This Public Bill originated in the House of Representatives, and, having this day passed as now printed, is transmitted to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

House of Representatives.

4th August, 1916.

Right Hon. Mr. Massey.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS POSTPONEMENT.

ANALYSIS.

1. Short Title. 2. Duration of present Parliament extended for 3. Provision directing Representation Commissions in dividing New Zealand into electoral districts to take into account members of Expeditionary Force absent from New Zealand.

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to postpone the Date of the next General Election of Title. Members of the House of Representatives.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand 5 in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :-

1. This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Elections Short Title. Postponement Act, 1916, and shall be read together with and deemed

to form part of the Legislature Act, 1908.

2. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Legislatur Duration of present 10 Act, 1908, the House of Representatives as existing at the passing of extended for one this Act shall, unless the General Assembly is sooner dissolved by year. the Governor pursuant to section forty-four of the Constitution Act, continue for a period of four years, computed from the nineteenth 15 day of December, nineteen hundred and fourteen, and no longer.

3. (1.) In computing the population of New Zealand for the Provision directing purposes of sections sixteen to twenty-three of the Legislature Act, Representation Commissions in 1908 (relating to the functions of the Representation Commissions), dividing New Zealand into there shall be added to the population, as ascertained as the result of electoral districts to 20 the periodical census to be taken next after the passing of this Act, take into account a number equal to the number of men ordinarily resident in New Expeditionary Zealand, who, at the date of the taking of such census, may be Force absent from New Zealand. absent from New Zealand with the Expeditionary Force, and the total shall, for the purposes of the said sections, be deemed to be the 25 population of New Zealand.

(2.) The number to be added to the population pursuant to the last preceding subsection shall be allocated to the several electoral districts in which such men were ordinarily resident immediately prior to their enlistment for service with the Expeditionary Force.

(3.) A certificate under the hand of the Minister of Defence as to the number of men absent from New Zealand with the Expeditionary Force, or as to the number of such men ordinarily resident in any electoral district, shall be accepted by a Representation Commission as final.