

Mr. EU.

NATIONAL PROVIDENT FUND AMENDMENT.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the National Provident Fund Act, 1910. 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 National Provident Fund Amendment Act, 1914, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the National Provident Fund Act, 1910 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act). Short Title.

10 PART I.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES, EMPLOYERS, ETC.

2. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,— Interpretation.

15 "Local authority" means a Borough Council, County Council, Town Board, Road Board, Harbour Board, Fire Board, Hospital Board, Charitable Aid Board, Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, tramway company, or any body possessing rating-powers over any district:

20 "Employer" means any company, or religious or charitable association, firm, or person, employing five or more workers, or any local authority.

3. The Board may, on the application of any employer, enter into an agreement for the acceptance of the employees of such employer as contributors to the fund, or may, on the application of a friendly society, enter into an agreement with such society in respect of its members desirous of entering the fund. In any such agreement the Board shall have power to admit such contributors at Board may enter into agreement.

ages other than specified in the Schedule to the principal Act, and to vary or modify the benefits and contributions according to the tables to be prepared by the Board :

Provided that no pension-benefit shall exceed a payment of *three* pounds per week.

Local authority
may enter into
agreement.

4. It shall be lawful for a local authority, if it thinks fit, to enter into such agreement with the Board, and the moneys payable to the local authority under such agreement shall be paid out of the ordinary revenues of the local authority, and shall be recoverable by the Superintendent as a debt.

Waiver of income
restriction.

5. The income restriction in paragraph (d) of subsection one of section nine of the principal Act may be waived in respect of persons comprised in groups of employees in terms of this Part of this Act admitted into the fund.

Contributions may
be deducted from
salary or wages.

6. Where any such agreement provides that a proportion of the contributions due to the fund on behalf of the contributors so admitted equal to the proportion payable by the State is to be paid by the employer the remaining portion of the contribution due from the employee may be deducted from salary, wages, *et cetera*, notwithstanding the provisions of section twenty-eight and following sections of the Wages Protection and Contractors' Lien Act, 1908 ; but no employer shall treat any portion of the contributions paid by himself on behalf of the contributor as part of the wages due to the contributor :

Provided that in any case the contributions due from an employee, may, with his consent, be deducted from his wages, *et cetera*.

Friendly society
contributions may
be deducted from
wages.

7. The contributions due to a friendly society by any persons included in any such group of persons employed by any such employer may, with the consent of the employees, be deducted from wages, and may be remitted either to the friendly society or to the Superintendent of the fund, who shall forward such amounts to the various societies of which such persons are members.

Refund of moneys
paid by employer.

8. Where a contributor included in a group ceases his employment with that employer the employer shall be entitled on application, and without the consent of the contributor, to an immediate refund of the moneys paid by the said employer on behalf of such contributor. Such refund shall be subject to deduction of the amount by which the benefits received from the fund exceed the contributions paid by the contributor himself to the fund :

Provided, however, that no such deduction shall be made if the employer directs that the amount of the contributions paid by him on behalf of the withdrawing employee be credited to the account of another employee newly enrolled as a contributor.

PART II.

SUBVENTIONS TO FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Subvention on
sick-pay.

9. The Board is hereby empowered to pay to the trustees of every registered friendly society by way of subvention—

One-half of the first five shillings per week paid by the society for sick-pay, according to its rules to its own members for whatever duration of sickness.

10. The amounts due to each society shall be certified to annually by the Registrar of Friendly Societies, and all such moneys shall on receipt by the trustees of a friendly society be paid into its Sick Fund; the statutory annual statement of receipts and expenditure furnished to the Registrar to show the entry of all such receipts.
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11. No such subvention shall accrue to a society under this Part unless the due requirements of this Act and of the law relating to friendly societies have been observed and so certified by the Registrar of Friendly Societies.
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12. The amounts payable by the Board under this Part shall apply only in respect of sickness occurring after the first day of January, nineteen hundred and *fifteen*.
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13. Before certifying to any claim the Registrar may, if the Actuary reports that the society is, notwithstanding the subvention, failing to make progress towards solvency, require the society to take such steps as are necessary to effect an improvement in its financial position.
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14. If on the first valuation of a branch of a society following the receipt of subventions a surplus is shown in respect of such branch, there shall be transferred to the central body or other central authority of the society, for the purpose of aiding deficiency branches, one-half of that part of the surplus which in the opinion of the Actuary is directly due to the subventions, or such lesser proportion as may be sufficient, when applied to all the surplus branches, to extinguish the deficiency in such deficiency branches.
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15. In order to enable the Board to carry out the provisions of this Part of this Act, the Minister of Finance shall, after the first day of April in each year, on receipt of statements duly certified by the Registrar of Friendly Societies, showing the amount so due to societies for the last preceding year ended the thirty-first day of December, pay such sums as are mentioned therein into the National Provident Fund without further appropriation than this Act.
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Certificate of Registrar of Friendly Societies.

Certificate of Registrar required.

Date when subvention payable.

Society may be called on to improve financial position.

Disposal of surplus funds.

Payments to be made into National Provident Fund