

(Hon. Mr. Hart.)

Returning Officers.

ANALYSIS.

Title.
Short Title.

1. Repeal.

2.

3. Returning or Presiding Officer not to vote at election.

4. When votes equal, election how determined.

Schedule.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to relieve Returning Officers from responsibility in certain cases. Title.

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

1. The Short Title of this Act shall be "The Returning Officers Act, 1874." Short Title.

2. The parts of clauses of Acts mentioned in the Schedule hereto, are hereby repealed. Repeal.

3. No Returning Officer at any election of a member of the House of Representatives, or Superintendent of any province not established under "The New Provinces Act, 1858," or of a member of any Provincial Council, nor any officer or person presiding at any election under "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1867," shall vote at such election. Returning or Presiding Officer not to vote at election.

4. Whenever the votes of two or more candidates at any such election, of whom a less number only can be elected, shall be equal, the name of each of such candidates shall be written in full on a card; and such cards, with a name on each, shall at the time appointed for declaring the result of the election be placed by the Returning Officer in a box or bag, so that they shall not be visible; and such one of the candidates having equal votes as shall be first in alphabetical order, or if he shall decline the next in alphabetical order, or if one of such candidates only shall be present such one candidate, shall draw forth one of such cards and deliver it to the Returning or Presiding Officer, who shall declare the person named thereon to be the person or one of the persons duly elected, and so on, if requisite, until the number required to complete the number to be elected shall be drawn and named; but if no such candidate shall be present, or every such candidate present shall decline to act, the Returning or Presiding Officer shall draw forth such card or cards. When votes equal, election how determined.

SCHEDULE.

Schedule.

Short Titles of Acts.	Parts of Clauses.
"The Regulation of Elections Act, 1870."	Clause 59. From the word "district" in the eleventh line to the word "and" in the fourteenth line.
"The Municipal Corporations Act, 1867."	Clause 103. From the word "elected" in the last line but two to the end.