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Hon. Mr. Stout.

### WESTLAND AND GREY EDUCATION BOARDS.

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#### A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to constitute permanent Boards for the Education Districts of Westland and Grey respectively. 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 is "The Westland and Grey Education Boards Act, 1885." Short Title.

2. The divisions of the colony described in the Schedule to this Act are hereby constituted education districts for the purposes of "The Education Act, 1877" (herein referred to as "the said Act"), and shall be called by the names set over each such description. Constitution of Westland and Grey Education Districts.

3. The Education Board of the Education District of Westland, and the Commissioners exercising the functions of an Education Board within the Education District of Grey, as such Board and Commissioners were constituted respectively under "The Westland Education District Subdivision Act, 1884," shall, notwithstanding the expiry of the last mentioned Act, continue in office until the thirty-first day of March next after the passing of this Act, and all property vested in such Board and Commissioners shall remain vested in them so long as they remain in office. Westland and Grey Education Boards to continue in office till 1886.

The words "Board" or "Education Board" in this Act shall be deemed to include the Education Board of Westland and the afore-said Commissioners for the Education District of Grey, so long as they remain in office.

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Permanent  
Education Boards  
how formed.

4. There shall be for each of the Education Districts of Westland and Grey an Education Board, consisting of six members, three of whom shall be appointed by the Governor and three elected as hereinafter provided.

- (1.) Between the first and the thirty-first days of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six, each of the Committees in each district shall transmit to the Board the name of one person qualified to be a member of the Board, his written consent being first obtained, and the Board shall thereupon publicly notify the name of such person, and in such notice shall also state the day on which the election of the Board shall be held, and shall also transmit to each Committee the name of such person.

The day of election shall be some day not later than the fifteenth of March.

- (2.) On or before the last day of February in the same year, the Committee in each district shall send to the Secretary of the Board a list in writing, setting forth the full names of not more than three of the persons whose names have been publicly notified as aforesaid.
- (3.) The Secretary shall carefully keep all such lists, and on the day fixed by the Board shall proceed to ascertain what persons, so nominated, have the greatest number of votes; and the three persons who have the greatest number of votes shall be the elected members of the Board.
- (4.) After it has been ascertained what candidates have by an absolute majority of votes been duly elected, if it shall appear that there is an equality of votes for one or more candidates remaining to complete the number of three elected members, the Board shall decide which of such persons shall be the member or members.
- (5.) If a Committee refuses or neglects to transmit to the Board either of the lists of names hereinbefore required to be transmitted, within the time appointed, the Board shall proceed to the election of members notwithstanding such refusal or neglect.
- (6.) Every election shall be conducted publicly by the Board in such manner as it thinks fit.
- (7.) The Board shall publicly notify what persons have been found to be elected, and such notification shall be signed by the Chairman of the Board, and shall be final and conclusive for all purposes.

A copy of such notification signed by the Chairman shall be transmitted to the Minister of Education without delay.

- (8.) In the event of three persons not being nominated as herein provided, the Board shall elect such a number of duly qualified persons as may be necessary to complete the number of the Board.

When members of  
Board to take office.

5. The members of the Board so elected shall take office on the thirty-first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six.

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6. At some time before the thirty-first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six, the Governor shall appoint for each of the Education Boards of Westland and Grey three persons to be members of such Boards respectively, who shall take office on such last-mentioned day.

Governor to nominate three members for each Board.

7. On the thirty-first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven, and on the same day and month in every year thereafter, one of the nominated members and one of the elected members of each Board then in office shall retire.

Annual retirement of one-third of members of Board.

10 The members to retire in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven shall be determined by each Board by ballot not later than the thirty-first day of December immediately preceding.

15 In the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, another of the originally nominated members and another of the originally elected members of each Board shall retire, and the members so retiring shall also be determined by ballot not later than the day aforesaid.

20 And in every subsequent year the nominated member and the elected member of each Board shall retire who have served longest upon such Board without re-appointment or re-election.

All retiring members shall be eligible for re-appointment or re-election.

25 8. In the month of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven, and in the same month in every succeeding year, an election shall be held for the purpose of filling the vacancies caused by the retirement of members as herein provided.

Ordinary election to fill vacancies.

30 Except as respects the number of persons to be elected, all the proceedings in and about such election shall be had and taken in the same manner as prescribed in section four upon the first election of Boards.

35 9. All real property which immediately before the coming into operation of this Act was vested in the Board and the Commissioners appointed under "The Westland Education District Subdivision Act, 1884," shall, on the date when the Boards appointed under this Act respectively come into office, be vested in the Board of the district constituted under this Act wherein such property is situate; but the change of ownership hereby created shall not affect any valid lease, charge, or contract now subsisting in respect of any such land, but the same shall vest in the new Board subject thereto in all respects.

Property vested in Boards before coming into operation of this Act to vest in Board constituted under this Act.

40 In respect of any land affected by this Act which shall be held by any title conferred under "The Land Transfer Act, 1870," or its amendments, the District Land Registrar of Westland shall, upon being satisfied thereof, and subject to the last-preceding enactment, enter in the register-book, and upon any instrument presented for that purpose, a note of the change of ownership created by this Act, which shall be sufficient authority for that purpose.

45 10. The members of the several School Committees in office at the commencement of this Act shall be and be deemed to have been duly elected, notwithstanding any defect in the mode or time of election, and, until new elections shall be held, shall be deemed to be the several School Committees in the districts constituted by this Act.

Members of School Committees now in office deemed duly elected for new districts.

Act to be read with  
"The Education  
Act, 1877."

**11.** This Act shall be read and construed with "The Education Act, 1877," except in so far as the provisions therein contained are contrary to the provisions hereof; and all the provisions of the said Act shall extend and apply accordingly.

One School Com-  
missioner to be  
elected by each  
Board.

**12.** The School Commissioners for the Provincial District of Westland, under "The Education Reserves Act, 1877," and "The Education Reserves Act, 1882," at present in office shall remain in office until the period of the next triennial election of such Commissioners, and at such election and every subsequent triennial election each of the Education Boards of the Education Districts of Westland and Grey respectively shall elect one person to be a School Commissioner for the said provincial district, and shall respectively elect a successor to any such person in case of a vacancy in his office being created.

Repeal.

**13.** So much of the last-named Act is repealed as provides in section two thereof that two persons shall be chosen by the Education Board of the Education District of Westland to be School Commissioners in the Provincial District of Westland.

Schedule.

#### SCHEDULE.

##### EDUCATION DISTRICT OF WESTLAND.

ALL that area in the Colony of New Zealand being the County of Westland, and the Boroughs of Hokitika, Kumara, and Ross.

##### EDUCATION DISTRICT OF GREY.

All that area in the Colony of New Zealand being the County of Grey, and including the Borough of Greymouth.