

Major Steward.

SCHOOL COMMITTEES ELECTION.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to regulate the Election of School Committees. itle.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make other provision in the matter of the election of School Committees: Preamble.

5 BE IT THEREFORE 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 School Committees Election Act, 1885," and it shall be read with and as part of "The Education Act, 1877." Short Title.

2. The term "the said Act," wherever in this Act occurring, shall mean "The Education Act, 1877." Interpretation.

3. Sections sixty-four and sixty-eight of the said Act shall be read as though the word "April" had been originally inserted therein instead of the word "January," and the words "preceding year," in the seventh line of the said section sixty-four, shall mean the year or period ended on the thirty-first day of March next preceding the date of the annual meeting of householders. Annual meetings of householders to be held in April.

4. Section sixty-five of the said Act is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof it is enacted that every elector may exercise as many votes as there are persons required to be elected; but no elector shall be entitled to record more than one vote for any one candidate. Repeal of cumulative vote.

Disqualification.

5. If a member of a School Committee be absent without leave during three consecutive months from all meetings of the Committee, except from temporary illness or other cause to be approved of by the Committee, such person shall cease to be a member of the Committee, and his or her office shall thereupon be vacant.

Special elections.

6. If by any means the number of members of a School Committee be reduced to less than the number required for a quorum, or if five or more members of any Committee shall signify to the Education Board their desire to be relieved from office, the Board may declare their seats vacant, and may direct an election to be held to fill up the vacancies ; and the proceedings in connection with such election shall be the same as in the case of an annual election.