

Mr. Reed.

LOCAL ELECTIONS AND POLLS AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.
1. Short Title.

2. Special voting-papers for absent voters.
3. Offences connected with special voting-papers.
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. (1.) This Act may be cited as the Local Elections and Polls Amendment Act, 1921, 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) This Act shall commence on the first day of April, nineteen hundred and *twenty-two*.

2. (1.) An elector of any district, believing that he will be absent from the district in which he is enrolled on the day of the poll, may, at any time during ~~two~~ *one* months preceding the date of the poll, apply in writing (in the form numbered (1) in the Schedule hereto) to the Returning Officer for a special voting-paper (in the form numbered (2) in the Schedule hereto) or in the form numbered (6) in the Second Schedule to the principal Act, and such application shall be attested by the Returning Officer, a Justice of the Peace, a Postmaster, or 20 other responsible Government officer. Special voting-papers for absent voters.

(2.) On receipt of such application the Returning Officer, on being satisfied of the good faith of the applicant and that the applicant's name is on the roll of the district, shall issue and ~~forward~~ *post to the address mentioned in the application* to such applicant a 25 special voting-paper, and on the closing of the nomination he shall issue and post to the same address to the applicant the names of the candidates nominated.

(3.) For the purpose of exercising his vote the holder of a special voting-paper shall record his vote upon such voting-paper by writing 30 thereon the names of ~~the candidate or candidates for whom he wishes to record his vote~~ *all the candidates and deleting therefrom the names of*

such candidates for whom he does not desire to record his vote, or by voting for or against the proposal stated on the voting-paper, and shall cause the voting-paper to be transmitted to the Returning Officer so as to reach him before the time appointed for the closing of the poll.

(4.) The Returning Officer, upon receipt of special voting-papers, shall retain them safely and secretly until the day of the poll, and before the termination thereof shall place them in a ballot-box prior to the opening of the ballot-boxes.

3. Every person is liable to a fine of *fifty* pounds or to imprisonment for *six* months who—

- (a.) Wrongfully obtains a special voting-paper; or
- (b.) Having wrongfully obtained the same, records his vote thereunder; or
- (c.) Claims to record his vote by virtue of a special voting-paper not issued to him; or
- (d.) Permits a special voting-paper issued to him to be used by any other person.

Offences connected
with special
voting-papers.

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Schedule.

SCHEDULE.

(1.) APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL VOTING-PAPER.

District :

Subdivision of District :

I, [*Name in full*], being an elector whose name is on the roll for the above-named district [*ward, riding, or other subdivision of district*], apply to have a special voting-paper issued to me to the following address, and I declare that I have reason to believe that on polling-day I shall be absent from the above district.

A. B.

Signed and declared before me, this day of , 19 —E. F.,
Returning Officer [or Justice of the Peace, Postmaster, or other responsible
Government Officer, as the case may be].

(2.) SPECIAL VOTING-PAPER.

District :

Subdivision of district :

ELECTION OF MAYOR [or COUNCILLORS, as the case may be].

I VOTE FOR—

The voter is to write in the names of the candidate (or candidates) for whom he wishes to vote all the candidates, and delete therefrom the names of such candidates for whom he does not wish to record his vote.

The voting-paper is to be transmitted to the Returning Officer so as to reach him before the close of the poll.

Should any of the candidates for whom the elector votes withdraw from the election or not be nominated, this will not invalidate the votes recorded for other candidates.