

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.

11th October, 1915.

Hon. Mr. Allen.

DEFENCE AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	
1. Short Title.	5. Regulations as to transfer from Territorial Force to General Training Section.
2. Extension of provisions of War Pensions Act, 1915, to members of Expeditionary Forces while in New Zealand.	6. Section 35 of principal Act amended.
3. Establishment of National Reserve.	7. Section 40 of principal Act amended. Repeal.
4. Definition of "Defence Forces" amended.	8. Section 41 of principal Act amended.
	9. Section 42 of principal Act amended.

A BILL INTITLED

AN ACT to amend the Defence Act, 1909.

Title.

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

Short Title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Defence Amendment Act, 1915, and shall form part of and be read together with the Defence Act, 1909 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

Extension of provisions of War Pensions Act, 1915, to members of Expeditionary Forces while in New Zealand.

2. (1.) The provisions of the War Pensions Act, 1915, shall, subject to the provisions of this section, and with the necessary modifications, apply to any member of an Expeditionary Force raised for service beyond New Zealand in connection with the present war, and to the dependants of any such member, in respect of his death or disablement in New Zealand, if his death or disablement has resulted from his employment as a member of the said Force.

(2.) For the purpose of computing the amount of pension payable to any member or the dependants of any member under this section the War Pensions Board may take into consideration the fact that the death or disablement of the member occurred in New Zealand.

(3.) This section shall apply in respect of the death or disablement of any member, notwithstanding that such death or disablement has occurred before the passing of this Act.

(4.) For the purposes of this section every person shall be deemed to be a member of an Expeditionary Force if he was in fact attached to such Force, notwithstanding that he may not have been a member of the Force for the purposes of the Expeditionary Forces Act, 1915.

(5.) For the purposes of this section the War Pensions Board shall accept as sufficient evidence that any person was a member of an Expeditionary Force a certificate in writing to that effect under the hand of the Minister or of any person authorized by him in that behalf.

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(6.) This section shall, with the necessary modifications, apply in the case of the death or disablement of any person, not being a member of an Expeditionary Force within the meaning of this section, who is, or at any time has been, or may be, engaged on active military service in any capacity within New Zealand in connection with the present war, if the death or disablement of such person within New Zealand results or has resulted from his employment on military service.

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Establishment of
National Reserve.

3. (1.) The Governor may, by notice in the *Gazette*, recognize the establishment of a voluntary organization, to be known as the National Reserve, established for military training and military service within New Zealand, and may in like manner from time to time recognize the establishment of any unit of the National Reserve.

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(2.) No member of the Territorial Force, the General Training Section, or the Reserve under the principal Act shall be capable of becoming or of remaining a member of the National Reserve:

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Provided that persons who for any reason have been exempted from the personal service required by Part III or Part VI of the principal Act may become members of the National Reserve.

(3.) The Governor may by Order in Council make regulations for the organization, training, discipline, and control of the National Reserve, or may, in like manner, approve any rules made for such purposes by the governing body of the National Reserve or of any unit of the National Reserve.

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(4.) Any notice by the Governor or any Order in Council under this section may at any time be in like manner revoked.

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Definition of
"Defence Forces"
amended.

4. Section two of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, in the definition of "Defence Forces" after the words "Territorial Force," the words "Senior Cadets, General Training Section."

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Regulations as to
transfer from
Territorial Force to
General Training
Section.

5. Regulations under the principal Act may provide for the transfer of members of the Territorial Force to the General Training Section.

Section 35 of
principal Act
amended.

6. Section thirty-five of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting all words after the words "liable to be trained," and substituting the words "in the Senior Cadets, the General Training Section, and the Reserve for such periods respectively as are hereinafter prescribed."

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Section 40 of
principal Act
amended.

7. (1.) Section forty of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting all words of subsection one after the words "succeeding year"; and by repealing subsection seven, and substituting the following in lieu thereof:—

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"(7.) Every person liable to be trained shall, on the first day of June in the year in which he attains the age of eighteen, or on the first day of June after he ceases to attend a secondary school (which- ever is the later), be drafted into the General Training Section:

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5 .“ Provided that when any person becomes liable to be drafted from the Senior Cadets into the General Training Section, or otherwise becomes liable to be trained in the General Training Section, he may, at any time while the establishment of the Territorial Force is below that provided for by this Act, be drafted directly into the Territorial Force instead of into the General Training Section, and shall thereupon become a member of the Territorial Force accordingly, and shall be deemed for the purposes and within the meaning of this Act to have been transferred from the General Training
 10 Section to the Territorial Force.”

(2.) Section forty-two of the Defence Amendment Act, 1912, is hereby repealed. Repeal.

8. Section forty-one of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing subsection five, and substituting the following :— Section 41 of principal Act amended.

15 “ (5.) Every person shall on the first day of June in the year in which he attains the age of twenty-five years be drafted into the Reserve.”

(3.) Section nine of the Defence Amendment Act, 1910, is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (b).”

20 9. Section forty-two of the principal Act is hereby amended by adding the words “ Training in the Reserve shall continue until the first day of June in the year in which the reservist attains the age of thirty.” Section 42 of principal Act amended.