

1906.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Read 1° 11 September, 1906.

(Brought in by the Prime Minister the Honorable Alfred Deakin.)

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT

To amend the *Pacific Island Labourers Act 1901*.

BE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, as follows :—

1. This Act may be cited as the *Pacific Island Labourers Act* Short title.
 5 1906, and this Act and the *Pacific Island Labourers Act 1901* shall be read together, and the *Pacific Island Labourers Act 1901* as amended by this Act may be cited as the *Pacific Island Labourers Act 1901-1906*.

2. After section eight of the *Pacific Island Labourers Act 1901*
 10 the following section is inserted :—

8A. (1.) The Minister may grant a certificate to any Pacific Island labourer excepting him from all or any of the provisions of this Act. Certificates of exemption.

(2.) Certificates under this section shall be of two classes,
 15 namely—

(a) general certificates to be issued only to Pacific Island labourers whom, on account of long residence in Australia or for other reasons, it is not deemed desirable to return to their islands, and

[C. 38]—760/11.9.1906.—F.9149.

(b) special

- (b) special certificates (not to be issued or remain in force after the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and seven), to be issued to Pacific Island labourers whom in the opinion of the Minister it will not be convenient to return to their islands immediately after the thirty-first day of December, One thousand nine hundred and six. 5
- (3.) A certificate under this section (whether general or special) shall, subject to the terms and conditions expressed in the certificate, have the effect of excepting the Pacific Island labourer mentioned therein from any specified provisions of this Act, but may be cancelled by the Minister at any time. 10

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(Schedule of Amendments made by the Senate.)

No. 1.—Page 1, clause 2, sub-clause (2), leave out paragraph (a), insert—

“(a) general certificate to be issued only to a Pacific Island labourer who proves to the satisfaction of the Minister—

- (i) That he was introduced into Australia prior to the first day of September, One thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine ; or
- (ii) That he is of such extreme age, or is suffering from such bodily infirmity as to be unable to obtain a livelihood if returned to his native island ; or
- (iii) That having been married before the ninth day of October, One thousand nine hundred and six, to a native of some island other than his own, he cannot be deported without risk to the life of either himself or his family ; or
- (iv) That he has been married before the ninth day of October, One thousand nine hundred and six, to a female not a native of the Pacific Islands ; or
- (v) That he was on the first day of July, One thousand nine hundred and six, and still is, registered as the beneficial owner of a freehold in Queensland ; or
- (vi) That he has been continuously resident in Australia for a period of not less than twenty years prior to the thirty-first day of December, One thousand nine hundred and six ; and ”

No. 2.—Page 2, clause 2, sub-clause 2, paragraph (b), in line 1, leave out “certificates,” insert “certificate,” in line 3 after “to” (second occurring) insert “a,” and leave out “labourers” and insert “labourer,” in line 5 leave out “their,” insert “his,” and leave out “islands” and insert “island”—as consequential on amendments in paragraph (a).

No. 3.—Page 2, clause 2, line 7, before “certificate” insert “special”.

No. 4.—Page 2, clause 2, line 7, leave out “(whether General or special)”.

No. 5.—Page 2, clause 2, at end of clause add new sub-clause—

“(4) A general certificate under this section shall, subject to the terms and conditions expressed in the certificate, have the effect of excepting the Pacific Island labourer mentioned therein from any specified provisions of this Act, but may be cancelled by the Minister if at any time he has reason to think such certificate has been obtained by false and fraudulent representation.”

No. 6.—Page 2, after clause 2, add new clause—

“3. Any person aiding or abetting any Pacific Island labourer in the obtaining a certificate of exemption by means of false and fraudulent representation to the Minister shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Act.

Aiding and abetting the obtaining a certificate.

Penalty : Fifty pounds, or three months' imprisonment, or both.”

Penalty.

E. G. BLACKMORE,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

10th October, 1906.

