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, $14t\bar{h}$ September, 1891.

Hon. Mr. Ballance.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS ACT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.

1. Short Title.

2. Interpretation.

3. Certain special orders validated. Saving.

4. When proposal for a special loan deemed to

5. Section 4 to apply within town districts.

6. One per cent. of general rate may be applied to certain purposes. Proviso.

7. Council may aid museums, libraries, &c.

8. Adjustment of reserves.

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to further amend "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1886." Title. BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as fol-5 lows :-

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Municipal Corporations Short Title. Act Amendment Act, 1891."

2. "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1886," is hereinafter re- Interpretation.

ferred to as "the principal Act."

3. No special order purporting at any time herebefore to be made certain special under the provisions of "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1876," orders validated or of the principal Act, or any Act amending the same respectively, shall be deemed to be or to have been invalid by reason only that the meeting confirming the resolution shall have been held on the twenty-15 eighth day after the special meeting adopting the same; and every special order heretofore purported to be made under such provisions as aforesaid, and which shall have been confirmed on such twentyeighth day, shall, so far as regards the period of time which should elapse between the adopting and confirming meetings, be deemed to 20 be and to have been duly passed and made.

This section shall not prejudice or affect any legal proceedings of saving. any kind whatsoever which shall be pending at the coming into operation of this Act.

4. Section one hundred and eighty-two of the principal Act When proposal for 25 is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof it is enacted as follows:—

If the number of votes given for a proposal to raise money by carried. way of special loan under Part IX. of the principal Act is No. 111—2.

not less than twice the number of votes given at the poll against such proposal, then and not otherwise the proposal shall be deemed to be carried, and the Council may proceed with the same accordingly; but if not, then the proposal shall be deemed to be rejected, and the Council shall not so proceed.

Section 4 to apply within town districts.

5. So much of section eighteen of "The Town Districts Act 1881 Amendment Act, 1883," as fixes the majority required upon a proposal to raise a loan within a town district is hereby repealed, and the provisions of section four of this Act shall apply in that behalf 10 within any town district in the same manner as if such town district were a borough.

One per cent of general rate may be applied to certain purposes.

Proviso.

6. The Council may, in every financial year, out of moneys to the credit of the General Account, expend for purposes not authorised by any Act or law for the time being in force, any sum or 15 sums not amounting in the whole to more than one per cent. of the general rate struck for that year, subject to the proviso: Provided always that if one per cent. of such general rate shall not, in any financial year, amount to fifty pounds, the Council may expend the sum of fifty pounds for such purposes as aforesaid: Provided further 20 that in no case shall the sum to be expended in any one year exceed the sum of one hundred pounds.

Council may aid museums, libraries,

7. In addition to the powers conferred by section four hundred and six of the said Act, the Council may maintain or otherwise aid athenæums, mechanics' institutes, museums, and public libraries not 25 conducted for the purpose of private profit.

Adjustment of reserves.

8. The Governor may at any time, by Proclamation, upon the petition publicly notified by the Mayor and Council of a borough which has not contracted for, or is liable for, any special loan under the provisions of the principal Act, declare any outlying portion of 30 such borough, not being a reserve, to be severed therefrom, and declare the same annexed to the adjacent road district or riding of a county.

In any such case the provisions of sections thirty-eight to forty of the principal Act shall apply, mutatis mutandis, for the purpose of determining the financial arrangement to be made between the county 35 or road district and the borough on such severance as aforesaid.

By Authority: George Didsbury, Government Printer, Wellington.—1891.