



Western Australia.

ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUINTO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. XIV.

AN ACT to empower Judges and others to order the making of a Solemn Affirmation and Declaration, in lieu of the taking of an Oath.

[Assented to, 18th March, 1892.]

WHEREAS the taking of Oaths in Courts of Justice by people of Asiatic and other races often tends to disturb the solemnity of the proceedings and to offend against the religious convictions of Christians, and it is expedient to empower all persons having by law authority to administer an Oath to order in all cases the making of a solemn Affirmation and Declaration instead of the taking of an Oath: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen'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:—

Preamble.

1. IT shall be lawful for any Judge, Justice of the Peace, or other person or persons having by law authority to administer an

Persons required to take an oath may be ordered to make a solemn affirmation instead.

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oath, in his or their discretion to order and direct that any person who shall be required upon any lawful occasion to take an oath, in any case where by law an oath is or may be required, shall, instead of taking the oath, make his or her solemn affirmation and declaration in these words:—

“I (A.B.) do solemnly and truly affirm and declare—”

Which said solemn affirmation and declaration shall be of the same force and effect, to all intents and purposes, in all Courts of Justice and other places whatsoever where by law an oath is or may be required, as if such person had taken an oath in the usual form.

Persons making false affirmation to be subject to same punishment as for perjury.

2. IF any person making such solemn affirmation and declaration shall wilfully, falsely, and corruptly affirm and declare any matter or thing which, if the same had been sworn in the usual form, would have amounted to wilful and corrupt perjury, every such person so offending shall incur the same penalties and forfeitures as by law are or may be enacted or provided against persons convicted of wilful and corrupt perjury.

Short title.

3. THIS Act may be cited as “The Affirmations Act, 1892.”

In the name and on behalf of the Queen I hereby assent to this Act.

ALEX. C. ONSLOW, Administrator.