COUNTIES ACT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.

Short Title.
Readjustment of representation of ridings upon petition. Proviso.
Appeal to the Governor.
Balloting-out and elections.
Act to be part of "The Counties Act, 1886."

A BILL INTITULED

An Acr to further amend "The Counties Act, 1886." BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Counties Act Amend- short Title.

ment Act, 1890."

2. If at any time there shall be presented to the Council a Readjustment of petition signed by twenty or more county electors, representing not representation of ridings upon less than half the rateable value in any riding, praying the Council to petition. 10 take into consideration the representation of the different ridings

with a view to the readjustment of the same, the Council shall at its next ordinary meeting, or at a special meeting convened for that purpose, proceed to take such matter into consideration accordingly; and if it be found that, having regard to the number of county electors 15 and rateable value, the representation of any riding or ridings is insuf-

ficient or excessive, the Council shall alter the representation in such a way that the representation of the separate ridings may, as far as possible, be proportioned to the rateable value and number of county electors of each riding:

Provided always that no Council shall take action under this Proviso.

section more than once during its term of office:

And provided further that nothing in this section contained shall be deemed to repeal the provisions of section forty-six of "The

Counties Act, 1886."

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3. If the Council shall refuse or neglect to proceed as in section Appeal to the 25 two of this Act provided, or if it shall refuse or neglect to make a readjustment, or if any readjustment made shall fail to be in accordance with the requirements of the said section, then, upon the same being shown to the satisfaction of the Governor, he may, by No. 131—1.

Title.

Order in Council, apportion the representation of the several ridings in such manner as he shall deem necessary to give effect thereto.

Balloting-out and elections.

4. Upon any such readjustment or apportionment of representation being made in any county a ballot shall be taken in the Council to decide as to what Councillor or Councillors shall retire in the case of the riding or ridings for which the number of representatives is to be reduced, and such Councillor or Councillors shall retire accordingly, and an election shall be held for the return of the additional Councillor or Councillors in the case of the riding or ridings for which the number of representatives is to be increased as if extraordinary vacancies had occurred by resignations in the offices of Councillors for such riding or ridings.

Act to be part of "The Counties Act, 1886."

5. This Act shall be read with and as part of "The Counties Act, 1886."

By Authority: George Didsbury, Government Printer, Wellington.-1890.