

5-2-73

(Mr. Steward.)

Registration of Electors.

ANALYSIS.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Title.
Preamble.
1. Short Title.
2. Clerks of Municipal Corporations Highway Boards &c. to prepare lists of ratepayers. Not to apply when acreage rate levied.
3. Lists to be countersigned. And forwarded to Registration Officer.
4. Registration Officer to treat lists as lists of claimants to vote. Ratepayer may require his name to be omitted. Provisions of section 4 of "The Qualification of Electors Act, 1870," retained.</p> | <p>5. No person to possess or exercise more votes than if possessing only one qualification.
6. Act not to apply to Maoris during continuance of Maori Representation Acts.
7. For the purposes of the next general election, date for compiling lists to be fixed by Order in Council.
8. Lists to be prepared notwithstanding quashing of rate.
9. Penalty for non-compliance with requirements of Act.
10. Penalty for falsifying lists.
11. When Act to come into operation.</p> |
|--|--|

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Law relating to the Registration of Electors. Title.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to the registration of electors: Preamble.

BE IT THEREFORE 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 Registration of Electors Act, 1875." Short Title.

2. On the thirty-first day in the month of March in every year, or if that day fall on a Sunday, then on the thirtieth day of the said month, the Clerk of every Municipal Corporation and of every Highway and Road Board shall compile from the ratepayers' roll of the city borough town or district in and over which such Municipal Corporation, Highway Board, or Road Board shall have jurisdiction, an alphabetical list of all those persons, being males of twenty-one years or upwards, who shall have been assessed to and shall have made payment of any rate struck by such Municipality, Highway or Road Board, within the year on the thirtieth day of March then last past in respect of a freehold estate of the clear value of fifty pounds above all charges and incumbrances, or of a leasehold estate of the clear annual value of ten pounds, or of a household tenement, if within the limits of a town, of the clear annual value of ten pounds, or without the limits of a town, of the clear annual value of five pounds: Provided always, that this section shall not apply to any highway or road district the rates whereof are levied upon acreage and not upon valuation. Clerks of Municipal Corporations Highway Boards &c. to prepare lists of ratepayers.

Not to apply when acreage rate levied.

3. Every such list when so prepared shall be signed by the Clerk, and shall be verified and countersigned by the Mayor of the Municipality or any two Councillors, or by the Chairman of the Board or any two members thereof, as the case may be, and shall be forwarded to the Registration Officer for the electoral district within which such municipality highway or road district shall be situate, on or before the seventh day of the month of April in each year. Lists to be countersigned.

And forwarded to Registration Officer.

Registration Officer to treat lists as lists of claimants to vote.

Ratepayer may require his name to be omitted.

Provisions of section 4 of "The Qualification of Electors Act, 1870," retained.

No person to possess or exercise more votes than if possessing only one qualification.

Act not to apply to Maoris during continuance of Maori Representation Acts.

For the purposes of the next general election, date for compiling lists to be fixed by Order in Council.

Lists to be prepared notwithstanding quashing of rate.

Penalty for non-compliance with requirements of Act.

Penalty for falsifying lists.

When Act to come into operation.

4. The Registration Officer of every electoral district shall, on the receipt of such lists, accept and deal with the same as claims to be inserted on the list of voters for the electoral district, and shall publish the same in the list of claimants, and such claims shall be subject to objection and revision in all respects as if a separate claim had been made in each case by the claimant in his own name: Provided always, that if any ratepayer shall object to his name being inserted on the electoral roll, and shall personally or by counsel make such objection at any Revising Court, or by written notice to the Revising Officer, duly attested by a Justice of the Peace, apply to have his name omitted from such roll it shall be omitted accordingly: Provided further, that nothing in this Act contained shall require the retention on the electoral roll of the name of any person who may be subject to any legal disqualification, nor be deemed to confer the right to vote on any trustee or mortgagee, contrary to the provisions of section four of "The Qualification of Electors Act, 1870."

5. It is hereby expressly declared that no person possessing more than one qualification in the same electoral district shall possess or exercise any greater or other number of votes within such electoral district than he would if he had possessed only one qualification.

6. So long as "The Maori Representation Act, 1867," or any Act amending continuing or extending the same, shall remain in force, and so long as any person elected under the provisions of the said Act, or of any Act amending or continuing the same, shall hold his seat thereunder, whether as a member of the House of Representatives or of any Provincial Council, no aboriginal native of New Zealand shall be entitled under the provisions of this Act to be registered as an elector, or to vote at an election.

7. For the purposes of the general elections held next after the passing of this Act, the ratepayers' lists required to be compiled under the second section of this Act shall be compiled and forwarded to the Registration Officers by such date as the Governor in Council may appoint.

8. When the rate struck in any Municipality, Highway Board, or Road Board district shall have been quashed or set aside by any Court of competent jurisdiction, the lists required to be prepared under section two of this Act shall, notwithstanding the quashing of such rate, be proceeded with under this Act in the same manner as if such rate had not been so quashed or set aside.

9. Should the Clerk of any Municipality Highway or Road Board fail to comply with the provisions of this Act he shall be subject to a penalty summarily recoverable at the suit of the Registration Officer of any sum not exceeding fifty pounds.

10. Any person wilfully and knowingly falsifying in any particular any list of ratepayers prepared under this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labour at the discretion of the Court, for any term not exceeding twelve calendar months.

11. This Act shall come into operation in and for every municipality on the day on which it shall receive the Governor's assent, and in and for any highway or road district, or part or parts of the colony, on such date as shall be appointed by Order of the Governor in Council, and published in the *New Zealand Gazette*.