

## ANALYSIS

Title

3. Determination of questions relating to evidence and production of documents Other offences and penalties

1968-69, No. 18

## An Act to amend the Legislative Assembly Powers and Privileges Act 1967

(25 March 1969

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislative Assembly of the Cook Islands in Session assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1. Short Title This Act may be cited as the Legislative Assembly Powers and Privileges Amendment Act 1968-69 and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Legislative Assembly Powers and Privileges Act 1967 (hereinafter referred to as the "principal Act").
- 2. Privileges of witnesses (1) Section 11 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting subsection (2) thereof and substituting the following new subsection:-
  - "(2) Except with the consent of the High Commissioner no Government employee shall before the Assembly or a Committee, give evidence or produce any paper, book, record or document concerning any naval, military or air force matter, nor shall secondary evidence be received by or produced before the Assembly or a Committee of the contents of any such paper, book, record or document".

- (2) Section 11 of the principal Act is hereby further amended by omitting in subsection (3) thereof the words "in the opinion of the High Commissioner".
- 3. Determination of questions relating to evidence and production of documents Section 22 of the principal Act is hereby amended by adding after the words "resolution of the Assembly" the following words:-
  - "if the question arises in the Assembly or a Committee of the Whole Assembly, and by the Speaker if the Assembly is not meeting or during a period of adjournment."
- 4. Other offences and penalties Section 29 of the principal Act is hereby amended by adding the word "or" after paragraph (q) and adding the following new paragraph (r):
  - "(r) Publishes or divulges the proceedings of, or the evidence taken by, or the Report of, any Committee before the Report of such Committee has been presented to the Legislative Assembly, provided that an officer of the Public Service who has given evidence on behalf of a Government department may communicate the text of such evidence to other officers of that department, and in a similar manner any representative or Counsel may communicate with the persons he represents."