

Hon. Mr. Parry

BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION
AMENDMENT

ANALYSIS

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1924. Title.

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Births and Deaths Registration Amendment Act, 1947, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1924 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act). Short Title. See Reprint of Statutes, Vol. VIII, p. 36

Special Register in respect of Deaths of Members of Forces while Overseas

Register to be compiled in respect of deaths of members of Forces while out of New Zealand.

Particulars to be entered in register.

Proof of death.

2. The Registrar-General shall compile a register containing, so far as practicable, particulars with respect to all persons who are proved to the satisfaction of the Registrar-General to have died while out of New Zealand on service with any of the Armed Forces of His Majesty and who at the time of their deaths were domiciled in New Zealand. 5

3. The register compiled under the *last preceding* section shall, with respect to each person whose death is registered therein, contain particulars (so far as may be ascertained) as to— 10

- (a) The name and sex of the deceased person;
- (b) The force or unit in which he was serving at the time of his death, his rank, and his official number; 15
- (c) His occupation and usual place of abode prior to his departure from New Zealand;
- (d) His birthplace and parentage; 20
- (e) His age at date of death;
- (f) The condition of deceased at the time of his death (whether married or single, or a widower, or divorced);
- (g) The date and place of death; 25
- (h) The cause of death;
- (i) The place of burial; and
- (j) The source of the information from which the aforesaid particulars are obtained.

4. For the purposes of the said register the Registrar-General may accept in proof of the death of any person the fact that the Supreme Court has granted probate or administration or has granted leave to swear to the death, or may accept a certificate signed by an officer of His Majesty's Forces or by any other person authorized in that behalf by the Minister of Defence, or may accept such other proof of death, and of the several particulars required to be registered as aforesaid, as he deems sufficient. 30 35

5. (1) Any clerical error that may at any time be discovered in the register compiled under section *two* hereof may be corrected by the Registrar-General.

Correction of errors in register.

5 Registrar-General that there is any error of fact or substance in any entry in the said register or that any additional particulars that should be noted in the entry have been ascertained, the Registrar-General may amend the entry by correcting the error or inserting
10 the additional particulars.

(3) Instead of correcting any error or inserting any additional particulars in any entry in the said register, the Registrar-General may if he thinks fit make a new entry in the register (including therein a
15 reference to the old entry), and in every such case he shall write across the old entry a reference to the new entry.

(4) The Registrar-General shall add to every note, correction, or addition made in any entry in the said
20 register, and to every reference written across any such entry, his signature (which may consist of initials) and the date on which it is written. Every such note, correction, addition, reference, signature, and date shall be deemed to be part of the entry.

25 (5) Except as specially provided in this section, no alteration shall be made in any entry in the said register.

6. The Registrar-General shall cause an index of the entries in the register compiled under section *two* hereof to be compiled and kept in his office, and shall
30 permit any person, without payment of any fee, to search the index and the register and to have a copy certified under the hand of the Registrar-General or under his seal of any entry in the register.

Searches of register and issue of certified copies.

35 7. (1) The Registration of Deaths Emergency Regulations 1941 are hereby revoked.

Repeals and savings.

(2) Section three of the Births and Deaths Registration Amendment Act, 1930, is hereby repealed.

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40 (3) The register compiled under the regulations hereby revoked, and all entries, certificates, and copies and generally all acts of authority that originated under those regulations or under the enactment hereby

See Reprint of Statutes, Vol. VIII, p. 58

repealed, and are subsisting or in force on the commencement of this Act shall enure for the purposes of this Act as if they had originated under the corresponding provisions of this Act, and accordingly shall, where necessary, be deemed to have so originated. 5

(4) All matters and proceedings commenced under the regulations hereby revoked or the enactment hereby repealed and pending or in progress on the commencement of this Act may be continued, completed, and enforced under this Act. 10

Foregoing provisions to apply to Maori servicemen.

8. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection five of section sixty of the principal Act, the foregoing provisions of this Act shall apply to Maoris—that is to say, to persons belonging to the aboriginal race of New Zealand, including half-castes and persons intermediate 15 in blood between half-castes and persons of pure descent from that race.

Sealing of Certified Copies of Registers by Registrar-General

Amendments of principal Act enabling certified copies of registers to be sealed by Registrar-General.

9. The principal Act is hereby amended as follows:— 20

- (a) By omitting from subsection two of section forty-four the words “ or, if such certified copy be under the seal of the Registrar, then a fee of five shillings; ”: 25
- (b) By inserting in subsection one of section forty-five, after the words “ Registrar-General’s hand ”, the words “ or under his seal ”:
- (c) By omitting from subsection two of section forty-five the words “ or if such certified copy 30 be under the seal of the Registrar-General, then a fee of five shillings; ”:
- (d) By omitting from section forty-eight the words “ purporting to be signed by the Registrar-General or any Registrar ”, and substituting 35 the words “ purporting to be signed by the Registrar-General, or sealed or stamped with his seal, or signed by any Registrar ”.