

# Bill No. 22 of 1960

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## COMMISSIONER OF TITLE (ADDITIONAL POWERS) BILL, 1960.

### ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS.

#### Section

1. Short title.
2. Additional powers of Commissioner of Title.
3. Order of Commissioner of Title deemed to be that of a judge.
4. Duration of Ordinance.

### A BILL

#### Intituled

## AN ORDINANCE TO CONFER ADDITIONAL POWERS ON A COMMISSIONER OF TITLE.

Enacted by the Legislature of British Guiana:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Commissioner of Title (Additional Powers) Ordinance, 1960. Short title.
2. A Commissioner of Title may hear and determine such matters in respect of which a judge of the Supreme Court has power to exercise jurisdiction under the Title to Land (Prescription and Limitation) Ordinance or the District Lands Partition and Re-allotment Ordinance as may be assigned to him by the Chief Justice, and for that purpose shall be vested with and may exercise the powers of a judge of the Supreme Court. Additional powers of Commissioner of Title. Cap. 184. Cap. 173.
3. Any order of a Commissioner of Title made in pursuance of the jurisdiction conferred on him by the preceding section shall be deemed to have been made by a judge of the Supreme Court. Order of Commissioner of Title deemed to be that of a judge.
4. This Ordinance shall have effect for a period of one year from the date of its coming into force, and may, prior to its expiration, be extended by resolution of the Legislative Council for a further period not exceeding one year, and may from time to time, prior to the expiration of that or any further extension, be extended for a further period not exceeding one year. Duration of Ordinance.

### OBJECTS AND REASONS

It is considered that the work in the Supreme Court would be expedited if the Commissioner of Title appointed under the Land Registry Ordinance, 1959, is empowered to hear partition appeals under the District Lands Partition and Re-allotment Ordinance, Chapter 173, and petitions, applications and actions for declaration of title to lands under the Title to Land (Prescription and Limitation) Ordinance, Chapter 184. Under the Land Registry Ordinance, the Commissioner of Title exercises similar powers to those of a judge under Chapter 184, although in relation to a land registration area. He also exercises the powers conferred on a partition officer by the District Lands Partition and Re-allotment Ordinance, Chapter 173, and the proposal is that he should exercise a power of appeal in such cases.

2. The Bill seeks to confer such jurisdiction on a Commissioner of Title and provides that any order made by him shall be deemed to be that of a judge.

3. As the conferring of this jurisdiction is an expedient to assist in speeding up the work of the Supreme Court, provision is made to limit its duration.

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(M.P. L. 140/1).  
(Leg. Bill 22/1960).