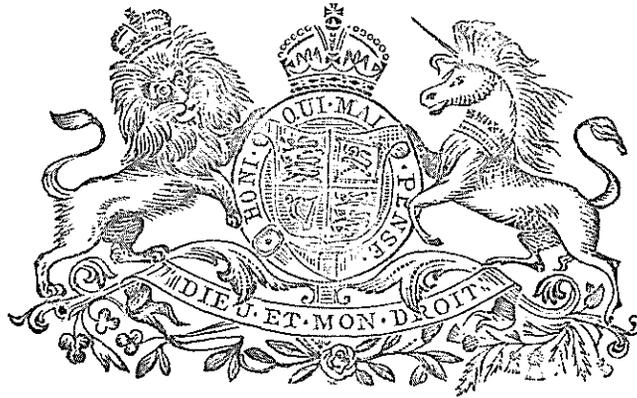


WESTERN AUSTRALIA.



ANNO QUARTO
GEORGII QUINTI REGIS,
XVI.

No. 16 of 1913.

AN ACT to amend the Evidence Act, 1906.

[Assented to 30th December, 1913.]

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 *Evidence Act Amendment Act*, 1913, and shall be read as one with the Evidence Act, 1906, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act. Short title.

2. Section eight of the principal Act is amended by omitting the following words:—"Every person charged with an offence, and the wife or husband, as the case may be, of the person so charged shall be a competent witness for the defence at every stage of the proceedings," and by inserting in place thereof the following words, that is to say:—"Except as in this Act it is otherwise provided, every person charged with an offence, and the wife or husband, as the case may be, of the person so charged, shall be a competent but not a compellable witness at every stage of the proceedings." Amendment of 1906, No. 28, section 8. cf. Crim. Code, s. 629.

3. Section twenty-one of the principal Act is amended by inserting after the words "examination in chief," the words "or re-examination." Amendment of section 21.

4.

Insertion of new
Section 69A.

4. The principal Act is hereby amended by the insertion of the following section immediately after Section sixty-nine, that is to say:—

Proof of registers.

“69A. When by any Statute in force in the State any person is required to keep any register, then any register purporting or appearing to be kept pursuant to the Statute shall (save in so far as the contrary may be proved) be deemed to be and be admissible in evidence as a complete and accurate register and record and—

(a) any document purporting to be a copy of the register and to be certified as correct by the person aforesaid; or

(b) a *Gazette* containing what purports to be a copy of the register; or

(c) any document purporting to be a copy of the register and to be printed by the Government Printer or by the authority of the Government of the State,

shall be *prima facie* evidence of the contents of the register as existing on the date when the document or *Gazette* purports to have been certified, or printed, or issued, and the production thereof in any Court or before any person shall (save in so far as it may be proved not to be a true copy) be equivalent to the production of the original register.”

Principal Act to be
printed as amended.

5. All copies of the principal Act hereinafter printed by the Government Printer shall be printed as amended by this Act under the supervision of the Clerk of Parliaments, and all necessary references to this Act made in the margin.