

Hon. Mr. Massey.

WAIKATO RIVER BOARD.

[LOCAL BILL.]

ANALYSIS.

<p>Title. Preamble. 1. Short Title. 2. Waikato River Board to have powers conferred upon a Board by River Boards Act.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Classification of Lands for Rating.</i></p> <p>3. Classification of lands. 4. Appeal against classification.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Rates.</i></p> <p>5. Power to levy general and special rates. 6. Land on which rates shall be levied. 7. Reclaimed lands.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Borrowing-powers.</i></p> <p>8. Board may borrow money and levy special rate. 9. Minister of Lands to be satisfied. 10. Absent voter's right to vote.</p>
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to grant Additional Powers to the Waikato River Board. Title.

WHEREAS the Waikato River District is a district duly constituted Preamble.
under the provisions of the River Boards Act, 1908, and it is deemed
5 expedient for the more effectual carrying-out of the intention of the
said Act and adapting same to the requirements of the said district
to modify and amend the same so far as affects the said district, and
to grant to the Board thereof the additional powers hereinafter
appearing :

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Waikato River Board Act, 1912. Short Title.
2. The Waikato River Board, as constituted under the pro- Waikato River
Board to have
powers conferred
upon a Board by
River Boards Act.
15 visions of the River Boards Act, 1908, shall have all the powers and
authorities and be subject to all the duties and liabilities conferred or
imposed upon a Board under that Act, and the said Act shall be read
or construed as applicable in all respects to the Waikato River
District and the Board thereof, excepting so far as the same
20 may be contradictory or repugnant to the provisions hereof, and
except so far as the same may be expressly amended, modified, or
enlarged by this Act.

Classification of Lands for Rating.

3. The Board may from time to time, as it thinks fit, classify or Classification of
lands.
35 cause to be classified all lands in the district, both town lands and

country lands, into the following classes, at the discretion of the Board, that is to say:—

(a.) Lands that will receive the greatest actual direct benefit from the construction of the works authorized by this Act:

(b.) Lands that will receive direct benefit:

(c.) Lands that will receive indirect benefit:

(d.) Lands not benefiting therefrom, to be exempt from all rates.

Owners or occupiers under this class to have no vote either for election or borrowing purposes under this Act or under the River Boards Act, 1908, and any amendment thereof, and the Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1908, and any amendment thereof.

4. Any person who thinks himself aggrieved by such classification may appeal, as provided for in section ninety-six of the principal Act, against the same on the grounds following, and on no other:—

(a.) That the classification does not fairly classify the lands of the appellant; or

(b.) That any land liable to be classified is omitted from the classification.

Appeal against classification.

Rates.

5. The Board to have power to levy general and special rates in the district, or to vary the same in any subdivision should the Board subdivide the district, as it shall by special order from time to time direct in the manner following—that is to say, on a graduated scale according to the classification of the land in the district:

Provided that no subdivision shall be charged with work done for which it received no benefit; and

Provided, further, that if any dispute shall arise between the Board and the ratepayers in any subdivision in regard to the aforesaid, then the matter shall be referred to arbitration in manner following: One arbitrator to be appointed by the Board and one by a majority of the ratepayers in the subdivision, and, if necessary, the arbitrators may appoint an umpire. The decision of the arbitrators shall be final as between the parties.

6. The rate shall be made and levied on all lands within the jurisdiction of the Board whether the land is privately owned land, unoccupied Crown land, or Native lands, with the exception, however, of class (d) in section *three* hereof.

7. All lands reclaimed by the Board either from the rivers or lakes within its jurisdiction shall be absolute property of the Board.

Power to levy general and special rates.

Land on which rates shall be levied.

Reclaimed lands.

Borrowing-powers.

8. That the Board shall have the power to issue debentures to the amount of fifty thousand pounds in sums of not less than five thousand pounds at any one time, either privately or in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of the New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909, and its amendments. The Board shall levy a special rate to cover interest, sinking fund, and other charges in connection with its borrowing-requirements.

Board may borrow money and levy special rate.

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9. In the event of the Board either borrowing under the New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909, and its amendments, or subsidies being granted to the Board by the Parliament of New Zealand, then the Minister of Lands shall be satisfied as to the nature of the works to be carried out before any loans are applied for or any subsidies are granted.

Minister of Lands to be satisfied.

10. At any poll to be taken for the purpose of any special loan it shall be lawful for the attorney of any ratepayer absent from the district or subdivision in which the poll is being taken to vote in the name and on behalf of such ratepayer; and every vote so given by any such attorney shall be as effectual as if the ratepayer had voted in person.

Absent voter's right to vote.