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This PUBLIC BILL originated in the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, and, having this day passed as now printed, is transmitted to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

*House of Representatives,
10th September, 1903.*

[AS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL,
29TH SEPTEMBER, 1903.]

Hon. Sir J. G. Ward.

CITY SINGLE ELECTORATES.

ANALYSIS.

<p>Title.</p> <p>1. Short Title.</p> <p>2. City electorates abolished, and single electorates substituted.</p>	<p>3. Number of electoral districts.</p> <p>4. Licensing districts not affected.</p>
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to make Better Provision for the Representation in Parliament of the Electors residing in Cities, *and to provide for taking the Licensing Polls therein.* Title.

5 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 City Single Electorates Act, 1903”; and it shall form part of and be read together with Short Title.
10 “The Electoral Act, 1902” (hereinafter referred to as “the principal Act”).

2. (1.) The existing electoral districts of the City of Christchurch, the City of Dunedin, the City of Auckland, and the City of Wellington shall each be divided into three electoral districts, with City electorates abolished, and single electorates substituted.
15 such names and boundaries as may be determined by the Representation Commissions appointed under the principal Act:

Provided that such boundaries shall be so defined so as to give as nearly as practicable one-third of the population of the existing electoral district to each of the districts into which the same is
20 divided.

(2.) The said Commissions shall make such division when directed so to do by the Governor, and all the provisions of the principal Act relating to the proceedings and report of the Commissions shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply:

25 Provided that such report shall not come into effect until the expiry of the present Parliament.

(3.) On the coming into effect of such report the existing city electoral districts shall be abolished, and for each of the electoral districts constituted under this Act there shall be one member.

30 3. Whenever the said Commissions are required to divide the colony into electoral districts as provided by the principal Act, they shall, after having ascertained the quota referred to in section six of that Act, divide the colony into as many districts as there are members (not Maori members) to be returned. Number of electoral districts.

Licensing districts
not affected.

4. Nothing herein shall be deemed to alter the boundaries of any licensing district constituted under "*The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act, 1893*," as the same existed immediately before the passing of this Act, and with respect to the several licensing districts of the Cities of Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin, as constituted under the last-mentioned Act, the following provisions shall, notwithstanding anything to the contrary thereof contained in "*The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act, 1893*," or in "*The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act Amendment Act, 1895*," apply:—

New.

- (a.) Each such district shall comprise the three electoral districts hereby constituted, and whenever hereafter the Commissions shall divide the colony into electoral districts as aforesaid shall comprise such three electoral districts as the Commissions shall from time to time name as substituted for such electoral districts. 15
- (b.) Such districts shall be called respectively—
The Auckland Licensing District,
The Wellington Licensing District,
The Christchurch Licensing District, and 20
The Dunedin Licensing District.
- (c.) The Governor shall from time to time whenever necessary appoint a Returning Officer (who shall be the Returning Officer of one of the three electorates comprising the district) to be the Returning Officer for the licensing 25 district.
- (d.) All references in the Licensing Acts as defined by "*The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act Amendment Act, 1895*," and in any Act amending the same, and in "*The Electoral Act, 1902*," to the Returning Officer shall, for the purposes of the licensing poll and of the election and summoning of meetings of the Licensing Committee, be deemed to be made to the Returning Officer appointed under this section, and not to the Returning Officer appointed for the electoral district. 30 35
- (e.) For the purposes aforesaid the electoral rolls of the electoral districts for the time being comprised in each of the said licensing districts shall together be the roll of electors for the licensing district.
- (f.) Subsection three of section four of "*The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act Amendment Act, 1895*" (requiring in certain cases a majority of voters on the roll to vote to constitute a valid poll), shall apply only in cases where no electoral poll is taken in any of the electoral districts for the time being comprised in each of the said licensing 40 45 districts: Provided that the licensing poll shall be taken in each such licensing district notwithstanding that in any electoral district comprised therein no electoral poll shall be required to be taken therein.
- (g.) Subject to the provisions of this section, the licensing poll 50 and the election of the Licensing Committee shall be taken and held in all respects as if this Act had not passed.

City Single Electorates.

5 (h.) The result of every licensing poll now in force or which
may hereafter be in force in each such licensing district
shall continue in force in such district until superseded
by a valid licensing poll, notwithstanding any change or
alteration in the constitution or boundaries of such dis-
trict; and until the result of such poll is so superseded the
number of licenses shall continue as they are, subject
nevertheless to the power of refusing to renew licenses
10 objected to under subsections one to four inclusive of
section eighty-one of "The Licensing Act, 1881," and sub-
ject also to the provisions of the Licensing Acts relat-
ing to forfeiture or increase of licenses.

15 (i.) Such of the provisions of section seven of "The Alcoholic
Liquors Sale Control Act Amendment Act, 1895," as are
inconsistent with the provisions of this section shall not
apply in the case of any licensing poll from time to time
taken in any such district.