

(*Mr. Ormond.*)

East Coast District Land Titles Validation.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to authorize the Antevesting of the Legal Estate
under certain Grants of Land in the East Coast
District.

WHEREAS conveyances and other instruments have been made
respecting lands in the tract of country or district in the
Schedule to this Act particularly described that have been granted
to Aboriginal Natives under "The Native Lands Act 1865" and
the other Acts amending the same which conveyances and instru-
ments bear date before the days of the issue of the grants of such
lands respectively and it is expedient and just that the titles acquired
under such conveyances and instruments should be made as valid and
effectual as they would be if the respective grants had been issued
before such conveyances and instruments had been made :

BE IT THEREFORE 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 shall be "The East Coast District
Land Titles Validation Act 1871" and it shall be applicable and take
effect only within the tract of country or district particularly described
in the Schedule hereto.

2. Any party to a deed effectuating a transaction affecting
land within the said district which has been granted to Aboriginal
Natives under "The Native Lands Act 1865" or any Act amending
the same his assigns or legal representatives may give notice in writing
to the Native Land Court or to any Judge thereof that he or they desire
that the legal estate in such land may be made to vest at some date to
be specified anterior to the issue of the Crown Grant to such land.

Notice of application
to be given.

3. The Court shall thereupon give notice of such application in manner provided by its rules in cases of application for investigation of title and also by publication in the *New Zealand Gazette* and in one or more newspapers circulating in the said Province and that on a day and a place to be stated in such notice the said application will be heard and determined. 5

Procedure on
hearing.

4. At such hearing any person may appear in opposition to such application and may call evidence in support of his case and the Court may dismiss the application or it may order that the legal estate in the land shall vest on a day to be fixed by the Court and it shall be lawful for the presiding Judge to indorse on the grant an order to that effect. 10

Indorsement may be
made on grant.

5. Such indorsement signed by the presiding Judge and sealed with the seal of the Court shall effectually vest the legal estate in the land described therein in the grantee his heirs and successors on the day stated in such indorsement and may be registered in the Deeds Registry Office. 15

Validation of titles in
certain cases.

6. All deeds executed after the date so fixed and inserted in the indorsement as aforesaid but before the date of the Crown Grant by which the land therein described shall have been subsequently granted shall for the purpose of completing the title of parties to such deed but for no other purpose be deemed to have the same force and effect as though the Crown Grant in which such land is comprised had been executed and issued on the day so fixed and inserted. 20

Costs.

7. Besides the usual power of ordering costs which the Native Land Court has under any Act for the time being in force it shall order the applicant to pay all fees of Court and costs of advertisements and other special costs if any. 25

Schedule.

SCHEDULE.

THE whole of the Province of Hawke's Bay and that portion of territory within the Province of Auckland bounded on the South by the boundary line separating the Provinces of Auckland and Hawke's Bay on the West-north-west by a straight line from the point of intersection of the said boundary line and the overland mail track from Napier to Auckland across Lake Waikari to Lottin Point between Cape Runaway and East Cape on the North and East by the sea from Lottin Point to the said boundary line at Boat Harbour.