

AMENDED: See Act, 1916 No. 18

AMENDED: See Act, 1921 No. 39

New Zealand.REFER TO ACT, 1916  
No. 18 Section 31

## Title.

## ANALYSIS.

1. Short Title.
2. County Councils or Road Boards may erect and maintain telephone-lines.
3. Two or more local authorities may combine for purposes of this Act.

1912, No. 48.

## Title.

AN ACT to provide for the Erection and Maintenance of Telephone-lines in Country Districts. [7th November, 1912.]

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

## Short Title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Country Telephone-lines Act, 1912.

County Councils or Road Boards may erect and maintain telephone-lines.

2. (1.) On the petition of any number of ratepayers of a county or road district the local authority may, with the approval of the Postmaster-General, erect and maintain telephone-lines to connect the lands of those ratepayers with any Government telephone-office or telephone exchange, or may acquire and maintain or may control any such telephone-lines already erected.

(2.) The signing of any such petition shall constitute a contract as between the signatories and the local authority that each of the said signatories will become a contributor to the telephone-line erected, or acquired, or controlled in accordance with the petition, and will pay to the local authority the cost of connecting his land with the line and such charges for the maintenance of the line as may from time to time be fixed by by-law, and such charges may be in addition to any special rate levied by the local authority as hereinafter mentioned.

(3.) The local authority may from time to time raise by way of special loan under the Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1908 (but without taking the steps required by sections seven to thirteen of that Act), such moneys as may be required for the purposes of this section, and ~~as security for the loan may make and levy a special rate over the lands of the signatories to the petition sufficient to produce the annual charges in respect of the loan.~~

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(4.) The annual charges shall include the interest on the loan and such annual payments by way of sinking fund as will ensure the repayment of the loan within twelve years after the date of raising the same.

(5.) The local authority may make by-laws—

- (a.) Regulating the use of any telephone-line erected, acquired, or controlled under the authority of this section, and prescribing charges or otherwise providing for the maintenance of the line;
- (b.) Prescribing the conditions on which the lands of persons (other than the signatories to the petition) may be connected with the telephone-line;
- (c.) Prescribing the conditions on which any person may cease to be a contributor to the telephone-line:

Provided that no such by-law shall come into force until the publication in the *Gazette* of a notice that it has been approved by the Postmaster-General.

3. (1.) Any two or more local authorities may by agreement between them combine to erect, acquire, or maintain any telephone-line which extends or is intended to extend into two or more districts, and may by such agreement apportion the cost of the line between them.

Two or more local authorities may combine for purposes of this Act.

(2.) The control of any such line shall be vested either in one of the combining local authorities or in a joint committee of the combining local authorities, as may be agreed on.

(3.) Any such agreement may from time to time be varied by subsequent agreement of the parties, or may at any time after the expiration of twelve years from the making thereof be cancelled by any party thereto by giving to the other party or parties twelve months' notice in writing.

(4.) On the cancellation of any such agreement the control of the line shall be vested in such local authority on such terms and conditions as the parties agree upon, or, in default of agreement or so far as any such agreement does not extend, as the Governor by Order in Council directs:

Provided that the variation or cancellation of any such agreement shall not affect any special rate theretofore made in pursuance of this section.

(5.) The provisions of the last-preceding section as to the erection, maintenance, acquisition, or control of telephone-lines by a single local authority shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to the erection, maintenance, acquisition, or control of telephone-lines by combined local authorities under this section.