



West Coast Settlement Reserves Acts Amendment Act 1887

1887

- Citation:** 51 V. No 30
Date of Assent: 23 December, 1887
Commencement: Date of Assent
- Repeal:** Repealed 1892, No 22
Amendments: –
Type of Legislation: Public
Subject: Reserved Land
Leased Land
Public/Native/Maori Trustee
- Relevant Sections:**
- s4: Public Trustee to have discretion to not seek to recover arrears of rent if tenant has limited means.
 - s5: Lessee surrendering lease may become lessee of new lease with consent of Public Trustee.
 - s8: Commissioner may be appointed.
 - s9: Opunake South or Pukekohatu Block of Native reserves.

Commentary: This Act mainly concerns what were known as the “confirmed leases”. These were leases that the Maori owners had arranged before the lands were put under the control of the Public Trustee and the leases were “confirmed”. The leases were at a higher rental, however, than the later leases arranged by the Public Trustee and the lessees had been petitioning Parliament that they could not afford the high rates and that they should be able to take advantage of the terms offered by the Public Trustee to other lessees in the West Coast Settlement Reserve. This Act allows the lessees to surrender their existing leases and take up the easier terms. The Public Trustee also has the power to allow the lessees to do so without first paying rent owing on their existing lease. Taipua and Carroll, reporting on the Select Committee, said that the Bill went against the recommendations of the Native Affairs Committee that the lands should revert to the owners on expiry of the existing confirmed leases, and that the Public Trustee himself had said that the land affected should be given back. Taipua said “There can be no doubt in the minds of members of the House what the intentions of this Bill are. If this Bill should be found hereafter to work injuriously towards the Europeans the House would very soon set the matter right”. Taipua eventually supported the Bill on the promise of the Premier that there would be a Bill to give Maori power to deal with their own lands in the next session of Parliament.

Cross Reference continued over page

**West Coast Settlement Reserves Acts Amendment Act 1887***continued*

Cross Reference: NZPD vol 57 (1887) 29 - 30, 398 - 399, 745 - 747, 833 - 837, 847 - 859,
877 - 881

NZPD vol 59 (1887) 933 - 936

AJHR (1887) Sess II G - 7

(Leaseholders of Native Lands at Patea),

I - 3a *(Native Affairs Committee)*

AJHR (1890) I - 12

(Joint Committee Upon the West Coast Settlement Reserves)

AJHR (1891) Sess II G - 1 p.XIV

(Rees Commission).