

POST OFFICE AMENDMENT BILL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill amends the Post Office Act 1959.

Clause 1 relates to the Short Title.

Clause 2 empowers the Postmaster-General to guarantee payments to third parties from accounts of approved cheque account holders.

Clause 3 provides for computer records of toll calls to be prima facie evidence in legal proceedings of the information contained therein.

Clause 4 amends all references to the Post Office Association (Incorporated) to the Post Office Union (Incorporated), following the change of name of that body.

Hon. Mr Couch

POST OFFICE AMENDMENT

ANALYSIS

Title	3. Admissibility of computer records
1. Short Title	as evidence
2. Guaranteed payments	4. Post Office Union

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to amend the Post Office Act 1959

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

1. Short Title—This Act may be cited as the Post Office Amendment Act 1980, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Post Office Act 1959* (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

10 **2. Guaranteed payments**—The principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after section 116, the following section:
“116A. The Postmaster-General may guarantee payments made by selected Post Office Savings Bank cheque account holders from their accounts to third parties, subject to such
15 conditions as may be prescribed by regulations made under this Act.”

*Reprinted 1971, Vol. 3, p. 2155

Amendments: 1971, No. 120; 1972, No. 123; 1973, No. 2; 1973, No. 86;
1974, No. 64; 1975, No. 24; 1975, No. 98; 1977, No. 72; 1978, No. 24

3. Admissibility of computer records as evidence—The principal Act is hereby further amended by inserting, after section 239, the following section:

“239A. (1) Subject to this Act, a document certified by an officer of the Post Office to be a computer record of a telex or toll call and to have been produced in the usual and ordinary course of producing such computer records, shall in all legal proceedings be received as prima facie evidence of the making of the call, the originating number, the number called, the date and time of the call, and the duration and cost of the call, to the extent that these items are recorded therein. 5 10

“(2) For the purposes of this section the expression ‘computer record’ includes a microfiche, a microfiche printout, a computer printout, or any other document produced by a device by means of which information is recorded or stored.” 15

4. Post Office Union—(1) The principal Act is hereby further amended by omitting from—

- (a) Section 189 (1) (c); and
- (b) Section 194 (1) (b) and (c); and 20
- (c) Section 201 (1) (c) (as substituted by section 83 (1) of the State Services Conditions of Employment Act 1977); and
- (d) Section 205 (1) and (2); and
- (e) Section 218 (1) and (5) (as substituted by section 6 25 of the Post Office Amendment Act 1978); and
- (f) Section 218B (2) and (6) (as inserted by section 7 of the Post Office Amendment Act 1978); and
- (g) Section 221; and
- (h) Section 222B (2) (b) (as inserted by section 3 (1) 30 of the Post Office Amendment Act 1967),—

the word “Association” in each place where it occurs, and substituting in each case the word “Union”.

(2) Section 199 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing the definition of the expression “Association”, and 35 inserting in its appropriate alphabetical order the following definition:

“‘Union’ means the Post Office Union (Incorporated):”.