

A BILL

ENTITLED, AN ACT TO AMEND "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, AND THE PRODUCTION OF EVIDENCE BEFORE COMMITTEES OF THE SAME."

Name of Act.

WHEREAS, it is desirable that provision be made to enable each and all of the members of the Executive Council, and of the Legislative Council, and of the House of Assembly, to take the same oath of allegiance, or make the same affirmation of allegiance, before taking their seats or voting in the Executive Council, or Legislative Council, or House of Assembly.

Preamble.

Desirability of one oath or affirmation for members of the Executive and Legislative Councils and House of Assembly.

Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, on Her Majesty's behalf, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of Vancouver's Island and its dependencies, as follows :

Enacting clause

I. That no member of the Executive Council, or of the Legislative Council, or of the House of Assembly, of the Colony of Vancouver Island, shall be permitted to sit or vote therein until he shall have taken and subscribed the following oath before the Governor of the said colony, or before some person or persons authorized by such Governor, or before some person or persons authorised by law to administer such oath :

No member of the Executive Council, or Legislative Council, or House of Assembly to sit or vote without taking the oath of allegiance

Persons authorised to administer the oath.

"I, A. B., do sincerely promise and swear, That I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, as lawful Sovereign of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of this Colony of Vancouver Island, dependent on and belonging to the said United Kingdom ; and that I will defend Her to the utmost of my power against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatever which shall be made against Her Person, Crown, and Dignity ; and that I will do my utmost endeavor to disclose and make known to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, all treasons and traitorous conspiracies and attempts which I shall know to be against Her, or any of them ; and all this I do swear without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation, renouncing all pardons and dispensations from any person or persons whatever to the contrary. So help me God."

Oath of Allegiance.

II. Every person authorised by law to make an affirmation instead of taking an oath, may make such affirmation in every case in which an oath is hereinbefore required to be taken.

Affirmation in lieu of swearing

III. Any person may refuse to take the oath of allegiance in any other form than that in which it is enacted in this Act.

A person may refuse to take oath of allegiance in any other form

IV. All acts, statutes, laws, or parts of acts, statutes, or laws, contrary to the provisions of this Act, shall be, and are hereby repealed.

Refusal of all laws opposed to this Act.

V. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the "Legislative Oath's Act, 1863."

Short name of Act.