

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

*Legislative Council,  
25th September, 1868.*

A BILL INTITULED.

AN ACT to amend the Law regulating the mode of Charging Fees in matters of Conveyancing Business. Title.

**W**HEREAS by the fifty-third section of an Ordinance of the Governor and late Legislative Council of New Zealand passed in the fifth year of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria intituled "An Ordinance to facilitate the Transfer of Real Property and to simplify the Law relating thereto" it is enacted that the sum to be recovered for the drawing copying and engrossing of any purchase deed or mortgage deed shall be a per-centage upon the consideration money of such deed according to the following rate and no more that is to say Where the consideration money shall not exceed one hundred pounds then the sum to be recovered shall be any sum not exceeding one pound and where the consideration money shall exceed one hundred pounds the additional sum to be recovered shall be any sum not exceeding the rate of ten shillings for every additional one hundred pounds of such consideration money And whereas it is expedient to make other provision in lieu of the enactment hereinbefore recited 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 shall be "The Conveyancing Charges Act 1868." Short Title.

2. The fifty-third section of the Ordinance aforesaid intituled "An Ordinance to facilitate the Transfer of Real Property and to simplify the Law relating thereto" is hereby repealed. Repeal of section.

3. It shall be lawful for the Judges of the Supreme Court or any three of them of whom the Chief Justice shall be one from time to time to make and to vary alter or rescind general rules or orders fixing scales of fees to be charged by solicitors in all or any matters of conveyancing business transacted by them and such scales may be so framed as to enable the Registrar to allow on taxation within certain limits fees and charges at a higher or lower rate having regard not only to the length of any deed contract or other document in respect of which such fees or charges are made but also to the skill and labour employed or required in the preparation or perusal thereof and the responsibility incurred by the solicitor in the transaction. Judges to make rules for regulating charges.

4. In the taxation of any bill of costs or fees for conveyancing business the Registrar shall be guided by the general rules and orders for the time being in force for that purpose and pending the issue of any such rules and orders and subject to such rules and orders when issued the Registrar shall have regard not only to the length of any deed contract or other document in respect of which any fees or charges are made but also to the skill and labour employed or required in the preparation or perusal thereof and the responsibility incurred by the solicitor in the transaction. Registrar to tax bills according to the scale allowed by the rules or orders having regard to skill and labour employed.