

ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

THIS Bill amends the Electoral Act 1956 by altering the minimum age for persons qualified to be registered as electors, and to vote at elections, from 21 to 20.

Clause 1 is the Short Title.

Clause 2: Subclause (1) amends the definition of the term "adult" in section 2 (1) of the principal Act. As a result of the amendment the term will mean a person of or over the age of 20 years. Consequently, such a person will be qualified to be registered as an elector under section 39 of the principal Act and to vote under section 99.

Subclause (2) consequentially amends section 99 (e) of the principal Act, which states that a serviceman outside New Zealand may vote if he is or will be of or over the age of 21 years before polling day. The subclause alters the age to 20.

Clause 3 amends section 189 (1) (e) of the principal Act, under which (*inter alia*) the definition of "adult" in section 2 (1), and also section 99 (e), are reserved provisions so far as they prescribe 21 years as the minimum age for persons qualified to be registered as electors or to vote. The clause alters the age to 20.

Right Hon. Mr Marshall

ELECTORAL AMENDMENT

ANALYSIS

Title	2. Qualification of electors
1. Short Title	3. Restriction on amendment or repeal of certain provisions

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to amend the Electoral Act 1956

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

1. **Short Title**—This Act may be cited as the Electoral Amendment Act 1969, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Electoral Act 1956* (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

10 2. **Qualification of electors**—(1) Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from the definition of the term “adult”, in subsection (1), the words “twenty-one years”, and substituting the words “20 years”.

15 (2) Section 99 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from paragraph (e) the words “twenty-one years”, and substituting the words “20 years”.

20 3. **Restriction on amendment or repeal of certain provisions**—Section 189 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from paragraph (e) of subsection (1) the words “twenty-one years”, and substituting the words “20 years”.

*1957 Reprint, Vol. 4, p. 341

Amendments: 1958, No. 64; 1959, No. 60; 1960, No. 4; 1963, No. 85; 1965, No. 17; 1967, No. 149

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