

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,
22nd June, 1886.

Hon. Sir Julius Vogel.

GOLD EXPORT DUTY ABOLITION.

ANALYSIS.

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| Title.
1. Short Title.
2. Annual reduction in gold duty till duty ceases.
Special proviso applying to North Island. | 3. Gold exporter to make a statutory declaration as to when gold obtained.
4. Penalty on exporter making false declaration. |
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to abolish the Export Duty on Gold by Gradual Reduction. Title.

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

5 1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Gold Export Duty Abolition Act, 1886." Short Title.

2. In each year hereafter, commencing on the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six, the duty levied upon gold previous to exportation thereof from the colony under "The
10 Customs Duties Consolidation Act, 1882," shall be reduced at the rate of sixpence for every ounce weight of such gold, as mentioned in the said Act; and such reduction shall be made in each year until the duty now levied upon gold shall entirely cease: Annual reduction in gold duty till duty ceases.

15 Provided, however, that this Act shall not apply to the North Island unless the following conditions are first complied with:— Special proviso applying to North Island.

(1.) That a petition in favour thereof is presented to the Governor from not less than *one-half* of the holders of mining rights residing and mining in any mining district in the said island, praying the Governor to bring this Act into operation within such mining district.

20 (2.) That public notice shall be advertised in some newspaper circulating in the mining district proposed to be proclaimed *once* at least in each of *four* weeks immediately preceding the presentation of any petition, signed by a Resident Magistrate, stating that a petition duly signed as aforesaid is to be presented.

25 (3.) That the counties and boroughs receiving the revenues derived from the duties upon gold in any such mining district from which a petition is presented pass resolutions, and forward the same to the Governor, praying that this
30 Act may be brought into force.

Gold exporter to
make a statutory
declaration as to
when gold obtained.

3. The exporter of any gold after this Act shall come into operation shall, together with the gold so exported, deliver to the Collector of Customs at the place of export a statutory declaration made by him setting forth whether any, and, if so, what, part of such gold was obtained by mining before or after the first day of October in any year; and the export duty then leviable under "The Customs Duties Consolidation Act, 1882," or such Act and this Act, as the case may require, shall be payable according as it may appear at what time such gold was so produced. 5

Penalty on exporter
making false
declaration.

4. If any exporter of gold shall knowingly make a false statutory declaration in relation to any matter upon which he is required to make such declaration under this Act, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, punishable, on conviction thereof, by fine not exceeding *five hundred* pounds, or imprisonment not exceeding two years, or by both, at the discretion of the Judge by whom the offence shall be tried. 15