

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

(Rough Draft for Consideration Only.)

No. , 1920.

---

---

## A BILL

To provide that certain buildings are adequately provided with the means for extinguishing, and escaping from, fires; to amend the Height of Buildings (Metropolitan Police District) Act, 1912, and the Height of Buildings (Amendment) Act, 1916; and for purposes incidental thereto or consequent thereon.

---

---

**B**E it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows.—

1. This Act may be cited as the "Height of Buildings (Amendment) Act, 1920," and shall be read with the Height of Buildings (Metropolitan Police District) Act, 1912 (hereinafter called the Principal Act), as amended by the Height of Buildings (Amendment) Act, 1916.

Short title.

2. Section four of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection one the following subsections :—

Amendment of s. 4 of Principal Act.

(1A) The proprietor of a building being erected in pursuance of any such permit granted at any time after the            day of           , one thousand nine hundred and           , shall at any time the Minister may by notice in writing so require, furnish him with a certificate signed by the architect or, if there is no architect, by the contractor for the building, that the work on the building has, with regard to the provisions for protection against fire, been carried out up to the date of the certificate, in accordance with the plans and specifications, with such variations thereof (if any) as may be approved in writing by the Minister, or some person appointed by him in that behalf.

Interim certificate.

If any person knowingly signs any such certificate which is false in any material particular he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *one hundred* pounds.

(1B) If such certificate is not furnished as aforesaid the proprietor of the building shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *five* pounds for every day on which work on the building is proceeded with after the date notified for the furnishing of the certificate, and until a certificate is duly furnished under this section.

Penalty.

(1C) Any person authorised in writing by the Minister may at all reasonable times enter and inspect any such building which is in course of erection, and every person in control of or engaged in work on such building shall afford facilities for such entry and inspection. If any person obstructs or hinders the person so authorised in making such entry or inspection, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding            pounds.

Inspection.

3.

**3.** The following short heading and section is inserted New section.  
next after section four of the Principal Act:—

*Existing buildings.*

**4A.** (1) The Minister, after receiving a report Alterations, &c., of existing buildings above 70 feet in height. from the chief officer of fire brigades that in any existing building above seventy feet in height adequate provision has not been made for the extinction of fire or for escape in case of fire, may, by written notice, require the proprietor or lessee of such building, within a time specified in such notice, to make such alterations and additions and to provide such appliances as in the opinion of the said chief officer are necessary.

Such alterations, additions, and appliances shall be set out in such notice.

(2) Any such proprietor or lessee who fails to Penalties. comply with any of the requirements of such notice within the specified time shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *fifty* pounds, and to a further continuing penalty not exceeding *five* pounds for every day after the expiration of the time specified on which such requirements are not complied with.

(3) Any person authorised in writing by the Inspection. Minister may, at all reasonable times, enter and inspect any such building, and the proprietor or lessee or person managing such building shall afford facilities for such entry and inspection.

If any person obstructs or hinders the person so authorised in making such entry or inspection, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *twenty* pounds.

**4.** Paragraph (b) as inserted in section four of the Amendment of s. 4 of Principal Act as amended by s. 3 of 1916 Act. Principal Act by section three of the Height of Buildings (Amendment) Act, 1916, is amended as follows:—

- (a) Before "erected" insert "commenced to be."
- (b) Omit "one hundred," insert "seventy."
- (c) Omit "in respect of," insert "in the plans and specifications of."