

This PUBLIC BILL, originated in the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, and, having this day passed as now printed, is transmitted to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

House of Representatives,
22nd October, 1906.

Hon. Sir J. G. Ward.

DEFENCE ACT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	4. Business of Council.
1. Short Title.	5. Inspector-General.
2. Council of Defence to be appointed.	6. Duties of Inspector-General.
3. Minister of Defence responsible to Parliament.	7. Salaries.
	8. Amendment of principal Act.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The Defence Act, 1886."

itle.

BE IT 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 Defence Act Amendment Act, 1906"; and it shall form part of and be read together with "The Defence Act, 1886" (hereinafter called "the principal Act").

Short Title.

2. In addition to the powers granted to the Governor by the principal Act, the Governor may, by warrant under his hand and under the public seal of the colony, appoint a Council of Defence (hereinafter called "the Council") in connection with the Defence Forces, consisting of such persons and for such period or term and to hold any of the offices hereinafter named, or other offices, as to the Governor may seem fit, and may from time to time reappoint any of such person or persons:

Council of Defence to be appointed.

Provided, however, that none of such persons shall be appointed for a longer period than five years at one time.

3. The Minister of Defence shall be responsible to the Governor and to Parliament for all the business of the Council.

Minister of Defence responsible to Parliament.
Business of Council.

4. All business of the Council, other than business which the Minister of Defence specially reserves to himself, shall be transacted in the following principal divisions:—

(a.) The first military member of the Council (the chief of the General Staff) and the second military member (the Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General) shall be responsible to the Minister of Defence for the administration of so much of the business relating to the organization, disposition, personnel, armament, and maintenance of the Defence Forces as shall be assigned to them, or each of them, from time to time by the Minister of Defence.

- (b.) The finance member of the Council shall be responsible to the Minister of Defence for the finance of the Defence Forces, and for so much of the other business of the Council as may be assigned to him from time to time by the Minister of Defence. 5
- (c.) The Secretary to the Council will be charged with the preparation of all official communications of the Council, and with such other duties as the Minister of Defence may from time to time assign to him.
- Inspector-General.** 5. The Governor may from time to time appoint some fit person to be an Inspector-General of the Defence Forces, and who shall hold office for a period of not exceeding five years at any one time, but may be from time to time reappointed. 10
- Duties of Inspector-General.** 6. The duties of the Inspector-General of the Defence Forces shall be, under the orders and direction of the Council, to review generally and to report to the Council on the practical results of the policy of the Council, and for that purpose to inspect and report annually upon the training and efficiency of all members of the Defence Forces, on the suitability of their armament and equipment, on the conditions of the fortifications and defences of the colony, and generally on the readiness and fitness of the Defence Forces for war. 15 20
- Salaries.** 7. The several members of the Council and the Inspector-General of the Defence Forces shall severally be paid such annual salaries out of the Consolidated Fund as shall from time to time be appropriated by Parliament for the purpose. 25
- Amendment of principal Act.** 8. The principal Act is hereby amended as follows: As to section fifty-three, by omitting the words "three years," and substituting in lieu thereof the words "one year's."