

Legal Aid Act 1939

Public Act 1939 No 42
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An Act to make Further Provision for Legal Aid to Poor Persons.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Short Title.

This Act may be cited as the Legal Aid Act, 1939.

2 Power to make regulations providing for legal aid to poor persons.

- (1) The Governor-General, to ensure that legal aid is available to poor persons, may from time to time, by Order in Council, make regulations for all or any of the following purposes:—
- (a) Defining the term “poor person” for the purposes of the regulations, and prescribing the classes of persons qualified to receive legal aid as poor persons:
 - (b) Authorizing the New Zealand Law Society to establish committees and panels of legal practitioners for the assistance of poor persons, and for this purpose to require practitioners to serve on those committees and panels and to undertake the advising of poor persons and the conduct of litigation on behalf of poor persons; and empowering the New Zealand

Law Society to delegate any of its functions under the regulations to any District Law Society:

- (c) Prescribing the nature and extent of the legal aid that may be granted, and the conditions upon or subject to which it may be granted:
 - (d) Prescribing the manner in which legal aid shall be provided and administered:
 - (e) Providing for the remission of fees payable under any Act, rules, or regulations in relation to Court proceedings to which poor persons are parties and for the non-allowance or remission of costs payable by poor persons (whether to other parties or to solicitors) and for the non-allowance, remission, or disposal of costs payable to poor persons.
- (2) Any regulations made under this section may apply generally with respect to all legal matters, whether relating to proceedings in any Court or otherwise, or may apply with respect to specified classes of matters or proceedings.
- (3) Nothing in the Judicature Amendment Act, 1930, shall apply to any regulations made under this section.