

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

# Supplementary Order Paper

Thursday, the 14th Day of March 1974

COUNTIES AMENDMENT BILL

*Proposed Amendments*

HON. MR MAY, in Committee, to move the following amendments:

*Clause 1, subclause (1):* To omit the words "Counties Amendment Act 1973" in line 2, and substitute the words "Counties Amendment Act 1974".

*New clause 7A:* To insert in Part II, before clause 8, the following clause:

7A. County electors—(1) Section 46 of the principal Act (as amended by section 2 of the Local Elections and Polls Amendment Act 1970) is hereby further amended by omitting the words "of or over the age of 20 years", and substituting the words "of or over the age of 18 years".

(2) Section 50 of the principal Act (as amended by section 2 of the Local Elections and Polls Amendment Act 1970) is hereby further amended by omitting from subsection (1) the words "of or over the age of 20 years", and substituting the words "of or over the age of 18 years".

(3) The First Schedule to the Local Elections and Polls Amendment Act 1970 is hereby consequentially amended by repealing so much thereof as relates to sections 46 and 50 of the principal Act.

(4) Notwithstanding anything in subsections (1) to (3) of this section, the provisions of sections 46 and 50 of the principal Act shall continue to apply, as if those subsections had not been enacted, for the purpose of any election to fill an extraordinary vacancy on the Council and of any poll, if that election or poll is held before the 12th day of October 1974.

*Clause 8:* To omit from subsection (1) of the proposed new section 51 in subclause (1) the words "20 years" in line 6, and substitute the words "18 years".

To add the following subclause:

(5) Notwithstanding anything in any enactment not specified in the Second Schedule to this Act, at any election or poll of any local authority held on or after the 12th day of October 1974 every person qualified to vote shall have one vote only.

*Second Schedule:* To insert in Part II, before the item relating to the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941, the following items:

1908, No. 96—The Land Drainage Act 1908 (1957 Reprint, Vol. 7, p. 474)

By omitting from subsection (1) of section 6 the words "and shall insert in such list opposite the name of each person therein the amount at which his property is valued on such roll".

By omitting from subsection (1) of section 9 the words "exercise at every such election the same number of votes as he could exercise in respect of the same qualification at the election of a member of a County Council", and substituting the words "have one vote only at every such election".

By repealing subsections (2) to (5) of section 9 (as added by section 2 (2) of the Land Drainage Amendment Act 1965).

By omitting from subsection (7) of section 31B (as inserted by section 2 (1) of the Land Drainage Amendment Act 1965) all words after the words "and as if", and substituting the words "and as if the following paragraph had been added thereto:

"(e) That the area of land included in a class is not correct."

By repealing section 5.

By repealing subsection (3) of section 8, and substituting the following subsection:

"(3) Such person as the Governor-General appoints shall make a roll of electors for the district by placing thereon the names of all persons so entitled to vote."

By adding to section 16, as subsection (2), the following subsection:

"(2) Notwithstanding anything in subsection (1) of this section, every person who votes at an election of a member or members of a Board held in accordance with any such enactment shall be entitled to exercise only one vote."

By repealing subsection (1) of section 31, and substituting the following subsection:

"(1) Every ratepayer shall be entitled to vote at every election of a member of the Board, but if the district is subdivided, then only at elections of members of the Board for each subdivision in which he is a ratepayer."

1913, No. 31—The Land Drainage Amendment Act 1913 (1957 Reprint, Vol. 7, pp. 498, 531)

By omitting from paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 2 the words "representing not less than one-half of the rateable value of all the properties liable to be rated within the district or subdivision".

1922, No. 5—The Land Drainage Amendment Act 1922 (1957 Reprint, Vol. 7, p. 533)

By omitting from subsection (1) of section 6 the words "addresses, and qualifications", and substituting the words "and addresses".

By omitting from subsection (2) of section 6 the words "or where the qualification of any person already enrolled is corrected".

By omitting from the same subsection the words "erasure, or correction", and substituting the words "or erasure".

By repealing section 7 (as substituted by section 3 of the Land Drainage Amendment Act 1958).

1923, No. 42—The Land Drainage Amendment Act 1923 (1957 Reprint, Vol. 7, pp. 478, 534)

By repealing section 3.

To insert in the second column of Part II, after the item relating to section 46 of the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941, the following items:

By repealing paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section 102 (as substituted by section 15 (1) of the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Amendment Act 1952).

By omitting from the second proviso to subsection (5) of section 102 the words "and the number of votes to which each is entitled".

By repealing paragraph (g) of subsection (1) of section 103 (as substituted by section 18 (1) of the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Amendment Act 1959).

By omitting from subsection (8) of section 106B (as inserted by section 20 of the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Amendment Act 1959) all words after the words "and also as if", and substituting the words "paragraph (e) were repealed, and the following paragraph were substituted therefor:

"(e) That the area of land included in a class is not correct."

By repealing subsection (9) of the said section 106B.

By repealing subsections (1) and (2) of section 110, and substituting the following subsection:

"(1) Subject to subsection (3) of this section, every ratepayer shall have one vote only at a poll on a proposal to raise a special loan."

By repealing subsection (4) of section 110.

To insert, after the same item, the following items:

1958, No. 73—The Land Drainage Amendment Act 1958

By repealing section 3.

1959, No. 48—The Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Amendment Act 1959 (Reprinted, 1969, Vol. 4, p. 3218)

By repealing subsection (2) of section 17.

1960, No. 89—The Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Amendment Act 1960 (Reprinted, 1969, Vol. 4, p. 3228) | By repealing section 3.

To insert in Part II, after the item relating to the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Amendment Act 1962, the following items:

1964, No. 10 (Local)—The Thames Valley Drainage Board Empowering Act 1964 | By repealing section 3.

1965, No. 90—The Land Drainage Amendment Act 1965 | By repealing subsection (2) of section 2.

1967, No. 123—The Rating Act 1967 | By repealing subsection (9) of section 20, and substituting the following subsection:  
“(9) At every poll under this section, every ratepayer shall be entitled to exercise one vote only.”

To add to Part II the following item:

1973, No. 91—The Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Amendment Act 1973 | By repealing so much of the Schedule as relates to subsection (9) of section 106B of the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

*Clause 1, subclause (1):* This is a formal amendment only.

*Clause 7A:* The effect of this clause is to reduce from 20 years to 18 years the minimum age for voting at county elections and the minimum age for membership of county councils.

*Clause 8:* The amendment to subclause (1) is consequential on the new clause 7A.

The Schedule to the Bill abolishes plural voting at elections and polls held by Catchment Boards and Pest Destruction Boards, and further items are added by amendments to that Schedule referred to below. The proposed new *subclause (5)* is a general provision abolishing plural voting at elections and polls held by other local authorities not mentioned in that Schedule.

*Second Schedule:* These further amendments add additional items to the Schedule of amendments abolishing plural voting at elections and polls held by other local authorities. The effect of the additional items is to abolish plural voting at Drainage Board and River Board elections and polls and at rating system polls held under the Rating Act 1967. Further consequential amendments and repeals are added to that Schedule.