

Hon. Major Atkinson.

## Members of General Assembly Expenses.

### ANALYSIS.

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### A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to provide for reimbursing Members of the General Assembly their Expenses in relation to their attendance at Parliament. Title.

BE IT 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 Members of General Assembly Expenses Act, 1879." Short Title.

2. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,— Interpretation.  
 The term "member" means a member of the Legislative Council or the House of Representatives, as the case may be;

The expression "sitting day," where used in relation to the Legislative Council or the members thereof, or to the House of Representatives or the members thereof, means every day on which such Legislative Council or House of Representatives respectively shall, during any session, sit for the transaction of business.

3. There shall be paid to every member residing at a distance exceeding *three miles* from the building or place wherein the General Assembly is summoned to meet the sum of *two hundred and ten pounds* for every session at which he attends; and to every member residing within *three miles* of such place of meeting as aforesaid the sum of *one hundred and fifty-seven pounds* for every session at which he attends. Allowance to members of the General Assembly for attendance each session.

Deduction in case of absence.

4. If during any session any member shall absent himself for any number of sitting days exceeding *five*, there shall be deducted from the allowance to be made to such member for every sitting day (exclusive of such *five* sitting days) during which he may be absent such sum as will bear a like proportion to the full amount payable to any member under this Act as one sitting day will bear to the whole number of sitting days in such session. 5

Deduction not to be made in case of illness.

5. The preceding provisions as to the deduction to be made in the case of absence of any member shall not apply where such absence is caused by reason of illness or from any other cause which shall, by the Speaker of the House giving the certificate hereinafter provided to be given, be stated to be a reasonable cause for such absence, if such member shall be in the place where the General Assembly is sitting. 10

Travelling allowances.

6. In addition to the allowance to be made under the *third* section of this Act, there shall be paid to every member who resides more than *three* miles from the building or place wherein the General Assembly is summoned to meet the actual sums which such member shall have reasonably paid or incurred for or in respect of proceeding to and returning from such meeting of the General Assembly. 15 20

Provided that such payment shall be made only in respect of one journey to and from such meeting, and none other.

Payments to be made out of Consolidated Fund.

7. All moneys to be paid under this Act shall be paid out of the Consolidated Fund.

No payments to be made without Speaker's certificate.

No payment shall be made to any member except upon the certificate of the Speaker of the House of which the person claiming such payment shall be a member. 25

Exceptions.

8. No payment under this Act shall be made to any member in respect of any session or in respect of any part of any session during which such member— 30

- (1.) Holds any one or more of the Ministerial offices mentioned in the Third Schedule to "The Civil List Act 1863 Amendment Act, 1873," or any Ministerial office that may by law be substituted for or added to the offices mentioned in such Schedule;
- (2.) Is Speaker of the Legislative Council or of the House of Representatives respectively;
- (3.) Or, is Chairman of Committees of the said Council or of the House of Representatives respectively.