

Hon. Mr. Fisher.

EXPEDITIONARY FORCES VOTING.

ANALYSIS.

<p>Title.</p> <p>1. Short Title.</p> <p>2. Members of Expeditionary Forces to have opportunity of voting.</p> <p>3. Mode of recording votes.</p>	<p>4. Transmission of results to New Zealand.</p> <p>5. Proceedings under this Act not to invalidate election or poll.</p> <p>6. Regulations.</p> <p>7. Duration of Act.</p>
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to enable the Members of the Expeditionary Forces to exercise their Votes at the next General Election of Members of the House of Representatives and Licensing Poll. Title.

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Expeditionary Forces Voting Act, 1914. Short Title.

10 2. (1.) Every member of any Expeditionary Force sent from New Zealand to serve in the war in which His Majesty is at present engaged who is on the issue of the writs for the next general election of members of the House of Representatives enrolled as an elector under the Legislature Act, 1908, may, notwithstanding his absence from New Zealand, be entitled to vote at such election and also at the licensing poll taken simultaneously with such election. Members of Expeditionary Forces to have opportunity of voting.

15 (2.) Every member of any such Force who is not before leaving New Zealand enrolled as aforesaid may, if qualified, be enrolled under this Act, and when so enrolled shall for all purposes be deemed to have been enrolled under the Legislature Act, 1908.

20 (3.) For the purposes of this section a person shall be deemed to be qualified for enrolment in an electoral district if, being otherwise qualified, he resided in that district for not less than one month immediately prior to joining an Expeditionary Force.

25 3. The vote of every such member shall be exercised at a place and on a day appointed pursuant to regulations and shall be exercised and recorded in the same manner as far as practicable as if such Mode of recording votes.

member were the holder of a voting-permit issued under the Legislature Act, 1908, by the Registrar of the electoral district in which such member was enrolled or would have been entitled to be enrolled if he had not left New Zealand.

Transmission of
results to
New Zealand.

4. The total result of the voting under this Act for each electoral district and for each licensing district respectively shall be transmitted by cablegram or other expeditious means by the person appointed in that behalf pursuant to regulations to the Chief Electoral Officer at Wellington, and shall be forwarded by him to the Returning Officer of that district, and the number of votes recorded in the electoral district for each candidate and the number of votes recorded in the licensing district for each proposal submitted for the determination of the electors of that district under the Licensing Act, 1908, shall be added to the respective numbers recorded under each of the said Acts, and the result of the said election and the said licensing poll shall be determined accordingly. 5 10 15

Proceedings under
this Act not to
invalidate election
or poll.

5. The validity of the election at the said general election in any electoral district or of the licensing poll taken in any licensing district shall not be questioned on the ground that anything has been done irregularly or omitted to be done under this Act, or that for any reason whatever it is found impracticable for any member of any Expeditionary Force aforesaid to record his vote. 20

Regulations.

6. The Governor may from time to time, by Order in Council, make regulations for the appointment of electoral officers out of New Zealand and prescribing their duties, for the enrolment out of New Zealand of persons entitled to vote under this Act, for the appointment of scrutineers, and generally for carrying this Act into effect. 25

Duration of Act.

7. This Act shall be deemed to be repealed on the completion of the said general election :

Provided that such repeal shall not affect any proceeding in relation to the said election or to the said licensing poll. 30