

*Mr Hunt*

## ELECTORAL AMENDMENT

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### ANALYSIS

Title	2. Electoral Act Amended
Preamble	
1. Short Title	12A. Summoning, proroguing, dissolving of the General Assembly

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### A BILL INTITULED

**An Act to amend the Electoral Act so as to ensure that the General Assembly is summoned to meet within a reasonable time after every general election**

- 5 WHEREAS Article 13 of the Bill of Rights 1688, which is part of the law of New Zealand, states that Parliament shall meet frequently: And whereas it is desirable that the spirit of this Article should be expressed and applied in New Zealand in statute form, having regard to the ever greater  
10 complexity and ambit of contemporary government: And whereas the Executive Council of New Zealand would generally be assisted by longer sessions of the General Assembly:

- 15 **BE IT THEREFORE 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 Electoral Amendment Act 1976.

No. 32—1

**2. Electoral Act Amended**—The Electoral Act 1956 is hereby amended by adding the following new section:

**“12A. Summoning, proroguing, dissolving of the General Assembly**—(1) The General Assembly shall be summoned by Proclamation and shall assemble at the time and place 5 described in that Proclamation:

“Provided that the date of first assembly shall be not later than 90 days after the return of the writs following any general election.

“(2) Except in compliance with section 12 of this Act, the 10 Governor-General may not prorogue or dissolve the General Assembly without the consent of an absolute majority of the House of Representatives.

“(3) Section 44 of the New Zealand Constitution Act 1852 (U.K.) is hereby repealed.”

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