

CONSTITUTION ACT 1889 - SECT 73

73 . Legislature as constituted by this Act empowered to alter any of its provisions

(1) Subject to the succeeding provisions of this section, the Legislature of the Colony shall have full power and authority, from time to time, by any Act, to repeal or alter any of the provisions of this Act. Provided always, that it shall not be lawful to present to the Governor for Her Majesty's assent any Bill by which any change in the Constitution of the Legislative Council or of the Legislative Assembly shall be effected, unless the second and third readings of such Bill shall have been passed with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the whole number of the members for the time being of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly respectively. Provided also, that every Bill which shall be so passed for the election of a Legislative Council at any date earlier than by Part III provided, and every Bill which shall interfere with the operation of sections 69, 70, 71, or 72, or of Schedules B, C, or D, or of this section, shall be reserved by the Governor for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure thereon ^{10, 11} .

(2) A Bill that —

(a) expressly or impliedly provides for the abolition of or alteration in the office of Governor; or

(b) expressly or impliedly provides for the abolition of the Legislative Council or of the Legislative Assembly; or

(c) expressly or impliedly provides that the Legislative Council or the Legislative Assembly shall be composed of members other than members chosen directly by the people; or

(d) expressly or impliedly provides for a reduction in the numbers of the members of the Legislative Council or of the Legislative Assembly; or

(e) expressly or impliedly in any way affects any of the following sections of this Act, namely —

[sections 2, 3, 4, 50, 51 and 73,](#)

shall not be presented for assent by or in the name of the Queen unless —

(f) the second and third readings of the Bill shall have been passed with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the whole number of the members for the time being of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly, respectively; and

(g) the Bill has also prior to such presentation been approved by the electors in accordance with this section,

and a Bill assented to consequent upon its presentation in contravention of this subsection shall be of no effect as an Act.

(3) On a day fixed by the Governor by Order in Council, being a day not sooner than 2 months, and not later than 6 months, after the passage through the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly of a Bill of a kind referred to in subsection (2), the question for the approval or otherwise of the Bill shall be submitted to the electors qualified to vote for the election of members of the Legislative Assembly according to the provisions of the [Electoral Act 1907](#) .

(4) When the Bill is submitted to the electors the vote shall be taken in such manner as is fixed by law.

(5) If a majority of the electors voting approve the Bill, it shall be presented to the Governor for assent by or in the name of the Queen.

(6) Any person entitled to vote at a general election of members of the Legislative Assembly is entitled to bring proceedings in the Supreme Court for a declaration, injunction or other remedy to enforce the provisions of this section either before or after a Bill of a kind referred to in subsection (2) is presented for assent by or in the name of the Queen.

[Section 73 amended by No. 59 of 1978 [s. 6.1](#)]