

This PUBLIC BILL originated in the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, and, having this day passed as now printed, is transmitted to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

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House of Representatives,

21st October, 1914.

Right Hon. Mr. Massey.

WORKERS' DWELLINGS AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

<p>Title.</p> <p>1. Short Title.</p> <p>2. Workers' Dwellings Board constituted.</p> <p>3. Section 2 of principal Act amended.</p> <p>4. Power to sell unsuitable land.</p> <p>5. Section 4 of principal Act amended.</p> <p>6. Workers' dwellings districts. Repeal.</p> <p>7. Section 8 of principal Act amended.</p> <p>8. Section 9 of principal Act amended.</p>	<p>9. Section 10 of principal Act amended.</p> <p>10. Section 11 of principal Act amended.</p> <p>11. Section 13 of principal Act amended.</p> <p>12. Deputy of Superintendent may be appointed.</p> <p>13. Penalty for failure to make punctual payment. Recovery of penalties.</p> <p>14. In certain cases, title to land may be given to secure advances from State Advances Office.</p>
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Workers' Dwellings 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:—

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1. This Act may be cited as the Workers' Dwellings Amendment Act, 1914, and shall form part of and be read together with the Workers' Dwellings Act, 1910 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

Short Title.

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2. (1.) There is hereby constituted a Workers' Dwellings Board consisting of the Superintendent and two other members to be from time to time appointed by the Governor.

Workers' Dwellings Board constituted.

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(2.) The Superintendent shall be *ex officio* the Chairman of the Board, and in case of equality of voting shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.

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(3.) The Minister may from time to time appoint any person to act temporarily as a member of the Board during the illness or incapacity of any member of the Board, or during the absence of any such member from any place at which a meeting of the Board is to be held.

3. Section two of the principal Act is hereby amended—

Section 2 of principal Act amended.

(a.) By repealing the definition of "Board," and substituting the following definition therefor:—

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" 'Board' means the Workers' Dwellings Board constituted under this Act "; and

(b.) By omitting from the definition of "worker's dwelling" the words "half an acre in the case of urban allotments, or one acre in the case of suburban allotments, or five acres in the case of rural allotments," and substituting the following words: "in unimproved value the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds." 5

Power to sell unsuitable land.

4. Notwithstanding anything in section three of the principal Act, the Minister may, on such terms and conditions as he thinks fit, sell to any person any land set apart or purchased for the purposes of that Act if he is satisfied that it is not required for those purposes. 10

Section 4 of principal Act amended.

5. Section four of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting the words "six hundred," and substituting the words "seven hundred and fifty."

Workers' dwellings districts.

6. (1.) The Governor may from time to time, by Order in Council gazetted, constitute such workers' dwellings districts as he think fit. 15

(2.) For every such district there shall be a Board (hereinafter referred to as a District Board) consisting of not more than three members to be appointed from time to time by the Minister.

(3.) The District Board shall exercise such powers and perform such duties with respect to the administration of the principal Act within its district as may from time to time be delegated to it by the Superintendent or the Workers' Dwellings Board. 20

Repeal.

(4.) Section six of the principal Act is hereby repealed.

Section 8 of principal Act amended.

7. Section eight of the principal Act is hereby amended— 25

(a.) By omitting the words "in the case of an application to purchase, by a deposit of ten pounds" and substituting the words "by a fee of one pound"; and

(b.) By adding the following subsections:—

"(2.) In the case of an application for the purchase of a worker's dwelling, the applicant shall, if his application is approved by the Board, be required to pay an additional fee of nine pounds, and the total amount of ten pounds so paid shall be a deposit in respect of the purchase of the dwelling. 35

"(3.) In any other case in which the application is approved by the Board the fee of one pound shall be applied towards the payment of rent under the agreement or lease.

"(4.) If the application is not approved by the Board, the Board may, in its discretion, return the said fee or any part thereof to the applicant." 40

Section 9 of principal Act amended.

8. Section nine of the principal Act is hereby amended by adding to subsection three the following proviso:—

"Provided that the Board may in the case of a concrete or brick building extend the period during which instalments shall be payable to any period not exceeding thirty-six and a half years." 45

Section 10 of principal Act amended.

9. Section ten of the principal Act is hereby amended by adding the words "or according to such other scale as may be prescribed in cases where payments extend over more than twenty-five and a half years." 50

10. Section eleven of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from subsection one the words "the sum of seven pounds, or any multiple of seven pounds," and substituting the words "any sum not less than five pounds."

Section 11 of principal Act amended.

11. Section thirteen of the principal Act is hereby amended—
 (a.) By omitting from subsection one the words "by the Board," and by adding to the same subsection the words "by the Superintendent or by some person authorized by him in that behalf."

Section 13 of principal Act amended.

(b.) By omitting from subsection two the word "Board," and substituting the word "Court"; and

(c.) By omitting from subsection three the words "twenty-one days" and "eight days," and substituting the words "seven days" and "three days" respectively; and by omitting the words "Board or any person on its behalf," and substituting the words "Superintendent or any person on his behalf."

12. The Public Service Commissioner may from time to time appoint some fit person to be the Deputy to the Superintendent, who shall, under the control of the Superintendent, perform such general official duties as he is called upon by the Superintendent to perform; and in case of the absence or any temporary incapacity of the Superintendent shall act in his name and on his behalf, and while so acting shall have and may exercise all the powers, duties, and functions of the Superintendent.

Deputy of Superintendent may be appointed.

13. (1.) If the purchaser or tenant of any worker's dwelling makes default for not less than one month in the payment of any moneys due by him in respect of that dwelling, the Board may, in its discretion, impose a penalty not exceeding five per centum a month of the amount so due and unpaid:

Penalty for failure to make punctual payment.

Provided that in the case of a purchaser of a worker's dwelling no penalty shall be imposed under this section if the default is due to the sickness or unemployment of the purchaser and the amount in arrear is less than one-half of the amount that has been paid in respect of the purchase-money of the dwelling.

(2.) All penalties imposed under this section may be recovered under section thirteen of the principal Act.

Recovery of penalties.

14. (1.) Notwithstanding anything in the principal Act, in any case where, for any reason, the Minister is not prepared to erect a worker's dwelling on any allotment of land set apart for the purposes of the said Act, the Minister may sell the said land to any worker at a price to be agreed on, subject to the following conditions:—

In certain cases, title to land may be given to secure advances from State Advances Office.

(a.) The worker shall pay a deposit of not less than ten pounds in respect of the purchase-money of the said land, and shall thereupon receive an unincumbered title to the said land;

(b.) The sale and purchase shall be conditional on the worker obtaining an advance from the Superintendent of the State Advances Office for the purpose of erecting a dwelling-house on the said land;

(c.) The balance of the purchase-money of the said land shall be secured by a second mortgage and shall be paid by instal-

ments in the same manner as if the owner were the purchaser of a worker's dwelling under the principal Act; and

- (d. The worker shall agree with the Minister that, if he makes default in the payment of any instalment of principal or interest in respect of the advance from the Superintendent of the Advances Office, or in respect of the purchase-money of the land, he shall, if required so to do by the Workers' Dwellings Board, transfer all his interest in the said land to the Minister or to some other worker nominated in that behalf by the Workers' Dwellings Board. 5 10

(2.) Particulars of every agreement made with a worker under this section shall be furnished by the Superintendent of Workers' Dwellings to the State Advances Office, and the Superintendent of the State Advances Office shall forthwith notify the Superintendent of Workers' Dwellings of every advance made to a worker on the security of land subject to this section. 15