
A BILL

To amend the law as to the manner of taking oaths ; to amend the " Oaths Act, 1900," and for other purposes.

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 New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :—

1. This Act may be cited as " The Oaths Amending Act, 1912." Short title.

2. The following section is inserted after section eleven of the Oaths Act, 1900 :— New section.

11A. In addition to the manner hereinbefore prescribed of tendering and taking certain oaths, any oath may be tendered and taken, as follows :— Forms of oaths.

(a) The person taking the oath may, while holding in his hand a copy of the Bible, New Testament, or Old Testament, repeat the words of the oath as prescribed or allowed by law ; or

(b) The officer administering the oath may repeat the appropriate form of adjuration, and the person taking the oath shall thereupon, while holding in his hand a copy of the Bible, New Testament, or Old Testament, indicate his assent to the oath so administered by uttering the words " So help me, God " :

Provided that in all judicial proceedings the officer administering the oath shall, unless the person about to take the oath voluntarily objects thereto, administer the oath in the form and manner set out in paragraph (b) ; but no oath shall be deemed illegal or invalid by reason of any breach of the provisions of this section. Special provision as to oaths in judicial proceedings.