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[This is a reprint of the Bill as passed by the Legislative Council last session.]

Hon. Mr. Rolleston.

AFFIRMATIONS AND DECLARATIONS.

ANALYSIS.

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| <p>Title.</p> <p>1. Short Title.</p> <p>2. Affirmation and declaration may be made in lieu of oath.</p> <p>3. Form of affirmation and declaration where specific form of oath prescribed.</p> | <p>4. Form of affirmation and declaration where no specific form of oath prescribed.</p> <p>5. Affirmation and declaration to have same effect as oath.</p> <p>6. Penalty for refusing to make affirmation and declaration.</p> <p>7. Penalty for making false statement.</p> |
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A BILL INTITLED

AN ACT to enable Affirmations and Declarations to be taken in lieu of Oaths. Title.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

5 1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Affirmations and Declarations Act, 1883." Short Title.

2. Where, by any law or enactment now or that may hereafter be in force, any person is required or permitted to take an oath, such person may make a solemn affirmation and declaration in the manner prescribed by this Act, instead of taking an oath; and, in any case where any person objects to the taking of an oath, every Committee of either House of the General Assembly, Court, tribunal, authority, or person authorized, permitted, or required to allow an oath to be taken before it or him, shall accept such affirmation and declaration instead of an oath. Affirmation and declaration may be made in lieu of oath.

15 3. Where a specific form of oath to be taken has been prescribed by any law or enactment now or that may hereafter be in force, the form of affirmation and declaration to be made instead of such oath shall be in the form of such oath, substituting the words "sincerely and truly affirm and declare" for the word "swear," and omitting the words "So help me God." Form of affirmation and declaration where specific form of oath prescribed.

20 4. Where no form of oath has been prescribed as aforesaid, the form of affirmation and declaration to be made under the provisions of this Act instead of such oath shall be as follows:— Form of affirmation and declaration where no specific form of oath prescribed.

"I do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare—

"(1). That I conscientiously object to the taking of an oath.

25 "(2). That" [Here state matter to be affirmed and declared].

[Signature, when required by law, to be in writing.]

Add, if declaration in writing,—

"Declared before me the day of 18 ."

Affirmation and declaration to have same effect as oath.

5. The making an affirmation and declaration in any manner authorized by this Act, whether the same be made orally or in writing, shall in all respects have the same effect as the taking the oath for which the same is substituted.

Penalty for refusing to make affirmation and declaration.

6. If any person permitted by this Act to make an affirmation and declaration instead of an oath declines, neglects, or refuses to make such affirmation and declaration, he shall be subject to the same penalties and disabilities (if any) as he would have been subjected to for declining or neglecting to take the oath for which the affirmation and declaration provided by this Act is allowed to be substituted. 5

Penalty for making false statement.

7. If any person shall knowingly and wilfully make any false statement in 10 any such affirmation and declaration, he shall be liable to the penalties attached by any law in force for the time being to the offence of wilful and corrupt perjury.