New Zealand.

ANALYSIS.

Title.
Preamble.
1. Short Title.
2. Authority to give effect to resolutions as to Pacific telegraph-cable. Provisoes.
Schedule.

1899, No. 19.

AN ACT to give Effect to certain Resolutions of Parliament respecting the Construction of a Pacific Telegraph-cable. Title.

[*21st October, 1899.*

WHEREAS Parliament during the present session thereof has adopted the resolutions set forth in the Schedule hereto, and it is expedient to make provision for giving effect to the same: 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 is "The Pacific Cable Authorisation Act, 1899." Short Title.

2. The Governor in Council, or any person appointed by the Governor in Council in that behalf, is hereby authorised to do whatever he deems necessary in order to give effect to the resolutions set forth in the Schedule hereto: Authority to give effect to resolutions as to Pacific telegraph-cable.

Provided that New Zealand shall not be committed to any liability in respect of the cost of construction of the therein-mentioned cable, or of the raising of the therein-mentioned capital, until the scheme of management and other preliminaries to be arranged by the therein-mentioned provisional Board have been approved by Parliament: Provisoes.

Provided further that the total cost of construction shall not exceed one million seven hundred thousand pounds.

SCHEDULE. Schedule.

RESOLUTIONS.

(1) THAT the Government be authorised to join in the cost of construction and maintenance of a Pacific telegraph-cable; (2) that New Zealand co-operate with the Governments of Great Britain, Canada, New South Wales, Victoria, and

Queensland in raising the required capital; (3) that a Board of Commissioners, selected by the contributing Governments, on which New Zealand shall have one representative, shall be empowered to raise the required capital for the construction, laying, and maintenance of the cable; (4) that the provisional Board, on which New Zealand shall have one representative, be empowered to invite tenders, arrange scheme of management and other preliminaries, with a view to preparing for legislation; (5) that the rates shall be unanimously agreed to at the outset, subsequent changes to be authorised by fixed majority of the Board of Commissioners; (6) that the cable shall be jointly owned and maintained by the contributing Governments; (7) that New Zealand shall join such of the Australian Colonies as are prepared to do likewise, upon the basis of a guarantee of four-ninths of the cost of construction and annual deficiency (if any) by such colonies, New Zealand's proportion of the guarantee not to exceed in any case one-ninth of the whole cost.

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