

[AS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON THE
STATUTES AMENDMENT BILL]

House of Representatives, 24 October 1956

Hon. Mr Marshall

CORONERS AMENDMENT

ANALYSIS

Title		1. Short Title 2. Taking of evidence at inquests
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A BILL INTITULED

An Act to amend the Coroners Act 1951

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

1. Short Title—This Act may be cited as the Coroners Amendment Act 1956, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Coroners Act 1951 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

2. Taking of evidence at inquests—Section seventeen of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after subsection four, the following subsection:

“(4A) Where—

“(a) The Coroner is satisfied that there is no reason making it desirable that the witness should give the whole of his evidence orally; and

“(b) No person attending the inquest and entitled to examine and cross-examine witnesses objects to the procedure being followed,—

the Coroner may permit any witness to give the whole or part of his evidence by tendering a previously prepared statement in writing and confirming the same on oath. The witness may be cross-examined on any evidence in the statement as if it had been given orally at the inquest, and the statement shall form part of the depositions taken at the inquest.”