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Sir G. Grey.

LAND BOARDS.

ANALYSIS.

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| <p>Title.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Short Title. 2. Repeal of clauses. 3. Existing Boards hold office. 4. Interpretation. 5. Land Boards constituted. 6. Districts defined. 7. Who qualified. 8. Commissioner, Chairman. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Disqualifications. 10. Lists to be transmitted. 11. Election. 12. Minister of Lands may fill vacancies. 13. If lists not transmitted. 14. Election to be public. 15. Notification of election. 16. Board may complete number. 17. Boards take office 31st March. |
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to provide for the Election of Land Boards.

Title.

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

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| 5 | 1. The Short Title of this Act is “The Land Boards Act, 1886.” | Short Title. |
| 10 | 2. Clauses thirty-six, thirty-seven, thirty-eight, and thirty-nine of “The Land Act, 1885,” are hereby repealed. | Repeal of clauses. |
| 15 | 3. This Act shall be read as part of “The Land Act, 1885,” hereinafter referred to as “the said Act;” and notwithstanding anything contained in the said Act, every Land Board constituted thereunder shall continue in office till the first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven; and every Act required to be done by any such Land Board or by the Chairman thereof under this Act may respectively be done and performed by each such Board or Chairman as if it or he had been elected or appointed under this Act. | Existing Boards hold office. |
| 20 | 4. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,—
“Local body” means and includes the Council of a borough, the Board, trustees, or other persons having the control of roads or highways in any road district, and the Councils of the counties included in or partly included respectively in any land district now existing or which may hereafter be constituted.
“Land Board” or “Board” shall mean, in addition to the | Interpretation. |

interpretation thereof contained in section three of the said Act, the Board constituted under this Act for the purpose of carrying out the administration of the said Act and the amendments thereof for the time being respectively, or of any of the land laws substituted for the time being for the said Act, and the amendments thereof. 5

Land Boards constituted.

5. For each land district there shall be a Board, to be called "the Land Board of [*name of land district*]." The said Land Board shall consist of the Commissioner of Crown Lands of the district (hereinafter called "the Commissioner") and of six other members, all of whom shall be elected in manner hereinafter mentioned, and shall hold office for and be elected every three years. 10

Districts defined.

6. For the purposes of the elections hereinafter mentioned, all local bodies in any existing land district shall have the right of voting for the members of the Land Board of such land district; and in all cases where the boundary of any land district intersects and passes through the district of any local body, such local body shall have the right of voting for the members of the Land Board of each of the districts in which part of the district of such local body is situated. 15 20

Who qualified.

7. Any person qualified to be a member of a local body shall be eligible to be elected a member of a Land Board, and all retiring members shall be eligible for re-election.

Commissioner, Chairman.

8. The Commissioner of Crown Lands shall be the Chairman of the Board, and shall have a casting-vote in all questions and matters before the Board, and in the absence of the said Commissioner from any meeting the members present at said meeting shall out of the members so present select their Chairman, who shall during such meeting have all the powers of the said Commissioner. 25

Disqualifications.

9. If any member shall die, or by writing addressed to the Commissioner resign his office, or become of unsound mind, or bankrupt or insolvent, or be convicted of felony or any infamous crime, or be guilty of any fraudulent conduct which in the opinion of the Governor shall render him unfit for the office, or be absent without sufficient cause from successive sittings of the Board without leave of the Board, or otherwise become incapacitated to act, his seat at the Board shall be thereby vacated, and the Board shall elect a duly qualified person to complete the number of the Board. 30 35

Lists to be transmitted.

10. Between the first and the thirty-first days of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven (and between the first and the thirty-first day of January at each succeeding period of three years subsequently to the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven) each of the local bodies in each land district shall transmit to the Commissioner the names of not more than six persons qualified to be members of the Board, their written consent being first obtained, and the Commissioner shall thereupon publicly notify the names of such persons, and in such notice shall also state the day on which the election of the Board shall be held, and shall also transmit to each local body the names of such persons. 40 45

The day of election shall be some day not later than the fifteenth day of March. 50

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11. The Commissioner shall carefully keep all such lists, and on the day fixed by the Board shall proceed to ascertain what persons, so nominated, have the greatest number of votes; and the six persons who have the greatest number of votes shall be the members of the Board.
12. After it has been ascertained what candidates have by an absolute majority of votes been duly elected, if it shall appear that there is an equality of votes for one or more candidates remaining to complete the list of six members, the Minister of Lands shall decide which of such persons shall be the member or members.
13. If a local body refuses or neglects to transmit to the Board the list of names hereinbefore required to be transmitted within the time appointed, the Board shall proceed to the election of members notwithstanding such refusal or neglect.
14. Every election shall be conducted publicly by the Board in such manner as it thinks fit.
15. The Board shall publicly notify what persons have been found to be elected, and such notification shall be signed by the Commissioner, and shall be final and conclusive for all purposes.
16. In the event of six persons not being nominated as herein provided, the Board shall elect such a number of duly-qualified persons as may be necessary to complete the number of the Board.
17. The members of the Board so elected shall take office on the thirty-first day of March in the year in which they have been elected.
- Election.
- Minister of Lands may fill vacancies.
- If lists not transmitted.
- Election to be public.
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