

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.



ANNO SEPTIMO

GEORGI QUINTI REGIS,

XXIV.

No. 4 of 1917.

AN ACT to preserve the Franchise of Electors
on Service with His Majesty's Forces.

[Assented to 23rd March, 1917.]

BE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of Western Australia, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the *Franchise Act, 1916*, and shall be read as one with the *Electoral Act, 1907*.

Short title.

2. (1) Any elector whose name is on the roll for an Electoral District and who is on active service with His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces shall, during such service, be deemed to continue to live in the Electoral District for which he was enrolled as an elector at the commencement of such service. Provided that a returned soldier who has *bona fide* changed his residence to another Electoral District, and has otherwise complied with the provisions of the Principal Act may claim to be transferred to such Electoral District.

Preservation of franchise.

(2) Any person on active service with His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces who is qualified for enrolment as an elector in an Electoral District shall if he claims to be enrolled as an elector, be enrolled for the Electoral

District in which he lived immediately prior to the commencement of such service, and shall, during such service, be deemed to continue to live in such District.

(3) Any person on active service with His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces, who, at the commencement of such service, was enrolled or qualified for enrolment as a Legislative Council elector as a householder occupying a dwelling-house, shall retain such qualification during such service, whether absent from the State or not, so long as he continues tenant of such dwelling-house, notwithstanding that he does not occupy the dwelling-house in person.

Provided that if such person is a married man and absent from the State, and his wife remains in occupation of the dwelling-house she may, on application to the Electoral Registrar, be registered as an elector on the household qualification in the place of her husband.

(4.) Whenever, in the preparation of electoral rolls, the name of any person on service with His Majesty's Forces, and whose name was on an existing roll, has been omitted on the ground that by reason of such service such person did not appear to reside in the District for which he was enrolled, the name of such person may be inserted by the Chief Electoral Officer.

(5.) The Chief Electoral Officer shall, so far as practicable, cause an asterisk or other distinguishing mark to be made on the rolls against the names of electors who have joined His Majesty's Forces, and append to the roll an explanatory note.