# PUBLIC SERVICE INVESTMENT SOCIETY MANAGEMENT (NO. 2) BILL

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This Bill makes further provision for the protection of depositors and creditors of the Public Service Investment Society Limited and its associated companies.

This Bill replaces the Public Service Investment Society Management Act 1979.

## Hon. Mr McLav

## PUBLIC SERVICE INVESTMENT SOCIETY MANAGEMENT (NO. 2)

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#### A BILL INTITULED

An Act to make further provision for the protection of depositors and creditors of the Public Service Investment Society Limited and its associated companies, and for matters incidental thereto

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

1. Short Title and commencement—(1) This Act may be cited as the Public Service Investment Society Management Act (No. 2) 1979.

- (2) This Act shall be deemed to have come into force at 9 p.m. on the 28th day of June 1979.
- 2. Interpretation—(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

"Court" means the Supreme Court of New Zealand: "Deferred account" means a contribution or deposit account maintained with the Society and standing, immediately before the commencement of this Act, in the name of—

(a) A member of the Society; or

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(b) A depositor with the Society:

"Minister" means the Minister of Justice:

"New account" means an account opened under section 8 of this Act in the name of—

(a) A member of the Society; or

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(b) A depositor with the Society:

"Property" means land, money, goods, things in action, goodwill, and every valuable thing, whether real or personal, and whether situated in New Zealand or elsewhere; and includes obligations, easements, and 20 every description of estate, interest, and profit, present or future, vested or contingent, arising out of or incident to property:

"Society" means the Public Service Investment Society Limited, a society registered under the Industrial 25

and Provident Societies Act 1908:

"Statutory manager" or "manager" in relation to any body corporate, means the manager appointed for the time being in respect of that body corporate by or under section 5 of this Act; and (subject to section 30) 5 (1) of this Act) includes a deputy statutory manager; and "management" has a corresponding meaning.

(2) For the purposes of section 4 of this Act a company shall be deemed to be associated with another company if, 35 under section 7 of the Income Tax Act 1976, the 2 companies are deemed to be under the control of substantially the same persons or to consist of substantially the same shareholders.

3. Act to bind the Crown—This Act binds the Crown.

**4. Application of Act**—This Act shall apply to the following bodies corporate—

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(a) The Public Service Investment Society Limited, a society registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1908:

(b) The companies specified in the First Schedule to this

- (c) Any other company incorporated in New Zealand which is associated with any of the companies specified in the First Schedule to this Act and to which the Governor-General, by Order in Council, has declared that this Act shall apply.
- 5. Statutory managers in respect of bodies corporate to which Act applies—(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Act or while the Order in Council (if any) applying this Act to any company otherwise provides, there shall be a statutory manager of each of the bodies corporate to which this Act applies, and there may also be appointed by the Minister in respect of each of those bodies corporate a deputy statutory manager who shall have (subject to the control of the manager) all the powers and functions of the manager in respect of that corporate.

(2) The first statutory manager in respect of the bodies

corporate to which this Act applies shall be,—

(a) In respect of the Society and of any company named in the First Schedule to this Act, Robert William Stannard of Wellington, Chartered Accountant, who shall become the manager of the Society and of each such company without further appointment than this paragraph:

(b) In respect of any other company to which this Act applies, the person appointed as statutory manager in respect of the company by the Order in Council declaring that this Act shall apply to that company and made under section 4 of this Act or (where that Order does not provide for any such appointment) the person first appointed as statutory manager in respect of the company by any subsequent Order in Council.

40 (3) Every statutory manager or deputy statutory manager shall hold office at the pleasure of the Minister, who may from time to time appoint a different or an additional person as statutory manager or deputy statutory manager and who

shall have, in respect of the office of statutory manager or deputy statutory manager, the powers conferred by section 25 (f) of the Acts Interpretation Act 1924.

6. Moratorium—(1) Subject to section 8 of this Act, after the commencement of this Act, no person shall,—

(a) Bring or continue any action or other proceedings (other than proceedings under the proviso to section 10 (1) of this Act) against any body corporate to which this Act applies:

(b) Issue any execution, attach any debt, or otherwise 10 enforce or seek to enforce any judgment or order obtained in respect of any body corporate to which this Act applies:

(c) Petition for the winding up of any body corporate to which this Act applies:

(d) Foreclose, enter into possession, sell, appoint a receiver, or take or continue any power or rights whatsoever under or in pursuance of any mortgage, charge, debenture, instrument, or other security over the property of any body corporate to which this Act 20 applies:

(e) Determine or forfeit any tenancy, distrain for rent, re-take or re-enter any premises or take or continue any power or rights whatsoever under or in pursuance of any lease, tenancy, or agreement to let or 25

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, an action or any proceedings may be brought against any body corporate to which this Act applies for the purpose of determining whether any right or liability exists 30 if the leave of the statutory manager of that body corporate or of the Court has first been obtained.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the statutory manager of any body corporate to which this Act applies may waive the application of 35 subsection (1) of this section (except paragraph (c) of that subsection) to both any secured creditor of that body corporate and his security.

(4) Subject to the provisions of this Act, nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall affect the existence of any 40 security over the property of any body corporate to which this Act applies or its priority in relation to other debts.

(5) Where any body corporate to which this Act applies is indebted at the commencement of this Act to any member of, or any depositor with, that body corporate, no such member or depositor may set off that debt against any debt arising out of an obligation incurred by him, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, with that body corporate.

(6) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall apply in respect of any money paid to, or deposited with, the Society on or after the 25th day of June 1979 to the credit of any deferred account and any money so paid shall be held on trust by the Society for the person in whose name that account

stands.

- (7) Nothing in subsection (6) of this section shall apply to any money paid to the Society to the credit of any person after the date on which the statutory manager has opened a new account in the name of that person.
- 7. Conduct of body corporate during statutory management—While any body corporate to which this Act applies remains under the management of a statutory manager appointed by or under this Act, it shall not be lawful or competent for any director, manager, or other person to be engaged in the management or conduct of that body corporate, or to act as its agent or servant, save with the permission of the statutory manager and so far as that permission extends.
  - 8. New accounts—(1) The statutory manager may open for any member of the Society or depositor with the Society one or more accounts, each of which shall be called a new account.
- 30 (2) There shall be credited to a new account opened for any member or depositor:
  - (a) The money (if any) which is due to that member or depositor and which is subject to the application of section 6 (6) of this Act; and
- 35 (b) Any money paid to, or deposited with, the Society for the benefit of that member or depositor on or after the opening of the new account.
- (3) Nothing in section 6 of this Act shall prevent any member of the Society or any depositor with the Society from drawing against or using, in accordance with the rules of the Society and as if this Act had not been passed, any money credited to any new account standing in his name.

- (4) Any transfer to a new account of money which is held on trust for the member or depositor in whose name that account stands and which is subject to the application of subsection (6) of section 6 of this Act shall be a sufficient discharge by the statutory manager of his duties under that subsection.
- (5) In the event of the winding up of the Society the payment of any money standing to the credit of a new account shall enjoy the same priority as the payment of expenses of administration to which section 18 of this Act applies and 10 any such money shall be paid accordingly to the member or depositor in whose name that account stands.
- 9. Statutory Manager's Account—(1) The statutory manager of each body corporate to which this Act applies shall as soon as practicable open a separate bank account for that body corporate to be known as the Statutory Manager's Account.
- (2) Any money credited or paid into a new account shall be paid into the Statutory Manager's Account opened by the statutory manager of the Society.

(3) Money withdrawn or to be withdrawn from a new account shall be paid out of the Statutory Manager's Account opened by the statutory manager of the Society.

- (4) Any money paid out of the Statutory Manager's Account opened by the statutory manager of the Society by 25 way of withdrawal from a new account shall be deemed to be part of the expenses of administration for the purposes of section 18 of this Act.
- (5) Any amount standing to the credit of the Statutory Manager's Account opened for any body corporate to which this Act applies may be applied for the general purposes of that body corporate.
- (6) Any money applied pursuant to subsection (5) of this section shall be deemed to be part of the expenses of administration for the purposes of section 18 of this Act.
- (7) Except with the prior written consent of the statutory manager of any body corporate to which this Act applies, the Statutory Manager's Account for that body corporate shall not be subject to any lien and shall not be combined with or set off against any other bank account of that body 40 corporate.

10. Termination of contract of agency or service—(1) The manager of any body corporate to which this Act applies may at any time terminate any contract of service or agency between the body corporate and any person who is its servant or agent, notwithstanding that by law, apart from this Act, the body corporate could not have so terminated the contract until some future date; and where a contract is so terminated under this section the body corporate shall thereupon be discharged from the further performance of the contract, and from all liabilities for subsequent nonperformance of the contract:

Provided that, after the termination of his contract, the person may, within 6 months of receiving notice of the termination, apply to the Court for compensation in respect of the contract; and the Court may award such compensation in respect of the contract as it considers just and reasonable having regard to the value of the consideration provided by the person, and to all amounts and benefits which the person has received under the contract, and to the conduct of the parties.

- (2) Every award of compensation made under subsection (1) of this section shall have a priority in accordance with section 13 (4) of this Act.
- 11. Board of Management and directors—(1) Every person who, immediately before the commencement of this Act, held office—
  - (a) As a member of the Board of Management of the Society; or
- (b) As a member of a District Committee of the Society,—30 shall cease to hold that office upon the commencement of this Act.
- (2) Upon the commencement of the application of this Act to any company, the directors thereof holding office immediately prior thereto, including the directors of any local Board, shall cease to hold office.
  - (3) During the period while this Act continues to apply to the Society or to any company, no person shall, during that period, be elected or appointed—
  - (a) A member of the Board of Management of the Society; or

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(b) A member of a District Committee of the Society; or (c) A director of a company to which this Act applies.

- 12. Duties and functions of manager—(1) In the exercise in relation to any body corporate of the powers and functions conferred upon the manager by this Act, it shall be the duty of the manager to take possession of and protect the property of the body corporate, to manage the same, and to pay the liabilities of each body corporate in accordance with the scheme settled under section 13 of this Act.
- (2) In carrying out the duty imposed on him by subsection (1) of this section, the manager shall have due regard not only to the rights and interests of all creditors, members, and shareholders of the body corporate but also to the need to reconstitute the managerial and financial structure of the Society.
- (3) Nothing in this section shall limit the powers expressly conferred on the manager by section 13 of this Act. 15
- 13. Powers of manager—(1) The manager (if any) in respect of any body corporate to which this Act applies shall have.—
  - (a) All the powers of the Board of Management or Board of Directors, as the case may require, and the 20 members in general meeting of the body corporate; and
- (b) Without limiting the generality of paragraph (a) of this subsection, the power, notwithstanding the financial position of the body corporate, to borrow 25 and raise money whether on the security of real or personal property of the body corporate or not—and, notwithstanding the provisions of the rules of the

Society or the articles of the company, may exercise alone all such powers.

(2) Notwithstanding section 6 (1) (c) of this Act, the

- (2) Notwithstanding section 6 (1) (c) of this Act, the statutory manager of any body corporate to which this Act applies may petition for the winding up of that body corporate.
- (3) In addition to the powers conferred by subsections (1) 35 and (2) of this section, any such manager shall have—
  - (a) The power to admit to proof against any corporate body to which this Act applies all debts—
    - (i) That are payable on a contingency; or

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(ii) That sound only in damages; or

(iii) That, for some other reason, do not bear a certain value; and

(b) The power to settle a scheme for the ranking and

payment of claims.

- 5 (4) In administering any such scheme the manager shall ensure that all money received by him from the realisation or administration of the property of the body corporate and not reasonably required in carrying on the business of the body corporate shall be applied in payment of claims as 10 follows:
  - (a) Firstly, in payment of all costs, charges, liabilities, and expenses (including costs, charges, liabilities, and expenses in carrying on the business of the body corporate) incurred by the manager and payable under section 18 of this Act:
  - (b) Secondly, in payment of the preferential payments referred to in section 308 of the Companies Act 1955, and on the terms and conditions set forth in that section and in section 101 of that Act, which last-mentioned section shall apply as if the manager were a receiver:
  - (c) Thirdly, in payment of all debts not being money to the credit of any deferred account admitted to proof but excluding any debts referred to in paragraph (b) of this subsection:

(d) Fourthly, in payment of all other debts admitted to proof but excluding any debts referred to in paragraph (b) or paragraph (c) of this subsection:

(e) Fifthly, in payment of interest from the date of the commencement of this Act on all secured debts at the rate (not being the penal rate) provided for in the instrument of security:

(f) Sixthly, in payment of interest from the date of the commencement of this Act on all debts (other than secured debts) admitted to proof at the rate provided for in any agreement.

(5) Before exercising any of the powers conferred by the foregoing provisions of this section, the manager may in his discretion apply to the Court ex parte for directions with 40 respect to the exercise of those powers, and the Court may,

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on any such application, make such order declaring the rights of persons before the Court or otherwise, as the Court thinks

just.

(6) All debts in one order of priority shall be paid in full before those with a lower priority, but among debts of the same priority they shall rank equally among themselves, and if the assets are insufficient to meet them in full they shall abate proportionately.

(7) Notwithstanding anything in this Act, where the total amount of any debt that is payable to a creditor (not being 10 a debt due to a member or depositor in respect of a deferred account) does not exceed \$200, the manager may pay that

debt without reference to its priority.

- 14. Court may confer additional powers on manager—In addition to the powers conferred by section 13 of this Act, 15 the manager of any body corporate shall have, in relation to that body corporate, such further powers (if any) as the Court, on the application of the manager, thinks fit to confer.
- 15. Rights of secured creditors—Notwithstanding the provisions of section 13 (4) of this Act, where any property the subject of a security is realised by the manager, the secured creditors shall be paid out of the proceeds of the realisation in priority to all other claims other than the costs of the manager in realising the secured property:

Provided that, where a security has been given over stock in trade, sale of that stock in trade in the normal course of business shall be deemed not to be a realisation of the

security.

16. Duty to deliver books and property to manager— 30 (1) It shall be the duty of all persons having possession and control of any books or records or documents or other property, whatsoever and wheresoever situated, belonging to any body corporate to which this Act applies forthwith after the commencement of this Act in the case of the Society or 35 of any company specified in the First Schedule to this Act, or forthwith after the first manager (if any) is appointed in respect of any other company to which this Act applies, to deliver or yield up possession of all such books, records, documents, or other property as aforesaid to the manager in 40 respect of the body corporate or to his authorised agent.

(2) If any person fails for 14 days to comply with the requirements of subsection (1) of this section, he commits an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 and to a further fine not exceeding \$10 for every day after the expiration of those 14 days during which the offence has continued.

(3) If any person fails to comply with the requirements of subsection (1) of this section, the manager may at any time certify the failure to the Court (whether or not an offence 10 has been committed under subsection (2) of this section), and the Court may thereupon inquire into the matter of the failure and, after hearing any witnesses who may be produced against or by or on behalf of the alleged offender, and after hearing any statement which may be offered in defence, may punish the offender in like manner as if he had been guilty of contempt of the Court.

(4) It shall be no defence to any proceedings under this section that the person in possession or control of any property as aforesaid is or was a trustee of the property for the Society
20 or any company to which this Act applies or entitled to a lien or other charge over the property, or was a receiver or manager of the property.

(5) The rights of any person who, in accordance with this section, delivers any property to the manager in respect of the Society or any company to which this Act applies or his authorised agent shall continue while the management continues as if the person had not so delivered the property; and on the termination of the management, subject to the provisions of this Act and unless the Court otherwise orders, the property shall be returned to the person who delivered it or to someone who derives a right to possession of the property from that person. The provisions of this subsection shall apply whether the person who delivers the property is a receiver or manager, or a person entitled to a lien or charge in respect of the property, or any other person having any rights whatsoever in respect thereof.

17. Protection of manager, etc.—(1) For the purposes of this Act the manager in respect of any body corporate to which this Act applies shall be deemed to be an agent of that 40 body corporate and in the exercise of his powers and functions under this Act shall have all the privileges and be entitled to the same protection as a member of the Board

of Management or a director has under any rule of law or under any Act or pursuant to the rules or articles of the

body corporate.

(2) No such manager shall be liable for any acts done by him in good faith in the exercise of his powers and functions as manager, and every such manager shall be indemnified out of the property of the body corporate in respect of all liabilities incurred by him in good faith.

(3) No action or proceeding shall be brought or commenced against any such manager except by leave of the 10 Court and subject to such terms as the Court may impose.

- 18. Expenses of administration—All costs, charges, liabilities, and expenses incurred in good faith by a manager appointed by or under this Act in the exercise, in relation to any body corporate to which this Act applies, of his powers 15 and functions under this Act (including such fees, commission, or other remuneration as may be approved by the Minister in respect of the services of the manager) shall be payable out of property of the body corporate, whether that property is acquired by the body corporate before or after the com- 20 mencement of this Act, in priority to all other claims.
- 19. Determination of management—(1) Every body corporate to which this Act applies shall remain subject to management under this Act from the time when the first manager in respect thereof is appointed in accordance with 25 section 5 of this Act until the management ceases in accordance with this Act, whether or not there is for the time being a manager in office in respect thereof.

(2) A body corporate shall cease to be subject to management under this Act if the Governor-General, by Order in 30 Council, so provides.

20. Report to Minister—(1) As soon as possible after taking up his appointment, the first statutory manager shall report to the Minister on the affairs of each body corporate to which this Act applies showing, at the date of his appoint—35 ment, the particulars of the body corporate's assets, debts, and liabilities, the names, addresses, and descriptions of its creditors, the securities held by them respectively, the dates when the securities were respectively given, and such further or other information as the manager thinks fit or the Minister 40 requires.

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(2) The report on the affairs of each body corporate shall be accompanied by any comments that the manager sees fit to make thereon.

(3) At the end of each six-monthly period after his appoint-5 ment the manager shall report to the Minister on the financial affairs of each body corporate and his management thereof.

(4) In each period of 12 months, and within one month after the determination of his appointment, the manager shall submit a statement of accounts, duly audited, showing in 10 detail his receipts and payments in respect of each body corporate.

(5) A copy of every report and financial statement presented to the Minister pursuant to this section shall be lodged by the manager with the Registrar of Industrial and 15 Provident Societies or the Registrar of Companies, as the case may require.

(6) Any report or comments made by the manager pursuant to this section shall be privileged in any civil or criminal proceeding unless the report or comments are proved to be 20 made with malice.

21. Appointment of statutory advisory committee—(1) The Minister may from time to time appoint one or more suitable persons as a statutory advisory committee in respect of all or any of the bodies corporate to which this Act applies.

(2) The functions of any such statutory advisory committee shall be—

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(a) To advise the manager of the body corporate or bodies corporate; and

(b) To exercise the powers under section 163 of the Com-30 panies Act 1955 or under section 19 of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1908 (as the case may require) to appoint an auditor or auditors and to fix the fees of the auditor or auditors so appointed; 35

(c) To consider any scheme prepared by the manager for the reconstruction of any body corporate to which this Act applies; and

(d) To consider from time to time whether it should advise the manager that any body corporate to which this Act applies-

(i) Should be wound up; or

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(ii) Should have its rules or memorandum of association or articles of association amended; and(e) To do all such other things as may be specified from

time to time by the Minister.

(3) The members of any such statutory advisory committee shall receive such remuneration by way of fees, salary, or allowances, and such travelling allowances and expenses, as the Minister may approve, and the amount thereof shall be payable in the same manner as if they were expenses of administration of the manager and, notwithstanding anything in section 6 of this Act, shall be recoverable by the members as a debt due to them by the Society.

22. Offence to destroy or alter records—(1) If any director, officer, servant, or agent of any body corporate to which this Act applies, or any other person,—

(a) With intent to defeat the purposes of this Act, destroys or alters any book, document, or record of any such body corporate, or sends or attempts to send out of New Zealand any such book, document, or record, or any property of any description belonging to or in the disposition or under the control of any such body corporate; or

(b) Fails or refuses to answer to the best of his knowledge and ability any question which he may be asked by the manager in relation to any such book or 25 document or record or property, or wilfully gives a false answer to any such question,—

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he commits an offence and is liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to a fine not exceeding \$5,000.

(2) If in any prosecution for an offence alleged to have been committed against this section it is proved that the person charged with the offence has destroyed or altered any book, document, or record as aforesaid, or has sent or attempted to send out of New Zealand any such book, document, or record, or any other thing, the onus of proving that in so doing he had not acted in contravention of this section shall lie on him.

(3) The First Schedule to the Summary Proceedings Act 1957 is hereby amended by omitting, from Part II, so much thereof as relates to the Public Service Investment Society Management Act 1979, and substituting the following item:

5 "The Public Service 22 Destroying or altering records."

Management Act (No. 2) 1979

- 23. Duty to report offences—If it appears to any manager appointed under this Act that any person has been guilty of any offence against this Act, or any other offence in relation to any body corporate to which this Act applies, he shall report the matter to the Solicitor-General.
- 24. Advances of fees of manager, etc.—(1) With the consent of the Minister of Finance, there may be advanced, out of money in the Consolidated Account appropriated by Parliament for the purpose, to any person who is a manager of any body corporate to which this Act applies or a member of any statutory advisory committee appointed under this Act in respect of any such body corporate, such amounts as the Minister may approve in respect of remuneration or allowances due to that person or expenses incurred by that person.
- (2) All money so advanced to any such person shall be refunded to the Crown out of money payable to that person in respect of the body corporate, and the Crown shall have all the rights of the person to whom the advance was made to receive and recover any such money. All money so refunded to the Crown shall be credited upon receipt to the 30 Consolidated Account.
- 25. Application of Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1908 and Companies Act 1955—(1) The manager in respect of any body corporate to which this Act applies shall notify the Registrar of Industrial and Provident Societies or the Registrar of Companies, as the case may require, of his appointment as manager and of the termination of his appointment.

(2) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1908 or the Companies Act 1955, it shall not be obligatory on the manager to furnish in respect of the Society or any company of which he is manager any annual or other return required by either of those Acts.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this Act, all the provisions of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1908 (other than sections 8 (a) (iv) and 13), and all rules and regulations under that Act, shall, so far as they are applicable, and with the necessary modifications, apply to the Society while it is subject to the provisions of this Act.

(4) Subject to the provisions of this Act, all the provisions of the Companies Act 1955 and all rules and regulations under that Act, shall, so far as they are applicable, and with 15 the necessary modifications, apply to any company to which this Act applies:

Provided that, except as otherwise provided in this Act, the provisions of the Companies Act 1955 specified in the Second Schedule to this Act shall not so apply.

26. Regulations—(1) The Governor-General may from time to time, by Order in Council, make regulations for all or any of the following purposes:

(a) Conferring on the statutory manager of any body corporate to which this Act applies such powers as 25 are necessary for the due administration of any property belonging to that body corporate:

(b) Providing for such matters as are contemplated by or necessary for giving full effect to the provisions of this Act and for the due administration thereof. 30

- (2) Regulations made under <u>paragraph</u> (a) of subsection (1) of this section may be so made as to apply generally to the statutory managers of all bodies corporate to which this Act applies or to one or more of them.
- **27. Repeal**—The Public Service Investment Society 35 Management Act 1979 is hereby repealed.

#### **SCHEDULES**

#### FIRST SCHEDULE

Section 4 (b)

COMPANIES TO WHICH ACT APPLIES

Avalon Wine and Spirits Limited.
Bishop & Co. Limited.
Investment Travel Limited.
J. McIlraith & Co. Limited.
Newmans Travel Service Limited.
C. S. Passmore Limited.
Pubvest Holdings Limited.
Pubvest Securities Limited.
Walker's Travel Centre (1972) Limited.
Wellington Marine's Boatshed Limited.
Wellington Marine's Dive Centre Limited.

#### SECOND SCHEDULE

Section 25 (4)

Provisions of Companies Act 1955 Which Do Not Apply to Companies to Which This Act Applies
Sections 41, 130 to 135, 152 to 162, subsections (2) and (2A) of section 354, and Part VII.