

Hon. Mr. Anderson.

ANIMALS PROTECTION AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the Animals Protection Act, 1908.

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. (1.) This Act may be cited as the Animals Protection Amendment Act, 1920, and shall be read together with and deemed as the principal Act). Short Title.
- 10 (2.) This Act shall come into force on the first day of April, nineteen hundred and *twenty-one*. Commencement.
- 2. (1.) Subject to the provisions of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any person to take or kill opossums. Protection of opossums.
- 15 (2.) For the purposes of this Act the term "opossum" includes an animal of the species *Trichosurus vulpecula* or the species *Trichosurus canina*.
- 3. (1.) The Governor-General may from time to time, by Warrant under his hand, define districts within which, subject to regulations under this Act, it shall be lawful to take or kill opossums. Governor-General may define districts in which opossums may be killed.
- 20 (2.) Any such Warrant may in like manner be revoked.
- 4. (1.) The Governor-General may from time to time, by Order in Council, make regulations— Regulations.
- 25 (a.) Prescribing open seasons during which opossums may be taken or killed in a defined district ;
- (b.) Prescribing the means by which opossums may be taken or killed ;
- 30 (c.) Providing for the issue of licenses to take or kill opossums, and prescribing the forms of such licenses and the fees (including royalties) to be paid therefor ;

- (d.) Providing for the taking or killing of opossums without a license in certain cases ;
- (e.) Defining areas within which it shall be unlawful to liberate or harbour opossums ;
- (f.) Regulating the keeping in possession, or the purchase and sale or other disposal, and the import and export, of opossum-skins ; 5
- (g.) Providing for the licensing of dealers in opossum-skins, and prescribing forms of dealers' licenses and the fees (including royalties) to be paid for such licenses ; 10
- (h.) Prescribing the furnishing of returns with respect to opossums taken or killed by any person, and the keeping of registers and the furnishing of returns by licensed dealers or other persons with respect to purchases and sales of opossum-skins ; 15
- (i.) Providing for the inspection of stocks of opossum-skins in the possession of licensed dealers or other persons ;
- (j.) Prescribing fines, not exceeding *fifty* pounds in any case, for the breach of any regulation under this Act ;
- (k.) Providing for the revocation of licenses and for the refusal of the issue of licenses in certain cases ; 20
- (l.) Providing for the payment to registered acclimatization societies of portion of the proceeds of the fees, royalties, and fines paid under this Act ; and
- (m.) Generally, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act. 25

(2.) Such regulations may apply generally throughout New Zealand or within any specified district or part thereof.

5. Nothing in any license shall entitle the holder thereof to enter upon any private land for the purpose of taking or killing opossums. 30

6. (1.) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in section forty-seven of the principal Act, all fees, royalties, and fines paid under this Act shall be paid into the Consolidated Fund.

(2.) The Minister of Finance may without further appropriation than this section pay, in accordance with regulations under this Act, any portion of the proceeds of such fees, royalties, and fines to any acclimatization society or societies under the principal Act. 35

7. The Sixth Schedule to the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting therefrom the words " opossum (*Phalangista*). " 40

Holder of license not to enter on private lands.

Application of fees and fines under this Act.

Sixth Schedule to principal Act amended.