

[AS REPORTED FROM WASTE LANDS COMMITTEE.]

STATE FORESTS ACT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	1890. If not exercised within time limited to be null and void.
1. Short Title.	
2. Governor may withdraw open lands from Forests Act.	4. Unissued land-orders to be subject to same conditions.
3. Unexercised land-orders for forest-trees planting may be exercised until 31st December,	5. Special provision as to Canterbury and Otago.
	6. Not to apply to Auckland.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The New Zealand State Forests Act, 1885." Title.

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

5 1. The Short Title of this Act is "The New Zealand State Forest Act Amendment Act, 1888." Short Title.

2. The Governor in Council may from time to time, by Proclamation gazetted, rescind, amend, or alter, in part or in whole, any previous Proclamation issued under section three of "The New Zealand State Forests Act, 1885," and declare any open lands, or any lands where the bush is cut, burned, or otherwise destroyed, or which may no longer be required for State Forest purposes, to be no longer within the provisions of the aforesaid Act; and all lands so proclaimed shall, from and after the date of the gazetting of such Proclamation, be deemed to be Crown lands and subject to "The Land Act, 1885," and its amendments. Governor may withdraw open lands from Forests Act.

3. Section thirty of "The New Zealand State Forests Act, 1885," is hereby repealed, and the following substituted in lieu thereof:— Unexercised land-orders for forest-trees planting may be exercised until 31st December, 1890.

20 (1.) Any unexercised land-order issued under "The Forest-trees Planting Encouragement Act Amendment Act, 1872," which shall be presented on or before the *thirtieth* day of *June*, in the year one thousand eight hundred and *eighty-nine*, to the Commissioner of the land district wherein such order was originally applicable, may, with the sanction of the Minister, be indorsed by such Commissioner, with a certificate declaring such order to be exercisable in the purchase of rural lands in any part of the colony, at any time on or before the *thirty-first* day of *December*, in the year one thousand eight hundred and *ninety*, and the last day whereon such order shall be exercisable shall be stated in such certificate; and any land-order so indorsed shall be exercisable accordingly, anything in the last above-mentioned Act to the contrary notwithstanding. If not exercised within time limited to be null and void.

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- (2.) No land-order, whatever the amount stated therein, and no number of land-orders in favour of the same person shall entitle such person, or any other person with him, or for or on his behalf, or any other person or persons whatever their number, by virtue thereof, or under any transfer thereof in trust or otherwise, to acquire land to any extent whereby more than two hundred and fifty acres of rural land altogether in any part of the colony shall be acquired under the said order or orders. 5
- (3.) Every land-order indorsed as aforesaid which is not exercised within the time limited for the exercise thereof, shall be absolutely null and void; and no renewal thereof shall be granted. 10
- (4.) Every land-order where it is exercised in whole or in part shall be surrendered to the Receiver of Land Revenue, who shall indorse thereon the amount of money to which it has been exercised in the transaction in respect whereof it has been so surrendered, and shall transmit the same to the Commissioner of the district, who shall forthwith cancel such order, and issue in lieu thereof to the holder of such cancelled order a new order for the balance only in amount of money and area of land to which the aforesaid holder remains entitled after such exercise of the cancelled order as aforesaid. 15 20

Unissued land-orders to be subject to same conditions.

4. Every land-order yet to be issued under the provisions of the last-mentioned Act shall be issued subject to the conditions mentioned in the *last foregoing* section, and also to the condition that such order shall be valid and good for two years from the date thereof; and, if not exercised within such time, shall be absolutely null and void. 25 30

New clauses.

Special provisions as to Canterbury and Otago.

5. No land order which before the passing of this Act could lawfully be issued in relation to plantation of forest trees made within the Land Districts of Canterbury and of Otago at any time subsequent to the coming into force of the regulations made under an Order in Council of the first day of February, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven, shall be refused to be issued to any person by reason solely of such person not having complied with Regulation No. 6 of the aforesaid regulations, if the Commissioner shall think the said person has sufficiently complied with the said regulations in other respects to entitle him to such land order. 35 40

Not to apply to Auckland.

6. This Act shall not apply to any land orders now exercisable in the Provincial District of Auckland.