

Mr. Pirani.

REFERENDUM.

ANALYSIS.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Title.</li> <li>Preamble.</li> <li>1. Short Title.</li> <li>2. Motion or Bill, how referred.</li> <li>3. Speakers to certify.</li> <li>4. Certificate gazetted. Notice of poll.</li> <li>5. Poll, how taken.</li> <li>6. Voting.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Poll may be taken at post-offices.</li> <li>8. Provisions of the Electoral and Corrupt Practices Acts to apply.</li> <li>9. Clerk of Parliaments to gazette results of voting.</li> <li>10. If affirmative, how dealt with.</li> <li>11. If negative, how dealt with.</li> <li>12. Act not to apply in certain cases. Schedule.</li> </ul> |
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to refer to the Electors of the Colony certain Motions or Bills for their Decision. Title.

WHEREAS it is desirable to refer certain questions to the electors of the colony, so as to provide a system by which a direct answer, either in the affirmative or negative, may be obtained from the electors on such questions : 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 is "The Referendum Act, 1899." Short Title.
  - 2. Whenever both Houses of the General Assembly shall have passed a resolution in favour of submitting any motion or Bill to the vote of the electors, or whenever the House of Representatives shall have passed a resolution in favour of referring any motion or Bill which has been twice passed by such House, and twice rejected by the Legislative Council, to a vote of the electors, then such reference shall be made in the manner hereinafter provided. Motion or Bill, how referred.
  - 3. The Speaker of the Legislative Council, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives, or both the Speakers, shall, as the case may require, whenever a resolution has been passed as aforesaid, send a certificate thereof, together with a copy of the motion or Bill referred to, to the Colonial Secretary. Speakers to certify.
  - 4. The Colonial Secretary shall, within two months after the prorogation of Parliament, publish the certificate, together with a copy of the motion or Bill referred to, in the *New Zealand Gazette*, and shall appoint a time for the taking of the poll on such resolution. Due notice of the time so appointed for the taking of such poll shall also be given by advertisement in such newspapers as Certificate gazetted.
- No. 59—1. Notice of poll.

- the Colonial Secretary may deem necessary, and by notice posted on every school-building and post-office in the colony : Provided that any accidental omission to make such notification at any particular post-office or post-offices, schoolhouse or schoolhouses, shall not invalidate any poll, unless it can be shown that such omission has materially affected the result of such poll. 5
- Poll, how taken.** 5. The poll shall be taken at every polling-place in the colony whereat votes are taken for the election of members of the House of Representatives, and before Returning Officers presiding at such places, but not on the same day as is appointed for a general or licensing election. 10
- Voting.** 6. The voting-papers shall be in the form of A or B in the Schedule hereto, as the case may require, and the voting shall be by ballot, and the provisions of the Electoral Acts relating to the voting for members of the House of Representatives shall, so far as applicable thereto, apply to the voting under this Act. 15
- Poll may be taken at post-offices.** 7. In lieu of taking the poll in the foregoing manner prescribed, it may be taken at the post-offices of the colony, and the Postmasters shall fulfil the duties of Returning Officers. In such cases the poll shall remain open one week, and the Governor may issue regulations providing for the taking thereof, and, *mutatis mutandis*, all the provisions providing for the taking of the local option poll shall apply thereto. 20
- Provisions of the Electoral and Corrupt Practices Acts to apply.** 8. All the provisions of the Electoral and Corrupt Practices Acts shall, so far as applicable, be in force in regard to any poll taken under this Act. 25
- Clerk of Parliaments to gazette results of voting.** 9. The result of the poll at each polling-place shall be duly certified by the Returning Officer thereat, in the Form C in the Schedule hereto, and such certificate and all voting-papers, duly sealed up, shall be at once forwarded to the Clerk of Parliaments, and when he shall have received all the certificates he shall publish the result of the voting in the *New Zealand Gazette*. The voting-papers shall be kept by the Clerk of Parliaments for one year. 30
- If affirmative, how dealt with.** 10. If the poll be in favour of any Bill submitted, then such Bill shall become law on a date to be named by the Governor by Proclamation. If the vote be in favour of any alteration of the law, or proposal submitted otherwise than by Bill, then it shall be the duty of the Colonial Secretary to at once prepare a Bill to give effect to such alteration or proposal, and to introduce, or cause to be introduced, the same either in the Legislative Council or House of Representatives within *ten* days of the opening of the session of Parliament held next after such poll shall have been taken. 40
- If negative, how dealt with.** 11. If any motion or Bill be negatived at such poll, such motion or Bill shall not again be submitted by referendum to the electors for a period of three years after the taking of such poll unless demanded by a petition to Parliament signed by ten thousand electors. 45
- Act not to apply in certain cases.** 12. This Act shall in no case apply to any motion or Bill for the construction or maintenance of public works of a purely local character not affecting the general body of the electors, or relating to parliamentary procedure only, or which the House of Representatives declares to be urgent, or any private Bill. 50

SCHEDULE.

Schedule.

FORM A.—VOTING-PAPER.

“ The Referendum Act, 1899.”

[Here insert matter of resolution.]

I vote that the above resolution be carried into effect.

I vote that the above resolution be *not* carried into effect.

N.B.—The voter shall strike out the proposal for which he or she does not vote.

FORM B.—VOTING-PAPER.

“ The Referendum Act, 1899.”

[Here insert the name of Bill.]

I vote *for* the above Bill.

I vote *against* the above Bill.

N.B.—The voter must strike out the proposal for which he or she does not vote.

FORM C.

“ The Referendum Act, 1899.”

CERTIFICATE of voting on [Here set out matter of resolution or Bill], in the Electoral District of :—

I certify that I have duly counted the votes given in this district on the day of , 1 , on the above [Here set out resolution or Bill], and that the result of such voting is as follows, viz. :—

Votes given in favour of the [resolution or Bill]	...	...
Votes given against the [resolution or Bill]	...	...
Informal votes	...	...
Total	...	...

Returning Officer for the Electoral District of