entitled to them or otherwise in accordance with its rules; or
 - (b) that the credit union has no assets remaining after paying its debts in full or in part, and no creditor has applied to the High Court under section 138 for an order putting the credit union into liquidation.
- (4) A request must be made in the prescribed manner (if any).

Section 140: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140A Notice of intention to remove from register

- (1) The Registrar may remove a credit union from the register under section 140(2)(b) to (d) only if—

- (a) the Registrar is satisfied that notice of the intention to remove the credit union from the register has been given in the prescribed manner to the public and all other prescribed persons (if any); and
 - (b) the Registrar—
 - (i) is satisfied that no person has objected to the removal under section 140B; or
 - (ii) if an objection to the removal has been received, has complied with sections 140C and 140D.
- (2) The notice under subsection (1)(a) must specify the date by which an objection to the removal under section 140B must be delivered to the Registrar, which must be no less than the prescribed number of working days after the date of the notice.

Section 140A: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140B Objection to removal from register

- (1) If a notice is given under section 140A(1)(a), any person may deliver to the Registrar, not later than the date specified in the notice, an objection to the removal on any of the following grounds:
- (a) that the credit union is still operating or there is other reason for it to continue in existence:
 - (b) that the credit union is a party to a legal proceeding:
 - (c) that the credit union is in receivership or liquidation, or both:
 - (d) that the person is a creditor, or another person, who has an undischarged claim against the credit union:
 - (e) that, for any other reason, it would not be just and equitable to remove the credit union from the register.
- (2) Section 321(2) of the Companies Act 1993 applies for the purposes of subsection (1)(d), with all necessary modifications, as if the credit union were a company.

Section 140B: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140C Objections under section 140B(1)(a), (b), or (c)

If an objection is made under section 140B(1)(a), (b), or (c), the Registrar must not proceed with the removal unless the Registrar is satisfied that—

- (a) the objection has been withdrawn; or
- (b) any facts on which the objection is based are not, or are no longer, correct; or
- (c) the objection is frivolous or vexatious.

Section 140C: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140D Objections under section 140B(1)(d) or (e)

- (1) If an objection is made under section 140B(1)(d) or (e), the Registrar may give notice to the person objecting that, unless notice of a specified application is given to the Registrar not later than 20 working days after the date of the notice, the Registrar intends to proceed with the removal.
- (2) In this section, **specified application** means an application under section 138 or 140F.
- (3) The Registrar may proceed with the removal if—
 - (a) notice of a specified application is not served on the Registrar; or
 - (b) the specified application is withdrawn; or
 - (c) on the hearing of the specified application, the court refuses to grant either an order putting the credit union into liquidation or an order that the credit union not be removed from the register.
- (4) Every person who makes a specified application must give the Registrar notice in writing of the decision of the court within 5 working days after the decision is given.

Section 140D: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140E Registrar must send information to person who requests removal

The Registrar must send the following to a person who delivered a request under section 140(2)(b) or a liquidator referred to in section 140(2)(d):

- (a) a copy of an objection under section 140B;
- (b) a copy of a notice given by or to the Registrar under section 140D;
- (c) if the credit union is removed from the register, notice of the removal.

Section 140E: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140F High Court may order that credit union not be removed

- (1) A person who gives a notice objecting to the removal of a credit union from the register on a ground specified in section 140B(1)(d) or (e) may apply to the High Court for an order that the credit union is not to be removed from the register.
- (2) The court may, if it is satisfied that the credit union should not be removed from the register on any of the grounds in section 140B(1), make an order that the credit union is not to be removed from the register.

Section 140F: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140G Liability of officers, members, and others to continue

The removal of a credit union from the register does not affect the liability of any former officer or member of the credit union or any other person in respect of any act or omission that took place before the credit union was removed from the register, and that liability continues and may be enforced as if the credit union had not been removed from the register.

Section 140G: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140H Restoration of credit union to register

- (1) A credit union is restored to the register when the Registrar, acting under section 140I or an order made under section 140K, registers a notice issued by the Registrar stating that the credit union is restored to the register.
- (2) A credit union that is restored to the register must be treated as having continued in existence as if it had not been removed from the register.

Section 140H: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140I Registrar may restore credit union to register

- (1) The Registrar must, on an application made in the prescribed manner, and may, on the Registrar's own motion, restore a credit union to the register if the Registrar is satisfied that, at the time the credit union was removed from the register,—
 - (a) the credit union was still operating or another reason existed for the credit union to continue in existence; or
 - (b) the credit union was a party to a legal proceeding; or
 - (c) the credit union was in receivership or liquidation, or both.
- (2) This section does not limit section 140K.

Section 140I: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140J Notice of proposed restoration

- (1) Before the Registrar restores a credit union to the register under section 140I, the Registrar must be satisfied that notice of the intention to restore the credit union to the register has been given in the prescribed manner to the public and all other prescribed persons (if any).
- (2) The notice under subsection (1) must specify the date by which an objection to the restoration may be delivered to the Registrar, which must be no less than the prescribed number of working days after the date of the notice.
- (3) The Registrar must not restore a credit union to the register under section 140I if the Registrar receives an objection to the restoration within the period stated in the notice under subsection (1).

Section 140J: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140K High Court may order restoration of credit union

- (1) The High Court may, on the application of a person referred to in subsection (2), order that a credit union be restored to the register if it is satisfied that,—
 - (a) at the time the credit union was removed from the register,—
 - (i) the credit union was still operating or another reason existed for the credit union to continue in existence; or
 - (ii) the credit union was a party to a legal proceeding; or
 - (iii) the credit union was in receivership or liquidation, or both; or
 - (iv) the applicant was a creditor, or another person, who had an undischarged claim against the credit union; or
 - (b) for any other reason it is just and equitable to restore the credit union to the register.
- (2) The following persons may make an application:
 - (a) any person who is prescribed for the purposes of this subsection:
 - (b) the Registrar:
 - (c) with the leave of the court, any other person.

Section 140K: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140L Registrar or High Court may require provisions of this Act to be complied with

The Registrar or the High Court may, before restoring a credit union to the register under section 140I or ordering its restoration to the register under section 140K, require any of the provisions of this Act to be complied with (being provisions with which the credit union had failed to comply before it was removed from the register).

Section 140L: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

140M Other High Court orders

- (1) This section applies if a credit union is restored to the register under section 140I or its restoration to the register is ordered under section 140K.
- (2) The High Court may, on the application of the Registrar or the applicant for restoration or on its own motion, give any directions or make any orders that may be necessary or desirable for the purpose of placing the credit union and any other persons as nearly as possible in the same position as if the credit union had not been removed from the register.

- (3) However, a direction or an order may not require the return to the credit union of any assets that have been properly transferred in accordance with any provision of the credit union's rules that falls within item 17 of Schedule 4.

Section 140M: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 41 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

141 Liability of members on winding up

Where a credit union is wound up pursuant to section 137A or 138, the liability of a present or past member of the credit union to contribute for payment of the debts and liabilities of the credit union, the expenses of winding up, and the adjustment of the rights of contributories amongst themselves, shall be as follows:

- (a) no person who ceased to be a member not less than 1 year before the beginning of the winding up shall be liable to contribute:
- (b) no person shall be liable to contribute in respect of any debt or liability contracted after he ceased to be a member:
- (c) no person who is not a member shall be liable to contribute unless it appears to the court that the contributions of the existing members are insufficient to satisfy the just demands on the credit union:
- (d) no contribution shall be required from any person exceeding the amount, if any, unpaid on the shares and the credit union securities referred to in section 107A in respect of which he is liable as a past or present member, together with any fees or charges or levies payable as such by a member to the credit union as specified in the rules and any money owing by the member to the credit union:
- (e) in the case of a withdrawable share which has been withdrawn, a person shall be taken to have ceased to be a member in respect of that share as from the date of the notice or application for withdrawal.

Section 141: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 42(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 141: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 42(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 141(d): amended, on 31 August 2012, by section 16 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64).

Nomination of shares

142 Nomination of shares in credit union

- (1) Notwithstanding that, pursuant to section 107(2), shares in a credit union are not transferable, a member of a credit union may, by writing under his hand delivered at or sent to the registered office of the credit union, or made in a register kept at that office, nominate a person or persons to receive any shares that the member may have in the credit union at his decease or any sum of money payable by the credit union at that time.

- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), sections 43, 44, and 45 shall, as far as they are applicable and with any necessary modification, apply in respect of a credit union as if—
- (a) the references to societies were references to credit unions; and
 - (b) the references to the maximum amount nominated of \$2,000 were references to the maximum value of shares or sum of money nominated as being \$2,000 in total.
- (3) If the transfer of any shares comprised in a nomination in the manner directed by the nominator would raise the share capital of any nominee beyond the maximum for the time being permitted in the case of that credit union, the committee of the credit union shall not transfer to that nominee more of those shares than will raise his share capital to that maximum and shall pay him the value of any of those shares not transferred.

Compare: Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965 s 24 (UK)

Associations of credit unions

143 Associations of credit unions may be incorporated under this Part

- (1) *[Repealed]*
- (2) Any 2 or more credit unions may apply to the Registrar in accordance with section 145 for the incorporation of an association of credit unions under this Part.
- (3) The objects of the association must be, or fall within, the objects set out in subsection (4).
- (4) The objects referred to in subsection (3) are as follows:
 - (a) to promote the interests of the association's members:
 - (b) as authorised by the association's rules,—
 - (i) to provide its members or other persons with products or services:
 - (ii) otherwise to carry out activities for the benefit or assistance of its members or other persons.

Section 143 heading: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 43(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 143(1): repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 43(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 143(2): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 43(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 143(3): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 43(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 143(4): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 43(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

144 Membership of association

- (1) The members of an association shall be the credit unions by which the association is formed and any other credit unions that are admitted to membership of the association in accordance with its rules.
- (2) Where an association is formed by the amalgamation of 2 or more associations, the members of the association formed by the amalgamation shall be the members of the amalgamating associations and other members that are admitted in accordance with the rules of the association formed by the amalgamation.

145 Application for incorporation of association

- (1) An application under section 143(2) for the incorporation of an association of credit unions must be signed by each of the applicants.
- (2) The application must include—
 - (a) a copy of the association’s proposed rules; and
 - (b) a list of the names, addresses, and designations of the officers proposed for the association.
- (3) Except where otherwise authorised in writing by the Registrar in the circumstances of any case, the name of every association of credit unions shall contain the words “association of credit unions”.
- (4) *[Repealed]*

Section 145 heading: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 44(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 145(1): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 44(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 145(2): replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 44(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 145(4): repealed, on 1 April 2019, by section 44(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

146 Incorporation of association

- (1) Subsection (2) applies if an application is made under section 143(2) for the incorporation of an association of credit unions and the Registrar is satisfied—
 - (a) that the association will have at least 2 members; and
 - (b) that the rules as submitted are not contrary to the provisions of this Act and may be reasonably approved by the Registrar; and
 - (c) that there are reasonable grounds for believing that the association will be able to carry out its objects successfully; and
 - (d) that there is no reasonable cause why the association should not be incorporated.
- (2) The Registrar must—
 - (a) register the association’s name; and

- (b) issue a certificate of incorporation; and
 - (c) register the association's rules (together with any other documents or information relating to the association that the Registrar thinks appropriate).
- (3) The association is, on and after the date of incorporation set out in the certificate of incorporation, a body corporate that has—
 - (a) perpetual succession; and
 - (b) the capacity, rights, powers, and privileges provided for in section 107B.
- (4) The association continues in existence until it is removed from the register under section 140.
- (5) The certificate of incorporation is conclusive evidence that—
 - (a) all the requirements of this Part as to incorporation have been complied with; and
 - (b) on and after the date of incorporation set out in the certificate, the association is registered and incorporated under this Part.
- (6) If the Registrar refuses to act under subsection (2) in relation to an application, the applicants may, within 3 months after the date on which they are notified of the refusal, appeal against the refusal to the High Court.
- (7) If the refusal is overruled on appeal, then, subject to such terms and conditions as the court may impose or otherwise in pursuance of the court order, the Registrar must act under subsection (2) as soon as practicable.
- (8) Sections 98 to 102, 103(1), 106(1) to (6), 106B(6), 107, 107A, 138(1)(c), and 142 do not apply in respect of associations.
- (9) Section 103(3) applies in respect of an association as if section 145(3) were in section 103.
- (10) If an association has only 2 members, section 106B(4) applies in respect of the association as if the reference to 3 members were to 2 members.

Section 146: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 45 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Part 4

Miscellaneous provisions

147 Changes of name

- (1) Subject to this Act, a registered society or branch or credit union may, by ordinary resolution, change its name with the approval in writing of the Registrar.
- (2) No change of name shall affect any right, duty, or obligation of the society, branch, or credit union, or of any member or officer thereof.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 61

147A Meetings may be held using audio, audio and visual, or electronic communication

The rules of a registered society or branch or of a credit union may (without limitation) provide for meetings to be held using audio, audio and visual, or electronic communication.

Section 147A: inserted, on 30 May 2017, by section 106 of the Regulatory Systems (Commercial Matters) Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 12).

147B Postal, electronic, and proxy voting

- (1) This section applies to any matter that is to be determined by a vote of members of a registered society or branch or of a credit union.
- (2) The rules of the registered society or branch or of the credit union—
 - (a) may (without limitation) permit voting in 1 or more of the following ways:
 - (i) by post:
 - (ii) by electronic means (for example, by email or by the use of an Internet site):
 - (iii) by proxy; and
 - (b) must set out the procedures to be followed in relation to any voting permitted under paragraph (a).
- (3) Rules under this section that permit voting by post or electronic means may permit or require votes cast by post or electronic means to be cast in advance of any meeting at which the matter in question is to be determined.
- (4) Subsection (3) applies despite any enactment (for example, sections 64(3), 65(1)(a), and 82(1) of this Act) that requires a resolution to be passed, or a matter to be otherwise determined, at a meeting.

Section 147B: inserted, on 30 May 2017, by section 106 of the Regulatory Systems (Commercial Matters) Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 12).

148 Exemptions from Customs duty

No Customs duties shall be chargeable on regalia, emblems, certificates, almanacs, and banners being the property of any registered society or branch.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 98(2)

149 Recovery of costs, etc, awarded by Registrar

Any costs or expenses ordered or directed by the Registrar to be paid by any person under this Act shall be recoverable as a debt in any court of competent jurisdiction by the person to whom they are payable.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 100

150 Certain persons prohibited from managing societies or credit unions

- (1) Any person who, being an undischarged bankrupt or bound by a composition in favour of his creditors, acts as a committee member or trustee of, or directly or indirectly takes part in or is concerned in the management of, a registered society or branch or credit union or in any business or activity undertaken by such society, branch, or credit union except with the leave of the High Court shall be guilty of an offence against this Act and shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.
- (2) Any person who has been convicted of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty and is liable on conviction with imprisonment for a term of 3 months or more and who, within a period of 5 years after his conviction, or if he is sentenced to imprisonment, after his release from prison, without the leave of the High Court is a committee member or trustee or promoter of, or is, whether directly or indirectly, concerned or takes part in the management of, a registered society or branch or credit union or in any business or activity undertaken by such society, branch, or credit union, he shall be guilty of an offence against this Act and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.
- (3) A person intending to apply for the leave of the court under this section shall give to the Registrar not less than 10 days' notice of his intention so to apply.
- (4) On the hearing of any application under this section, the Registrar may appear or be represented at the hearing of, and may oppose the granting of, the application.
- (5) Nothing in this section shall apply in respect of any person who, as at the commencement of this Act, acts as a committee member or trustee of, or directly or indirectly takes part in or is concerned in the management of a registered society or branch or credit union or in any business or activity undertaken by such society, branch, or credit union, and who, but for this subsection, would be guilty of an offence against this Act.

Compare: Friendly Societies Act 1912 s 93A (NSW)

Section 150(1): amended, on 1 July 2013, by section 413 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81).

Section 150(2): amended, on 1 July 2013, by section 413 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81).

151 Appeals

- (1) Except where this Act otherwise provides—
 - (a) where this Act provides for an appeal to the High Court; or
 - (b) where any person is aggrieved by the decision of the Registrar in relation to any matter or thing done by him pursuant to this Act,—

the person for whom the appeal is provided or the person aggrieved shall have a right of appeal to the High Court under this section.

- (2) Except where otherwise provided by this Act, every such appeal shall be brought within 1 month after the date on which the appellant was notified of the decision appealed against, or within such further period as the court may allow.
- (3) Where a decision of the Registrar under Part 2 is to cancel or suspend any registration or suspend any business, then, except where this Act otherwise provides, that decision shall be of no effect until,—
 - (a) where notice of an appeal against that decision has been given within the period specified in subsection (2), the appeal is determined; or
 - (b) where no notice of an appeal against that decision has been given within that period, that period expires.
- (4) The court may receive in evidence any statement, document, information, or matter that may in its opinion assist it to deal effectually with the matters before it, whether or not that evidence would be otherwise admissible in a court of law.
- (5) In its determination of any appeal the court may confirm, modify, or reverse the decision appealed against, or any part of that decision, and, subject to subsection (6), the decision of the court shall be final and conclusive.
- (6) The court may in any case, instead of determining any appeal, direct the Registrar to reconsider, either generally or in respect of any specified matters, the whole or any specified part of the matter to which the appeal relates.
- (7) In giving any such direction, the court shall—
 - (a) advise the Registrar of its reasons for doing so; and
 - (b) give to the Registrar such directions as it thinks just as to the reconsideration or otherwise of the whole or any part of the matter that is referred back for reconsideration.
- (8) The Registrar shall, in reconsidering any matter so referred back to him, have regard to the court's reasons for giving a direction and to the court's directions under subsection (7).

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 102

Section 151(3): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 46 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

152 Regulations

- (1) The Governor-General may, from time to time by Order in Council, make regulations for all or any of the following purposes:
 - (a) prescribing fees payable in relation to any matter under this Act:
 - (b) prescribing the proper allowances to be made by a credit union for contingent liability for loss in respect of any loan made by that credit union:

- (c) prescribing, in respect of any fund or funds held, arranged, or established by any registered society or branch undertaking insurance or by an association of credit unions, the amount or proportion of any such fund to be invested in New Zealand Government securities or local authority securities:
 - (ca) prescribing matters as referred to in section 135B, 140(4), 140A(1)(a) or (2), 140I(1), 140J(1) or (2), or 140K(2)(a):
 - (d) providing for such matters as are contemplated by or necessary for giving full effect to the provisions of this Act and for its due administration.
- (2) Regulations under this section are secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under this section

Publication	PCO must publish it on the legislation website and notify it in the <i>Gazette</i>	LA19 s 69(1)(c)
Presentation	The Minister must present it to the House of Representatives	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Section 152(1)(ca): inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 47 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 152(2): inserted, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

152A Validation of fees used to recover costs of other Companies Office registers, etc

- (1) This section applies to a fee—
- (a) that—
 - (i) is or was payable or purportedly payable on or before 30 June 2022 under any of the Acts listed in subsection (4) or any regulations made under any of those Acts; and
 - (ii) was (or is or will be) used in whole or in part to recover the costs or a share of the costs of the Registrar in operating 1 or more registers under this Act or in exercising or performing any other powers, functions, and duties of the Registrar under this Act or any regulations made under this Act; or
 - (b) that—
 - (i) is or was payable or purportedly payable on or before 30 June 2022 under this Act or any regulations made under this Act; and
 - (ii) was (or is or will be) used in whole or in part to recover the costs or a share of the costs of 1 or more registers operated under any of the Acts listed in subsection (5) or in exercising or performing the

powers, functions, and duties of a Registrar under any of those Acts or any regulations made under any of those Acts.

- (2) The fee is and always has been validly imposed.
- (3) Money received by the Registrar of any register maintained by the Companies Office in payment of the fee—
 - (a) is and always has been lawfully collected and applied; and
 - (b) may continue to be applied on and after 1 July 2022 to recover costs referred to in subsection (1)(a)(ii) and (b)(ii).
- (4) The Acts are—
 - (a) the Auditor Regulation Act 2011:
 - (b) the Building Societies Act 1965:
 - (c) the Companies Act 1993:
 - (d) the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013:
 - (e) the Financial Reporting Act 1993:
 - (f) the Financial Service Providers (Registration and Dispute Resolution) Act 2008:
 - (g) the Incorporated Societies Act 1908:
 - (h) the Insolvency Practitioners Regulation Act 2019:
 - (i) the Limited Partnerships Act 2008:
 - (j) the Personal Property Securities Act 1999:
 - (k) the Retirement Villages Act 2003:
 - (l) the Securities Act 1978.
- (5) The Acts are—
 - (a) the Auditor Regulation Act 2011:
 - (b) the Building Societies Act 1965:
 - (c) the Charitable Trusts Act 1957:
 - (d) the Companies Act 1993:
 - (e) the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013:
 - (f) the Financial Reporting Act 1993:
 - (g) the Financial Reporting Act 2013:
 - (h) the Financial Service Providers (Registration and Dispute Resolution) Act 2008:
 - (i) the Incorporated Societies Act 1908:
 - (j) the Incorporated Societies Act 2022:
 - (k) the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1908:
 - (l) the Insolvency Practitioners Regulation Act 2019:

- (m) the Limited Partnerships Act 2008:
 - (n) the New Zealand Business Number Act 2016:
 - (o) the Personal Property Securities Act 1999:
 - (p) the Retirement Villages Act 2003:
 - (q) the Securities Act 1978.
- (6) In this section,—
- Companies Office** means the division or part of each of the following departments (formerly or currently in existence) that collected or collects fees under this Act or any of the Acts listed in subsections (4) and (5):
- (a) the former Department of Justice:
 - (b) the former Ministry of Commerce:
 - (c) the former Ministry of Economic Development:
 - (d) the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment
- fee**—
- (a) includes any penalty or overdue fee imposed, or interest charged, in relation to an unpaid or overdue fee; and
 - (b) in relation to the Insolvency Practitioners Regulation Act 2019, includes a levy imposed under section 81 of that Act.

Section 152A: inserted, on 25 May 2022, by section 15 of the Companies Office Registers Funding Validation Act 2022 (2022 No 27).

153 Offences and penalties

- (1) Every registered society or branch or credit union, or officer or member thereof, commits an offence against this Act who—
- (a) without reasonable excuse, acts in contravention of or fails to comply in any respect with any provision of this Act or any notice, direction, restriction, requirement, or condition given, made or imposed under this Act or any regulations made under it:
 - (b) with intent to deceive, makes any false or misleading statement or any material omission in any communication or application or return for the purposes of this Act or of any regulations made under it.
- (2) Every person commits an offence against this Act who—
- (a) without reasonable excuse where a dispute is referred under this Act to the Registrar, that person refuses to attend, or to produce any accounting records or documents, or to give evidence before the Registrar:
 - (b) with intent to deceive, makes, or orders or allows to be made, any false entry or erasure in or omission from any accounting records or documents of a registered society or branch or credit union.

- (3) Every default under this Act constituting an offence shall constitute a new offence in every week during which the default continues.
- (4) Every person who commits an offence against this Act for which no other penalty is prescribed in this Act shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$750 and, in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$50 for every week or part of a week during which the offence continues.
- (5) Despite anything to the contrary in section 25 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011, the limitation period in respect of an offence against this Act ends on the date that is 12 months after the date on which the offence was actually brought to the knowledge of the Registrar; but no charging document may be filed after the expiration of 3 years after the date on which the offence was committed.

Section 153(4): amended, on 1 July 2013, by section 413 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81).

Section 153(5): replaced, on 1 July 2013, by section 413 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81).

154 Recovery of fines, etc, imposed on society or branch

When a fine has been imposed upon a registered society or branch in any proceedings under this Act for an offence punishable on conviction, or where in any such proceedings any such society or branch has been ordered to pay any costs, the payment of such fine or costs may be enforced and recovered in the same manner as if the society or branch were a body corporate and as if all property vested in the trustees of the society or branch were vested in the society or branch itself for the estate or interest of the trustees therein.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 88

Section 154 heading: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 48(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 154: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 48(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 154: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 48(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 154: amended, on 1 July 2013, by section 413 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81).

155 Status of trustees and officers for purposes of Crimes Act 1961

- (1) The trustees of a registered society or branch shall be deemed to be trustees within the meaning of section 229 of the Crimes Act 1961.
- (2) *[Repealed]*

Compare: 1909 No 12 ss 79, 80

Section 155(1): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 49 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 155(1): amended, on 1 October 2003, by section 34 of the Crimes Amendment Act 2003 (2003 No 39).

Section 155(2): repealed, on 1 October 2003, by section 34 of the Crimes Amendment Act 2003 (2003 No 39).

156 Liability of officers and of members of committee on commission of offence

Where a registered society or branch is guilty of an offence against this Act, every officer of the society or branch bound to fulfil any duty whereof the offence is a breach or, if there is no such officer, then every member of the committee (unless that member is proved to have been ignorant of or to have attempted to prevent the commission of the offence) shall be liable to the same penalty as if he had committed the offence.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 82

Section 156: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 50 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

157 Institution of legal proceedings by or against society or branch

- (1) The trustees of a registered society or branch, or any other authorised officer, may bring or defend, or cause to be brought or defended, any action or other legal proceeding in any court touching or concerning any property, right, or claim of the society or branch, and may sue and be sued in their proper names, without other description than the title of their office.
- (2) In legal proceedings brought under this Act by a member, or person claiming through a member, a registered society or branch may also be sued in the name, as defendant, of any officer or person who receives contributions or issues policies on behalf of the society or branch, with the addition of the words “on behalf of the (society) or (branch)”.
- (3) No legal proceeding shall abate or be discontinued by the death, resignation, or removal from office of any officer, or by any act of any such officer, after the commencement of the proceedings.
- (4) Any summons, writ, process, or other proceeding to be issued to or against the officer or other person sued on behalf of a registered society or branch shall be sufficiently served by personally serving that officer or other person, or by leaving a true copy at the registered office of the society or branch, or at any place of business of the society or branch.
- (5) Where the said summons, writ, process, or other proceeding is not served by means of such personal service, or by leaving a true copy at the registered office of the society or branch, a copy shall be sent in a registered letter addressed to the committee at the registered office of the society or branch, and posted at least 6 days before any further step is taken on the proceeding.
- (6) Where the person against whom the proceedings are to be taken is himself a trustee of a society or branch, the proceedings may be brought by the other trustees or trustee of the society or branch.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 92

Section 157 heading: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 51(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 157(1): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 51(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 157(2): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 51(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 157(2): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 51(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 157(4): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 51(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 157(5): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 51(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Section 157(6): amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 51(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

158 Proof of documents

- (1) Every instrument or document purporting to be sealed with the seal of the Registrar shall be received in evidence without further proof.
- (2) Every instrument or document purporting to be signed by the Registrar, or the revising barrister, or any actuary or auditor under this Act shall be received in evidence without proof of the signature or of the official position of the person appearing to have signed the instrument or document.
- (3) Every instrument or document required by this Act to be sent to the Registrar may be proved by a document purporting to be a copy thereof under the seal of the Registrar.

Compare: 1909 No 12 s 93

Section 158(2): amended, on 1 May 2011, by section 82 of the Financial Markets Authority Act 2011 (2011 No 5).

159 Fines imposed under rules recoverable as a debt

All fines imposed on a member by a registered society or branch pursuant to its rules shall be recoverable in the same manner as a debt owing to that society or branch by that member.

Compare: 1922 No 56 s 6

160 Savings and transitional provisions

- (1) Any society or branch existing at the commencement of this Act and registered or deemed to be registered under the Friendly Societies Act 1909 (not being a society or branch or separate loan fund of a society or branch which, under this Act, would be a credit union), shall be deemed to be registered under Part 2 and shall be subject to this Act accordingly, but shall have 2 years after the commencement of this Act to comply fully with its provisions.
- (2) Any society or branch registered or deemed to be registered under the Friendly Societies Act 1909 as at the commencement of this Act and any separate loan fund of such a society or branch, being in each case a society, branch, or loan

fund that would, under this Act, be a credit union (which, in the case of a loan fund, shall have as its first trustees and other officers the trustees and other officers of the society or branch of which it is a loan fund), shall be deemed to be registered under Part 3 and shall—

- (a) comply with all financial limits imposed in respect of credit unions on and from the day of commencement of this Act in relation to any new business entered into on and after that day; and
 - (b) comply with the provisions of section 133 (which provides for credit unions to be insured against fraud or other dishonesty) within 6 months after the commencement of this Act or within such further period as the Registrar may allow in a particular case; and
 - (c) in relation to any interest in land held in contravention of section 113, dispose of that interest within 6 months after the commencement of this Act; and
 - (d) comply with any other relevant provisions of this Act within 2 years after its commencement or within such further period as the Registrar may allow in a particular case.
- (3) Every society or body of persons which, as at the commencement of this Act, is a credit union but which is registered or incorporated under any other enactment, shall, within 2 years after the commencement of this Act, apply for registration as a credit union under this Act.
 - (4) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this section, any society or body of persons registered under the Friendly Societies Act 1909 between the day this Act receives the Governor-General's assent and the date of its commencement, being a society or body of persons which would be a credit union under this Act, shall comply fully with the provisions of this Act as from that date of commencement.
 - (5) Notwithstanding the revocation of the Friendly Societies Regulations 1910 by section 161(3), any juvenile society registered in accordance with regulations 55 and 56 of those regulations may continue in being as if those regulations had not been revoked.
 - (6) Where, in respect of any society, branch, or credit union, subsection (1) or, as the case may be, subsection (2)(d) or subsection (3) would (except for this subsection) apply, the Minister may, if he is satisfied that it would be inequitable or too difficult or too expensive for that society, branch, or credit union to comply fully with the provisions of this Act, exempt the relevant body from compliance with such provisions of this Act as he may specify by notice in the *Gazette*; and the notice shall have effect according to its tenor in respect of the business or activities of the society, branch, or credit union to which it relates.
 - (7) Any notice given under subsection (6) may be subject to such conditions as the Minister thinks fit, and may be reviewed from time to time on the application

of the Registrar or of the society, branch, or credit union to which it relates, and in like manner may be amended or revoked.

161 Amendments, repeals, and revocations

- (1) The enactments specified in Schedule 6 are hereby amended in the manner specified.
- (2) The enactments specified in Schedule 7 are hereby repealed.
- (3) The following Orders in Council are hereby revoked:
 - (a) the Order in Council made on 16 May 1911 authorising a special purpose under section 11(1)(d) of the Friendly Societies Act 1909 and published in the *Gazette* on 25 May 1911 at page 1754;
 - (b) the Friendly Societies (Financial Limits) Order 1979.
- (4) The following regulations are hereby revoked:
 - (a) regulations under the Friendly Societies Act 1909 made on 14 March 1910 and published in the *Gazette* on 21 March 1910 at page 873; and
 - (b) regulations amending those regulations made on 2 June 1919 and published in the *Gazette* on 5 June 1919 at page 1750.

Schedule 1AA

Transitional, savings, and related provisions

s 2A

Schedule 1AA: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Part 1

Provisions relating to Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018

1 Interpretation

(1) In this Part,—

application period means the period of 6 months beginning with the main commencement date

existing credit union means a credit union, or an association of credit unions, that is registered under Part 3 immediately before the main commencement date

incorporation provision means the amendments to enactments made by the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018, except the amendments made by the following:

- (a) sections 4(4), (6), and (7), 5, 6(1), 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 52 of that Act:
- (b) the Schedule of that Act

instrument includes (without limitation),—

- (a) whether in writing or not, contracts, agreements, guarantees, conveyances, deeds, leases, grants, licences, exemptions, approvals, securities, financial products, undertakings, consents, waivers, and notices:
- (b) instruments that are made under, or for the purposes of, enactments

liabilities means liabilities, debts, charges, duties, and obligations, whether present or future, whether actual or contingent, and whether payable in, or to be observed or performed in, New Zealand or elsewhere

main commencement date means the date on which the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 comes into force

property means real or personal property in New Zealand or elsewhere, and includes—

- (a) choses in action and money; and
- (b) goodwill; and
- (c) rights, interests, and claims in or to property, whether arising from or accruing under, or created or evidenced by, or the subject of, an instru-

ment or otherwise, and whether liquidated or unliquidated, actual, contingent, or prospective

relevant post-commencement date, in relation to an existing credit union, means the date of incorporation set out in the existing credit union's certificate of incorporation in accordance with clause 3(7)

rights means rights, powers, privileges, and immunities, whether actual, contingent, or prospective, and whether arising or conferred in New Zealand or elsewhere

specified date means the date specified under subclause (2).

- (2) The Governor-General may, by Order in Council, specify a date as the specified date for the purposes of this Part.
- (3) An order under subclause (2) is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under this clause

Publication	PCO must publish it on the legislation website and notify it in the <i>Gazette</i>	LA19 s 69(1)(c)
Presentation	The Minister must present it to the House of Representatives	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Schedule 1AA clause 1: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Schedule 1AA clause 1(2): 1 January 2020 is the **specified date**, on 1 April 2019, by clause 3 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Specified Date) Order 2018 (LI 2018/169).

Schedule 1AA clause 1(3): inserted, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

2 Application of incorporation provision to existing credit unions

Except as provided for in clause 3, the incorporation provision applies to an existing credit union—

- (a) only if a certificate of incorporation is issued for the existing credit union on an application for its incorporation sent to the Registrar in accordance with clause 3; and
- (b) only on and after the relevant post-commencement date.

Schedule 1AA clause 2: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

3 Existing credit unions to apply for incorporation

- (1) An existing credit union must, during the application period, send to the Registrar an application for its incorporation.
- (2) The application must be made on behalf of the existing credit union by its committee of management.
- (3) The application must—

- (a) be signed on behalf of the committee of management; and
- (b) comply with, as the case may be,—
 - (i) section 100A(1)(b) to (d) and (2) as inserted by the incorporation provision; or
 - (ii) section 145(2) as replaced by the incorporation provision.
- (4) The application (including the contents required by section 100A(1)(b) to (d) or 145(2), as the case may be)—
 - (a) must be approved by a resolution of a majority of the existing credit union's members entitled to vote and voting on the matter; and
 - (b) once it is so approved, may be sent to the Registrar despite—
 - (i) section 104(3) (as it continues to apply to the existing credit union after the main commencement date); or
 - (ii) any provision of the existing credit union's rules.
- (5) Once the application is sent to the Registrar, it is to be—
 - (a) treated as an application under, as the case may be, section 100 or 143(2) as replaced by the incorporation provision; and
 - (b) then dealt with in accordance with this Act as amended by the incorporation provision.
- (6) For the purposes of section 100B(1)(e) (if applicable), it is to be assumed that the existing credit union's name immediately before the main commencement date complies with section 103.
- (7) If a certificate of incorporation is issued on the application, the date of incorporation set out in the certificate must be—
 - (a) the specified date; or
 - (b) if later, the date immediately after the date on which the certificate is issued.
- (8) At the beginning of the relevant post-commencement date, the rules registered by the Registrar under section 100B(2)(c) or 146(2)(c) become the existing credit union's rules and its trust is terminated.

Schedule 1AA clause 3: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

4 Failure of existing credit union to apply for incorporation, etc

- (1) Subclause (2) applies if an existing credit union fails to send to the Registrar an application for its incorporation in accordance with clause 3.
- (2) The existing credit union's registration is cancelled at the end of the application period.
- (3) Subclause (4) or (5) (as the case requires) applies if—

- (a) an existing credit union sends an application to the Registrar for its incorporation in accordance with clause 3; and
 - (b) the Registrar refuses to act under section 100B(2) or 146(2).
- (4) If the Registrar's refusal is not appealed against under section 100B(6) or 146(6), the existing credit union's registration is cancelled at—
- (a) the end of the application period; or
 - (b) if later, the end of the period of 3 months referred to in section 100B(6) or 146(6).
- (5) If the Registrar's refusal is appealed against under section 100B(6) or 146(6) but the appeal is discontinued or the refusal is not overruled, the existing credit union's registration is cancelled at—
- (a) the end of the application period; or
 - (b) if later, the end of the day on which the appeal is discontinued or finally determined.
- (6) The cancellation of an existing credit union's registration by this clause is to be treated as a cancellation by the Registrar under section 140 (as in force before its replacement by the incorporation provision) and this Act and all other relevant enactments apply accordingly (disregarding the incorporation provision), except that sections 92(2) to (6) and 151 of this Act do not apply to the cancellation.

Schedule 1AA clause 4: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

5 Vesting of existing credit union's property, rights, and liabilities in body corporate, etc

- (1) This clause and clauses 6 to 12 apply to an existing credit union for which a certificate of incorporation is issued on an application for its incorporation that is sent to the Registrar in accordance with clause 3.
- (2) At the beginning of the relevant post-commencement date, the property, rights, and liabilities of the existing credit union, and of its trustees, belong to, and vest in, the body corporate established by section 100B(3) or 146(3).
- (3) Clauses 6 to 11 do not limit the generality of subclause (2) of this clause.

Schedule 1AA clause 5: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

6 Status of instruments

- (1) This clause applies to an instrument that—
 - (a) is entered into by the existing credit union or its trustees (whether alone or with another person) before the relevant post-commencement date; and
 - (b) is subsisting immediately before the relevant post-commencement date.

- (2) On and after the relevant post-commencement date, the instrument is binding on, enforceable by, against, or in favour of, or otherwise applicable to the existing credit union as the body corporate as if the body corporate had been the person who entered into the instrument before the relevant post-commencement date.
- (3) On and after the relevant post-commencement date, a reference (express or implied) to the existing credit union or its trustees in the instrument is a reference to the existing credit union as the body corporate.
- (4) In this clause, references to an instrument being **entered into** by a person include the instrument—
 - (a) being made by or with the person; or
 - (b) being issued, or given, to or by the person; or
 - (c) being addressed to the person; or
 - (d) being otherwise applicable to the person.

Schedule 1AA clause 6: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

7 Continuation of legal and other proceedings

- (1) This clause applies to a proceeding—
 - (a) that was pending or that existed by, against, in favour of, or otherwise in relation to, the existing credit union before the relevant post-commencement date; or
 - (b) to which the existing credit union was a party before the relevant post-commencement date.
- (2) The proceeding must be continued and enforced by, against, in favour of, or otherwise in relation to, the existing credit union as the body corporate or with the body corporate as the party.
- (3) It is not necessary to amend an application, notice, or other document to do so.
- (4) In subclause (1), references to the existing credit union include the following:
 - (a) its trustees;
 - (b) any authorised officer acting under section 157(1);
 - (c) any other person sued, or suing, on behalf of the existing credit union.
- (5) In this clause, **proceeding** includes action, arbitration, cause of action, conviction, judgment, liquidation, order, and ruling.

Schedule 1AA clause 7: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

8 Employees

- (1) At the beginning of the relevant post-commencement date, each employee of the existing credit union or its trustees becomes an employee of the existing credit union as the body corporate.
- (2) For the purposes of an enactment, rule of law, contract, or agreement relating to the employee, the contract of employment of the employee must be treated as unbroken and a period of service with the existing credit union or its trustees before the relevant post-commencement date must be treated as a period of service with the existing credit union as the body corporate.
- (3) The terms and conditions of employment of the employee must remain the same as the terms and conditions of his or her employment with the existing credit union or its trustees immediately before the relevant post-commencement date, but they may be varied in the same manner.
- (4) The employee is not entitled to receive a payment or benefit by reason only of the change in the employee's employment status under this clause.

Schedule 1AA clause 8: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

9 Taxes and duties

For the purposes of the Inland Revenue Acts (as that term is defined in section 3 of the Tax Administration Act 1994),—

- (a) the existing credit union as the body corporate is the same person as the existing credit union and its trustees before the relevant post-commencement date; and
- (b) a transaction entered into by, or an act of, the existing credit union or its trustees at a time (the **relevant time**) before the relevant post-commencement date must be treated—
 - (i) as having been entered into by, or as an act of, the existing credit union as the body corporate; and
 - (ii) as having been entered into, or as performed by, the existing credit union as the body corporate at the relevant time.

Schedule 1AA clause 9: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

10 Other registers

- (1) The Registrar-General of Land, the Registrar of Deeds, or any other person charged with keeping any books or registers is not obliged to make any changes to those books or registers or in any other documents solely because any property of the existing credit union or its trustees belongs to, and vests in, the body corporate at the beginning of the relevant post-commencement date.
- (2) The presentation to a Registrar or any other person of a specified instrument is, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, sufficient evidence that the property

to which the instrument relates belongs to, and is vested in, the existing credit union as the body corporate.

- (3) In subclause (2), a **specified instrument** is an instrument that—
- (a) is executed or purports to be executed by the existing credit union as the body corporate; and
 - (b) relates to any property of the existing credit union or its trustees before the relevant post-commencement date; and
 - (c) states that the property belongs to, and is vested in, the existing credit union as the body corporate by virtue of this Part.
- (4) Subclause (5) applies if—
- (a) any financial products issued by a person (A) or any rights or interests in property of a person (A) belong to, and vest in, the body corporate at the beginning of the relevant post-commencement date; and
 - (b) a certificate signed on behalf of the committee of management of the existing credit union as the body corporate is presented to A, stating that those products, rights, or interests have become the property of the existing credit union as the body corporate.
- (5) Despite subclauses (1) and (2) and any other enactment or rule of law, A, on presentation of the certificate, must register the body corporate as the holder of the financial products or as the person entitled to the rights or interests.
- (6) Except as provided in this clause, nothing in this Part derogates from the provisions of the Land Transfer Act 1952 or the Land Transfer Act 2017.

Schedule 1AA clause 10: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

11 Effect of incorporation, etc

Neither the incorporation of the existing credit union nor anything in or effected by, or done under, clauses 5 to 10—

- (a) places any person in breach of, or otherwise in default under, an enactment, an instrument, a confidence, a trust, or any other rule of law or equity, or makes any person liable for a civil wrong; or
- (b) entitles any person—
 - (i) to require the payment or performance of a liability not otherwise arising for payment or performance; or
 - (ii) to exercise a right not otherwise becoming exercisable; or
- (c) invalidates or discharges an instrument or any provision of an instrument; or
- (d) releases a surety from a liability.

Schedule 1AA clause 11: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

12 Termination of security provided under section 114

- (1) Despite clauses 5(2) and 6 to 11, any security provided under section 114 before the relevant post-commencement date terminates at the beginning of that date.
- (2) Subclause (1) does not prevent the body corporate from enforcing the security in relation to any failure or other event that occurs before the relevant post-commencement date.

Schedule 1AA clause 12: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 52 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Schedule 1

Purposes for which friendly societies may be established

s 11

- 1 For the relief or maintenance of the members of the society, their spouses, civil union partners, or de facto partners (in this schedule referred to as a member's **spouse or partner**) (including any former spouse or partner), children (including step-children), fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces, or wards being orphans, during sickness or other infirmity (whether bodily or mental) or at any age after 50 or when their spouse or partner has died, or for the relief or maintenance of the orphan children (including step-children) of members during minority or at any later time while they are receiving full-time education.
- 2 For insuring money to be paid—
 - (a) on the birth of a member's child; or
 - (b) on the death of a member; or
 - (c) for the funeral expenses of a member, the spouse or partner (including any former spouse or partner), or child of a member, or of the surviving spouse or partner of a member; or
 - (d) with respect to persons of the Jewish persuasion, during the period of confined mourning; or
 - (e) in respect of loan balances or shares in a credit union, where the common bond of members of the credit union is membership of the society.
- 3 For the relief or maintenance of members when travelling in search of employment, or when in distressed circumstances.
- 4 For medical or surgical attendance, relief, or requisites for members, their spouses or partners (including any former spouse or partner), children (including step-children), fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces, or wards being orphans.
- 5 For the endowment of members or nominees of members at any age or on marriage or entry into civil union.
- 6 For insuring money to be paid to a member of the society on the duration for a specified period of the member's life, either with or without provision for the payment of money in the event of his or her death before the expiry of that period.
- 7 For the insurance against fire of the tools or implements of the trade or calling of the members.
- 8 For guaranteeing the performance of their duties by officers and employees of the society or of any of its branches.

Schedule 1 item 1: amended, on 26 April 2005, by section 7 of the Relationships (Statutory References) Act 2005 (2005 No 3).

Schedule 1 item 2(c): amended, on 26 April 2005, by section 7 of the Relationships (Statutory References) Act 2005 (2005 No 3).

Schedule 1 item 4: amended, on 26 April 2005, by section 7 of the Relationships (Statutory References) Act 2005 (2005 No 3).

Schedule 1 item 5: amended, on 26 April 2005, by section 7 of the Relationships (Statutory References) Act 2005 (2005 No 3).

Schedule 2
Matters to be provided for by the rules of societies registered under
Part 2

ss 12, 23

- 1 The name of the society.
- 2 The place which is to be the registered office of the society, to which all communications and notices may be addressed.
- 3 The whole of the objects for which the society is to be established, the purposes for which the funds of the society are to be applied, the terms of admission of members, the conditions under which any member may become entitled to any benefit assured by the society, and the fines and forfeitures to be imposed on any member and the consequences of non-payment of any subscription or fine.
Note: The rules of a society need not contain tables in accordance with which obligations to provide benefits to members have been undertaken or policies of assurance have been issued by the society, if the rules of the society provide that no further obligations may be undertaken or (as the case may be) no further policies may be issued in accordance with any such tables.
- 4 The manner of holding meetings (and of giving notice, when required, of the business to be transacted at any meeting), provision for the calling of an annual general meeting, and the right of voting and the manner of making, altering, or rescinding rules.
- 5 The appointment and removal of a committee of management (by whatever name), of a treasurer and other officers and of trustees and, in the case of a society with branches, the composition and powers of the central body and the conditions under which a branch may secede or be expelled from the society.
- 6 The investment of the funds, the keeping of the accounts, and the audit (if any) of the financial statements.
- 7 Annual returns to the Registrar relating to the affairs and numbers of members of the society.
- 8 The inspection of the books and accounts of the society by every person having an interest in the funds of the society.
- 9 The manner in which disputes shall be settled.
- 10 In the case of dividing societies, a provision for meeting all claims upon the society existing at the time of division before any such division takes place.
- 11 The voluntary dissolution of the society by the consent of at least 75% of the number of its members.
- 12 The right of members of the society to apply to the Registrar for an investigation of the affairs of the society or for winding it up.

- 13 In the case of friendly societies, the keeping of a separate account of the expenses of management and of all contributions and other money which may be applied to those expenses.
- 14 Such other matters as may be specified by the Registrar by notice. Any such notice is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under item 14

Publication	It is not required to be published	LA19 s 73(2)
Presentation	It is not required to be presented to the House of Representatives because a transitional exemption applies under Schedule 1 of the Legislation Act 2019	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Schedule 2 item 6: amended, on 1 April 2014, by section 84 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Schedule 2 item 14: amended, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

Schedule 3
**Matters to be provided for by the rules of or for branches registered
under Part 2**

ss 14, 23

- 1 The name of the branch.
- 2 The place which is to be the registered office of the branch to which all communications and notices may be addressed.
- 3 The whole of the objects for which the branch is to be established, the purposes for which the funds of the branch are to be applied, the terms of admission of members, the conditions under which any member may become entitled to any benefit assured by the branch, and the fines and forfeitures to be imposed on any member and the consequences of non-payment of any subscription or fine.
Note: The rules of a branch need not contain tables in accordance with which obligations to provide benefits to members have been undertaken or policies of assurance have been issued by the branch if the rules of the branch provide that no further obligations may be undertaken or (as the case may be) no further policies may be issued in accordance with any such tables.
- 4 The manner of holding meetings (and of giving notice, when required, of the business to be transacted at any meeting), provision for the calling of an annual general meeting, and the right of voting and the manner of making, altering, or rescinding rules.
- 5 The appointment and removal of a committee of management (by whatever name), of a treasurer and other officers and of trustees, the contribution to a fund under the control of the central body, the control of the central body over the branch, and the conditions under which the branch may secede from the society.
- 6 The investment of the funds, the keeping of the accounts, and the audit (if any) of the financial statements.
- 7 Annual returns to the Registrar through the society relating to the affairs and numbers of members of the branch.
- 8 The inspection of the books and accounts of the branch by every person having an interest in the funds of the branch.
- 9 The manner in which disputes of a kind referred to in section 78(2) must be settled.
- 10 In the case of dividing societies, a provision for meeting all claims upon the branch existing at the time of division before any such division takes place.
- 11 The voluntary dissolution of the branch by the consent of the central body and of at least 75% of the number of its members.
- 12 The right of members of the branch to apply to the Registrar for an investigation of the affairs of the branch or for winding it up.

- 13 In the case of a branch of a friendly society, the keeping of a separate account of the expenses of management and of all contributions and other money which may be applied to those expenses.
- 14 Such other matters as may be specified by the Registrar by notice. Any such notice is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under item 14

Publication	It is not required to be published	LA19 s 73(2)
Presentation	It is not required to be presented to the House of Representatives because a transitional exemption applies under Schedule 1 of the Legislation Act 2019	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Schedule 3 item 6: amended, on 1 April 2014, by section 85 of the Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102).

Schedule 3 item 9: replaced, on 15 April 2004, by section 6 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2004 (2004 No 28).

Schedule 3 item 14: amended, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

Schedule 4

Matters to be provided for in rules of credit unions

s 104

- 1 The name of the credit union.
- 2 The place which is to be the registered office of the credit union to which all communications and notices to the credit union may be addressed.
- 3 The objects of the credit union.
- 4 The qualifications for, and the terms of, admission to membership of the credit union, including any special provision for the insurance of members in relation to their shares.
- 5 The manner of holding meetings (and of giving notice, when required, of the business to be transacted at any meeting), provision for the calling of an annual general meeting, and the manner of making, altering, or rescinding rules.
- 6 The appointment and removal of a committee of management (by whatever name known) and of other officers.
- 7 The denomination of share capital and a determination of the minimum and maximum amount of the interest in the shares of the credit union which may be held by any member.
- 8 Provision for the manner of withdrawal of shares and for payment of the balance due thereon on withdrawal from the credit union.
- 9 The mode and circumstances, expressed either generally or specifically, in which loans to members are to be made and repaid, including any special provision for the insurance of members in relation to loans made to them.
- 9A Whether or not the credit union is to make loans of the kind referred to in section 110(1)(b) and, if it is, the mode and circumstances, expressed either generally or specifically, in which the loans are to be made and repaid, including any special provision for the insurance of any person to whom a loan is made.
- 10 The investment of funds, the keeping of the accounts, and the audit of the accounts at least once a year.
- 11 Annual returns to the Registrar relating to the affairs and numbers of members of the credit union.
- 12 The inspection of the books and accounts of the credit union by every person having an interest in the funds of the credit union.
- 13 The manner in which disputes of a kind referred to in section 78(2) must be settled.
- 14 Provision for the withdrawal of members from the credit union and for the claims of the representatives of deceased members or the trustees of the property of bankrupt members, and for the payment of nominees.

- 15 Provision for terminating the membership of members in order to comply with the limit provided for on the number of non-qualifying members of a credit union and for the repayment of the shares held by, and of any loans made to, a member whose membership is terminated for such a purpose.
- 16 The right of members of the credit union to apply to the Registrar for an investigation of the affairs of the credit union.
- 16A Provision about when, and by whom, a request may be made under section 140(2)(b).
- 17 Provision requiring, on the credit union's winding-up under section 137A or 138 or on or before its removal from the register under section 140, any assets remaining after the payment of debts, repayment of share capital, and discharge of other liabilities—
- (a) to be transferred to another credit union, or an association of credit unions; or
- (b) if not so transferred, to be applied for charitable purposes.
- 18 Such other matters as may be specified by the Registrar by notice. Any such notice is secondary legislation (*see* Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019 for publication requirements).

Legislation Act 2019 requirements for secondary legislation made under item 18

Publication	It is not required to be published	LA19 s 73(2)
Presentation	It is not required to be presented to the House of Representatives because a transitional exemption applies under Schedule 1 of the Legislation Act 2019	LA19 s 114, Sch 1 cl 32(1)(a)
Disallowance	It may be disallowed by the House of Representatives	LA19 ss 115, 116

This note is not part of the Act.

Schedule 4 item 6: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 53(1) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Schedule 4 item 9A: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 53(2) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Schedule 4 item 13: substituted, on 15 April 2004, by section 7 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2004 (2004 No 28).

Schedule 4 item 16A: inserted, on 1 April 2019, by section 53(3) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Schedule 4 item 17: replaced, on 1 April 2019, by section 53(4) of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

Schedule 4 item 18: amended, on 28 October 2021, by section 3 of the Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7).

Schedule 5
Persons exempt from incorporation as a credit union

s 99(1)(a), (2)

Schedule 5 heading: amended, on 1 April 2019, by section 54 of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17).

The Public Service Investment Society Limited

The Consumers' Co-operative Society (Manawatu) Limited

Schedule 6 Enactments amended

s 161(1)

Administration Act 1969 (1969 No 52)

Amendment(s) incorporated in the Act(s).

Income Tax Act 1976 (1976 No 65)

Amendment(s) incorporated in the Act(s).

Labour Department Act 1954 (1954 No 71) (RS Vol 7, p 521)

Amendment(s) incorporated in the Act(s).

Land Tax Act 1976 (1976 No 64)

Amendment(s) incorporated in the Act(s).

Stamp and Cheque Duties Act 1971 (1971 No 51)

Amendment(s) incorporated in the Act(s).

Trade Unions Act 1908 (1908 No 196) (1957 Reprint, Vol 15, p 827)

Amendment(s) incorporated in the Act(s).

Unit Trusts Act 1960 (1960 No 99)

Amendment(s) incorporated in the Act(s).

Schedule 7

Enactments repealed

s 161(2)

Age of Majority Act 1970 (1970 No 137)

Amendment(s) incorporated in the Act(s).

Crown Proceedings Act 1950 (1950 No 54) (RS Vol 2, p 51)

Amendment(s) incorporated in the Act(s).

Friendly Societies Act 1909 (1909 No 12) (RS Vol 6, p 417)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1911 (1911 No 5) (RS Vol 6, p 474)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1915 (1915 No 64) (RS Vol 6, p 475)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1922 (1922 No 56) (RS Vol 6, p 476)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1948 (1948 No 23) (RS Vol 6, p 479)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1949 (1949 No 30) (RS Vol 6, p 479)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1953 (1953 No 62) (RS Vol 6, p 480)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1959 (1959 No 64) (RS Vol 6, p 481)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1961 (1961 No 112) (RS Vol 6, p 481)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1962 (1962 No 70) (RS Vol 6, p 482)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1963 (1963 No 89) (RS Vol 6, p 482)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1968 (1968 No 83) (RS Vol 6, p 482)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1970 (1970 No 63) (RS Vol 6, p 483)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1972 (1972 No 61) (RS Vol 6, p 483)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1975 (1975 No 21) (RS Vol 6, p 484)

Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1977 (1977 No 152) (RS Vol 6, p 485)

Statutes Amendment Act 1942 (1942 No 18) (RS Vol 6, p 478)

Amendment(s) incorporated in the Act(s).

Notes

1 *General*

This is a consolidation of the Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Act 1982 that incorporates the amendments made to the legislation so that it shows the law as at its stated date.

2 *Legal status*

A consolidation is taken to correctly state, as at its stated date, the law enacted or made by the legislation consolidated and by the amendments. This presumption applies unless the contrary is shown.

Section 78 of the Legislation Act 2019 provides that this consolidation, published as an electronic version, is an official version. A printed version of legislation that is produced directly from this official electronic version is also an official version.

3 *Editorial and format changes*

The Parliamentary Counsel Office makes editorial and format changes to consolidations using the powers under subpart 2 of Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019. See also PCO editorial conventions for consolidations.

4 *Amendments incorporated in this consolidation*

Coroners Amendment Act 2023 (2023 No 8): section 36

Companies Office Registers Funding Validation Act 2022 (2022 No 27): section 15

Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 2021 (2021 No 57): section 147

Financial Reporting (Inflation Adjustments) Regulations 2021 (LI 2021/307): regulation 11

Secondary Legislation Act 2021 (2021 No 7): section 3

Public Service Act 2020 (2020 No 40): section 135

Partnership Law Act 2019 (2019 No 53): section 86

Trusts Act 2019 (2019 No 38): section 161

Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Specified Date) Order 2018 (LI 2018/169)

Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Regulatory Improvements) Amendment Act 2018 (2018 No 17)

Electronic Interactions Reform Act 2017 (2017 No 50): Part 3 subpart 8

Land Transfer Act 2017 (2017 No 30): section 250

Regulatory Systems (Commercial Matters) Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 12): Part 1 subpart 9

Burial and Cremation Amendment Act 2016 (2016 No 74): section 11

District Court Act 2016 (2016 No 49): section 261

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Financial Reporting (Amendments to Other Enactments) Act 2013 (2013 No 102): sections 64–85

Companies Amendment Act 2013 (2013 No 111): section 14

Financial Markets (Repeals and Amendments) Act 2013 (2013 No 70): section 150

Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2012 (2012 No 64)
Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81): section 413
Financial Markets Authority Act 2011 (2011 No 5): section 82
Insurance (Prudential Supervision) Act 2010 (2010 No 111): section 241(2)
Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Maximum Gross Sum) Order 2008 (SR 2008/353)
Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Amendment Act 2008 (2008 No 48): section 47
Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2007 (2007 No 59)
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Friendly Societies and Credit Unions (Maximum Annuity) Order 2004 (SR 2004/210)
Friendly Societies and Credit Unions Amendment Act 2004 (2004 No 28)
Crimes Amendment Act 2003 (2003 No 39): section 34
Public Trust Act 2001 (2001 No 100): section 170(1)
Arbitration Act 1996 (1996 No 99): section 17
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Trustee Amendment Act 1988 (1988 No 119): section 14(1)
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