PUBLIC HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958.

EXPLANATORY NOTE.

THE object of this Bill is to enable minors to be immunised against certain infectious diseases in any case where the council or medical practitioner undertaking such immunisation has been unable to find the parents or guardians of such minors.

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No. , 1958.

A BILL

Relating to the immunisation of children against certain diseases; for this purpose to amend the Public Health Act, 1902-1952; and for purposes connected therewith.

[MR. SHEAHAN;-16 September, 1958.]

 \mathbf{B}^{E} it enacted by the Queen'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 5 follows :—

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the "Public Health Short title and citation.

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(2)

(2) The Public Health Act, 1902, as amended by subsequent Acts and by this Act, may be cited as the Public Health Act, 1902-1958.

2. The Public Health Act, 1902-1952, is amended by Amendment 5 inserting next after section thirty-nine the following new of Act No. 30, 1902. section: --New sec.

39A. (1) In this section—

39A. Immunisation of "Council" means a council as defined by section four minors of the Local Government Act, 1919, as amended infectious

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"Infectious disease" means diphtheria, poliomyelitis or any other disease declared by the Governor pursuant to subsection two of this section to be an infectious disease for the purposes of this section.

by subsequent Acts, undertaking the immunisa-

tion of persons against an infectious disease under and in accordance with the provisions of section 299A of the said Act, as so amended.

(2) The Governor may by proclamation in the Gazette declare that any disease therein named is an infectious disease for the purposes of this section; and he may in like manner revoke or vary any such declaration.

(3) A council and any legally qualified medical practitioner whether acting for or on behalf of a council or otherwise may immunise any minor against an infectious disease if-

(a) the council or legally qualified medical practitioner after diligent search and inquiry has been unable to find the parents or surviving parent of such minor or any other person legally entitled to consent to the immunisation of such minor against an infectious disease; and

(b)

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(b) the consent of the person for the time being having the care or custody of such minor has been obtained to such immunisation.

(4) Any consent given by the person for the time being having the care or custody of a minor to the immunisation of such minor against an infectious disease shall, for the protection of the council or legally qualified medical practitioner immunising such minor in accordance with such consent and of any person concerned with such immunisation, have the same effect as if such consent had been given by the parents of such minor.

(5) The powers conferred on a council and any legally qualified medical practitioner by this section shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other powers of the council and legally qualified medical practitioner in relation to the immunisation of minors against an infectious disease.

Sydney: V. C. N. Blight, Acting Government Printer-1958

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Act No. 1958

Public Health (Amendment),

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