

In certain cases a declaration may be substituted for an oath.

VIII. And whereas it is highly desirable that oaths should not be administered unnecessarily by public authority: Be it therefore enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, in every case in which by any Act or Acts made in either Lower Canada or Upper Canada, or made or to be made in this Province, or by law, or by any official regulation in any department of the Provincial Government, or rule or by-law of any public or private Institution, whether incorporated or not, any oath, solemn affirmation or affidavit now is, or hereafter may be made or taken, or but for the passing of this Act might be required to be made or taken by any persons on the doing of any act, matter or thing, or the verifying of any book, entry or return, or the verifying or proving of any will or codicil, deed or instrument in writing, or of the signing, sealing, publication or delivery of the said will or codicil, or by any person on his election to or assumption of any office in virtue of any Act or Acts aforesaid, or for any other purpose whatsoever, it shall be lawful to substitute a declaration to the same effect as the oath, solemn affirmation or affidavit, which might be required to be made or taken; and the persons who might under the Act or Acts imposing the same be required to make or take such oath, solemn affirmation or affidavit, shall in presence of any officer or person empowered by such Act or Acts to administer the same, make and subscribe such declaration which every such Officer or person is hereby empowered and required to administer accordingly: Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend to the oath of allegiance in any case in which the same now is or may be required to be taken by any person who may be appointed to any office, nor to any oath, solemn affirmation or affidavit, which now is or hereafter may be made or taken, or be required to be made or taken in any judicial proceeding in any Court of

Proviso.