

A BILL

ENTITLED

A LAW to Amend The Census Law.

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BE it enacted by the Governor and Legislative Council of Jamaica as follows :—

1—This Law may be cited as the Census (Amendment) Law, 1942, and shall be read and construed as one with the Census Law (hereinafter referred to as the principal Law), and all amendments thereto.

Short title and construction.
Cap. 404.

2—Sub-section (1) of section 2 of the principal Law is hereby amended by the addition thereto of the following as paragraph (c)—

Amendment of section 2 (1) of the principal Law.

“(c) the particulars to be stated in the returns:”.

Amendment of
section 4 (a)
of the
principal Law.

3—Section 4 of the principal Law is hereby amended by the deletion of the words “parochial registrars” from the fifth line of paragraph (a) of the section and by the substitution therefor of the words “census supervisors”.

Amendment of
section 7 of
of the
principal Law.

4—Section 7 of the principal Law is hereby amended by the deletion of the words “within one week next after the said appointed day” from the seventh and eighth lines of the section.

Insertion of
section 7A in
the principal
Law.

5—The principal Law is hereby amended by the insertion therein, next after section 7, of the following as section 7A—

“Access to
public records.

7A—Every person who has the custody or charge of any public records or documents, or of any records or documents of any corporation, from which information relating to the objects of any Census ordered under this Law may be obtained, or which would aid in the completion of such Census, shall grant to any census supervisor, enumerator, or person authorised in writing by the Census Officer, access thereto for the purpose of obtaining such information therefrom.”

Amendment of
section 8 of the
principal Law.

6—Section 8 of the principal Law is hereby amended by the deletion of the words “Each Parochial Registrar shall by such ways and means as shall appear to him best adapted for the purpose or” from the first, second and third lines of the section, and by the substitution therefor of the words “Each census supervisor shall in such manner”.

Amendment of
section 9 (1)
of the
principal Law.

7—Sub-section (1) of section 9 of the principal Law is hereby amended by the addition thereto of the following as paragraph (d)—

“(d) wilfully hinders or in any way wilfully obstructs, or seeks to obstruct, the Census Officer, or any census supervisor, enumerator, or person authorised in writing by the Census Officer, from obtaining any information to which he is entitled, or from having access to any records or documents, under the provisions of this Law,”.

8—Sub-section (2) of section 9 of the principal Law is hereby amended by the addition thereto of the following paragraph as paragraph (c)—

Amendment of
section 9 (2)
of the
principal Law.

“(c) in the pretended performance of duties under this Law obtains, or seeks to obtain, information which he is not duly authorised so to obtain.”.

9—Paragraph 6 of the Schedule to the principal Law is hereby amended by the substitution of a comma for the full stop at the end of the paragraph and by the addition thereafter of the words “or with a view to ascertaining the area, value, condition and products of agricultural land, and the number, kind, and value, of domestic animals and animal products, during such period as may be prescribed in the Order”.

Amendment of
the Schedule
to the
principal Law.

MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

This Bill amends the principal Law (Cap. 404) so as to enable the Order directing the Census to be taken to prescribe the particulars to be stated in the returns.

As it is possible that the actual taking of the Census will last for over a week, the provisions of section 7 of the principal Law giving a power of entry for only one week from the start of the Census have been deleted.

Provision has also been made for access to public documents and for the substitution of the term census supervisor for the term Parochial Registrar.

As it is desirable to obtain as much information as possible in relation to agriculture, the Schedule has been amended so as to allow the returns to include agricultural particulars.

ARTHUR LEWEY,
Attorney General.
29.6.42.