Act No. 54, 1902.

An Act to extend the Parliamentary Franchise to Women, and for purposes consequent on or incidental to that object. [27th August, 1902.]

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 “Women’s Franchise Act, 1902,” and shall be construed with the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893 and any Act amending the same.

2. The right to vote at elections of members of the Legislative Assembly is hereby conferred upon women. And for that purpose the expression “male person” in the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893 shall be read “male or female person,” and the word “son” in the definition of natural-born subject in section four of that Act shall be read “son or daughter,” and all alterations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section shall be made in the form of any documents as prescribed in that Act: Provided that the right so conferred shall not be exercised until the general election next happening after the commencement of this Act.

3. Where a female elector’s name is changed in consequence of her marriage after enrolment in any roll, or where after such enrolment her marriage is dissolved or declared to be null and void and she reverts to and becomes known under her maiden surname or her surname before such marriage, the chief electoral officer, on being satisfied of such change of name, may amend such roll or cause it to be amended accordingly, and on receiving the elector’s right then issued and in force in respect of such elector may issue a new elector’s right in the changed name of the elector.

4. Nothing in this Act shall be taken to enable or qualify a woman to be nominated as a candidate at any election or to be elected as a member.

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