



## Board of Native Affairs Act 1934

- Citation:** 25 Geo. V, No 44
- Date of Assent:** 5 April, 1935
- Commencement:** Date of Assent
- Repeal:** Repealed 1953, No 94
- Amendments:** 1948, No 69: See separate record.  
*s6* amends *s3*.  
 1949, No 46: *s21* amends *ss2, 9* and repeals *s8(1)*.  
 1950, No 98: See separate record.  
*s11* amends *s9(a)*.
- Type of Legislation:** Public
- Subject:** Maori Land Development Schemes  
 Public/Native/Maori Trustee
- Relevant Sections:** *s1*: This Act may be cited as the Board of Native Affairs Act 1934 - 35.  
*s3*: Board of Native Affairs established, chaired by Native Minister.  
*s7*: Functions of Board, control over Native Trustee, Maori Land Board and East Coast Commissioner investments, expenditure on farming operations, supervisors of farming operations.  
*s8*: District Native committees may be appointed, chaired by NLCt Judge and 2 other persons with practical experience in farming.  
*s11*: Native Land Settlement Board abolished.
- Commentary:** Establishes a Board of Native Affairs and provides for the setting up of District Native Committees. The Native Land Settlement Board is abolished. The function of the Board of Native Affairs was to exercise control over money invested for a Maori Land Board, the Native Trustee or for the East Coast Commissioner, control expenditure on farming operations undertaken by the Native Trustee or a Maori Land Board and apportion the services of supervisors in respect of such farming operations. The District Committees were to carry out powers delegated to them by the Board of Native Affairs. This Act followed the Native Affairs Commission which recommended the amalgamation, and was highly critical of the extensive powers of ministerial control over Maori Land Development Schemes and of the way that they were run by people without a land or business background. Ngata chose to resign his position as Native Minister as a result of the Commission's findings. During the Debates on this Bill he said that one of the problems was that Maori do not trust the

*Commentary and Cross Reference continued next page*



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Native Trustee and that men who were sympathetic to Maori were needed for administration. Te Tomo protested at Acts not being translated into Maori as many Maori did not understand what the law was, and also complained of the way that the Native Trustee had not been distributing rents.

**Cross Reference:** NZPD vol 241 (1935) 744 - 762, 896 - 900

AJHR (1934 - 35) G - 11  
(*Native Affairs Commission*)

AJHR (1935) G - 9  
(*Native Land Courts*)

AJHR (1936) G - 10  
(*Native Land Development*)

Butterworth G & Butterworth S *The Maori Trustee*  
(Maori Trustee, Wellington, 1991) 36 - 38, 40.