

FIRST PRINT

**PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES AND ELECTIONS
(METHOD OF VOTING) AMENDMENT BILL 1994 (No. 2)**

NEW SOUTH WALES

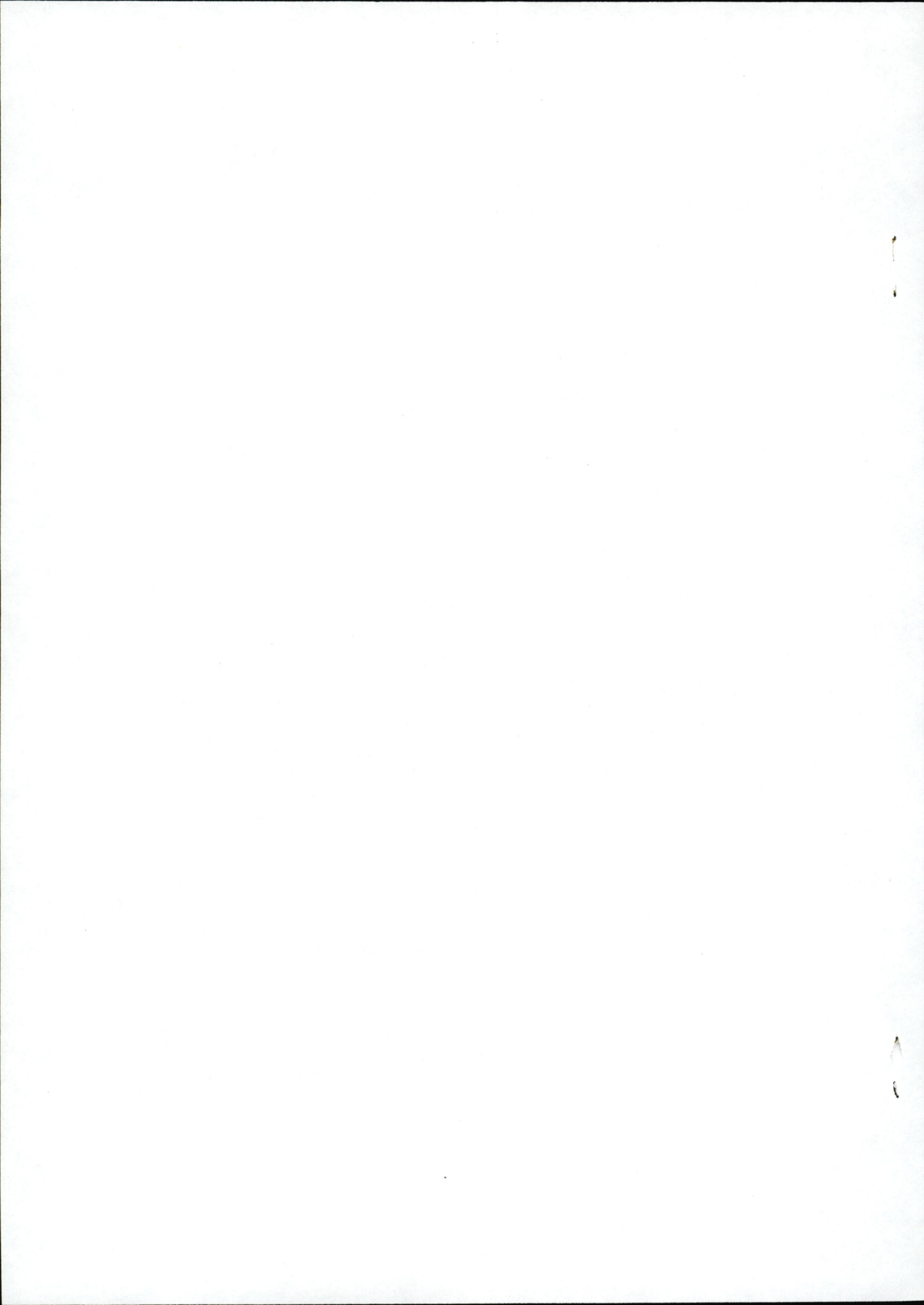


EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Explanatory Note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament)

The object of this Bill is to ensure that a voter records a valid first preference vote (in an Legislative Assembly election) if the voter places a tick or a cross in one voting square and has not marked any other voting square. A tick or a cross is considered sufficient by itself to indicate a first preference. A tick or a cross is at present a valid method of voting in Legislative Council elections.

The Bill also restores the principle that a ballot-paper is valid if a tick is placed in one voting square and crosses or lines are placed in or through the other voting squares.



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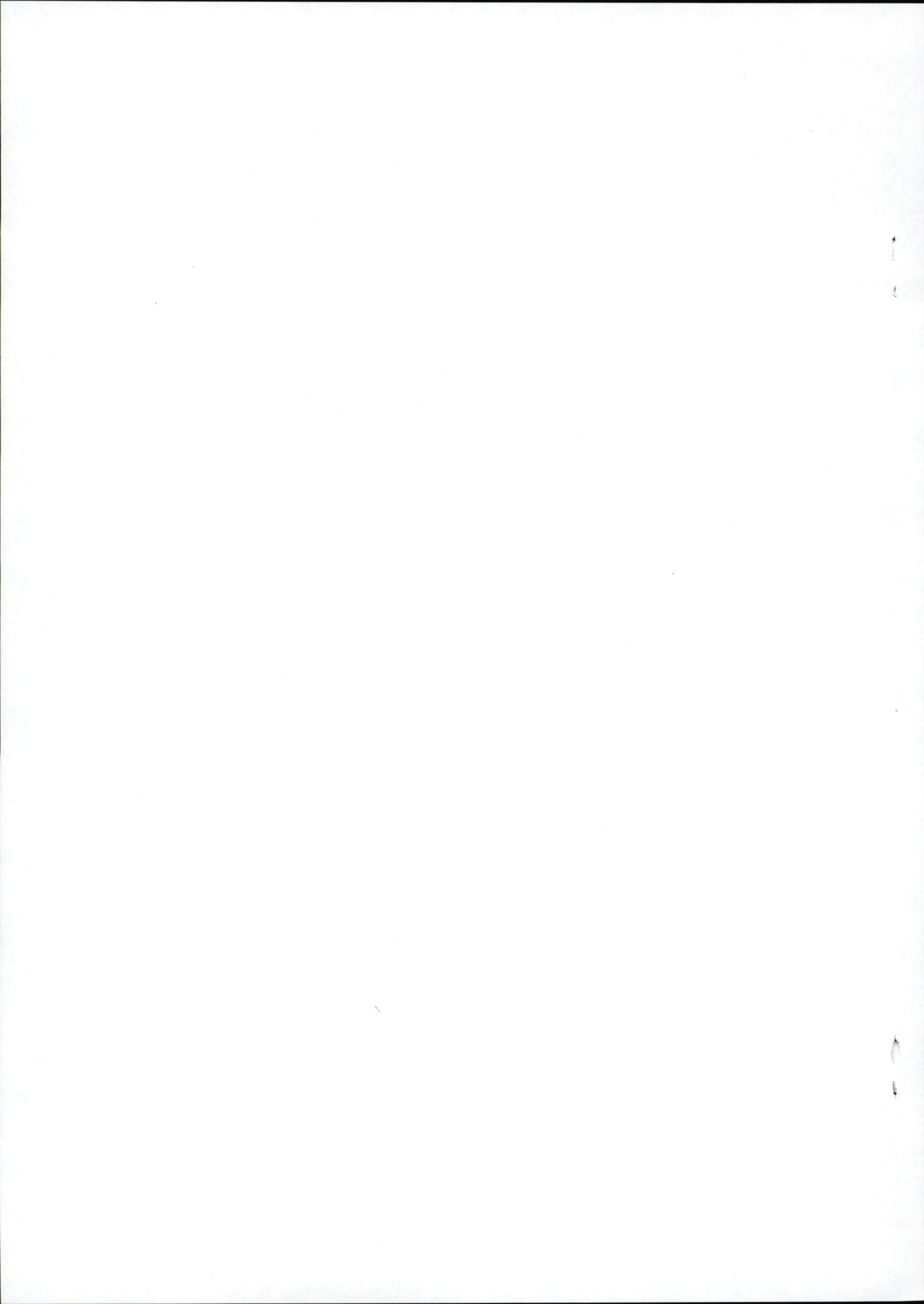
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**PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES AND ELECTIONS
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No. , 1994

A BILL FOR

An Act to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912
with respect to the use of ticks and crosses on ballot-papers.

The Legislature of New South Wales enacts:

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections (Method of Voting) Amendment Act 1994.

5 **Commencement**

2. This Act commences on the date of assent.

**Amendment of Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912
No. 41, sec. 122A (Ballot-papers not to be informal in certain
circumstances)**

10 3. The Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912 is amended:

(a) by omitting section 122A (4) and by inserting instead the following subsection:

15 (4) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Act, a ballot-paper shall not be informal by reason only that the voter has recorded a vote by placing a cross or a tick in a square and not placing any mark or writing in any other square, but the ballot-paper shall be treated as if the cross or tick were the number "1".

20 (b) by inserting in section 122A (5) after the words "placing the number '1' ", the words "or a tick" and by inserting after the words "appear on the ballot-paper", the words "and any such tick were the number '1' ".
