

*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.*

1305

*House of Representatives,*

*28th July, 1914.*

*Hon. Mr. Fisher.*

## LOCAL ELECTIONS AND POLLS AMENDMENT.

### ANALYSIS.

Title.	
1. Short Title.	5. Section 6 of Amendment Act, 1913, amended.
2. Voting-paper to be officially marked. Repeal.	6. Section 12 of Amendment Act, 1913, amended.
3. Section 24 of principal Act amended.	7. Section 39 of principal Act amended.
4. Preliminary count of the votes. Repeals.	8. Second Schedule to principal Act amended. Schedule.

### A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Local Elections and Polls Act, 1908. Title.

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Local Elections and Polls Amendment Act, 1914, and shall form part of and be read together with the Local Elections and Polls Act, 1908 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act). Short Title.

10 2. (1.) Before giving any voting-paper to a voter the Returning Officer or Deputy Returning Officer shall enter on both the counterfoil and the back of the voting-paper a number (called a consecutive number) beginning with the number one in the case of the first voting-paper issued by him, and on all succeeding voting-papers issued by  
15 him the numbers shall be consecutive, so that no two voting-papers issued in any booth shall bear the same number; on the counterfoil of the voting-paper he shall also write his initials, and the number appearing on the roll against the name of the elector to whom the voting-paper is to be given; on both the counterfoil and the back  
20 of the voting-paper he shall place his official mark, and then draw a line in pencil or ink through the number and name of the voter on the roll as evidence that the voter has applied for and has received a voting-paper. Voting-paper to be officially marked.

25 (2.) At elections where any voter is entitled to give more than one vote the Returning Officer or Deputy Returning Officer shall also write on the roll against the name of the voter a number denoting the number of voting-papers given to him.

30 (3.) Every Returning Officer or Deputy Returning Officer who fails faithfully to perform any duty imposed on him by this section, by reason whereof any of the requirements of this section are not effectively fulfilled, is liable to a fine of *ten* pounds.

Repeal.

(4.) This section is in substitution for section twenty-three of the principal Act, and that section is hereby accordingly repealed.

(5.) The voting-papers at elections and polls under the principal Act shall have printed on the counterfoil and back thereof respectively the matter contained in the *Schedule* hereto, and the forms numbered (5) and (6) of the Second Schedule to the principal Act are hereby amended accordingly. 5

Section 24 of principal Act amended.

3. Section twenty-four of the principal Act is hereby amended—

(a.) By omitting from subsection one the words “marking a cross in a square set opposite to the name of each such candidate,” and substituting the words “striking out the names of the candidate or candidates for whom he does not desire to vote”; and 10

(b.) By omitting from the proviso to the said subsection the words “by striking out the names of the candidate or candidates for whom the voter did not intend to vote,” and substituting the word “otherwise.” 15

Preliminary count of the votes.

4. (1.) Every Deputy Returning Officer, at the polling-place at which he presides, shall, as soon as practicable after the close of the poll, make up into a parcel the copy of the roll supplied to him on which the fact of any person having received a voting-paper has been noted, together with all the counterfoils of voting-papers that have been issued to voters, and such parcel shall be sealed by the Deputy Returning Officer and by such scrutineers as are present and desire to do so. 20 25

(2.) The Deputy Returning Officer shall then in the presence of such of the scrutineers as choose to be present, and the poll-clerks (if any), but of no other person, open the ballot-boxes, and, taking therefrom all the voting-papers therein, and setting aside as informal all voting-papers which do not clearly indicate the candidate or candidates for whom the voter desired to vote, shall proceed to ascertain the number of votes recorded for each candidate. 30

(3.) Immediately after ascertaining the number of votes recorded for each candidate, the Deputy Returning Officer shall announce the result of the voting at the polling-place at which he presides, and shall forthwith send the said numbers to the Returning Officer, who shall make up and provisionally announce the whole number of votes received by each candidate at the election. 35

Repeals.

(4.) This section is in substitution for section twenty-six of the principal Act, and that section and also section five of the Local Elections and Polls Amendment Act, 1913, are hereby accordingly repealed. 40

Section 6 of Amendment Act, 1913, amended.

5. Subsection two of section six of the Local Elections and Polls Amendment Act, 1913, is hereby amended—

(a.) By inserting, after the words “together with,” the words “the packet containing the counterfoils and”; and 45

(b.) By omitting the words “as prescribed by section twenty-three of the principal Act.”

Section 12 of Amendment Act, 1913, amended.

6. Section twelve of the Local Elections and Polls Amendment Act, 1913, is hereby amended by omitting from subsection one the 50

words "and all the copies of the roll marked as provided by section twenty-three of the principal Act"; and by adding the following sub-section:—

5 " (3.) All copies of the roll on which the fact of any person having received a voting-paper has been noted shall be forwarded by the Returning Officer to the Clerk of the local authority, and shall be retained by him until the close of the next succeeding general election of members of the local authority."

10 7. Section thirty-nine of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from subsection one the word "seven," and substituting the word "ten." Section 39 of principal Act amended.

8. (1.) The Second Schedule to the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting the form numbered (5), and substituting the following:— Second Schedule to principal Act amended.

15 (5.) VOTING-PAPER AT AN ELECTION.  
*Name of District.*  
ELECTION of Mayor [or of Six Councillors [or as the case may be].

VOTING-PAPER.

20 ARMSTRONG, Thomas.  
BURTON, Gerald.  
HORNSBY, William.  
MCKENZIE, Donald, Grocer.  
MCKENZIE, Donald, Ironmonger.  
SHAW, Thomas.

25 *Directions.*

The voter is to leave untouched the names of the candidate or candidates for whom he desires to vote, and to draw a line with a pen or pencil through the names of the candidate or candidates for whom he does not desire to vote.

30 The voting-paper is to be folded up so that its contents cannot be seen, and, the official mark on the back having been shown to the Returning Officer, the voting-paper is to be put into the ballot-box by the voter.

This voting-paper is not to be taken out of the polling-booth.

35 (2.) The Second Schedule to the principal Act is hereby further amended by omitting the form numbered (6), and substituting the following:—

(6.) VOTING-PAPER AT A POLL ON A PROPOSAL.

*Name of District.*

PROPOSAL to [State full particulars of the proposal].

40 FOR the proposal.  
AGAINST the proposal.

*Directions.*

45 If the voter desires to vote *for* the proposal, he must leave the words "For the proposal" untouched, and draw a line with a pen or pencil through the words "Against the proposal." If he desires to vote *against* the proposal, he must leave the words "Against the proposal" untouched, and draw a line through the words "For the proposal."

The voting-paper is to be folded up so that its contents cannot be seen, and, the official mark on the back having been shown to the Returning Officer, the voting-paper is to be put into the ballot-box by the voter.

50 This voting-paper is not to be taken out of the polling-booth.

Schedule.

**SCHEDULE.****MATTER TO BE PRINTED ON COUNTERFOIL AND BACK OF VOTING-PAPER.**

Consecutive No. :

To be entered here and also on the top left-hand corner of the back of voting-paper.

No. on Roll :

To be entered here **only**.

Stamp across the perforation so that the number of the polling-place shall appear on both the counterfoil and the voting-paper.

Official

Mark.

Initials of  
Deputy Returning Officer :

By Authority : JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1914.