

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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January 27, 1942

Frank I. Cowan, Attorney General

Guy R. Whitten, Deputy Comm'r of Insurance

I have your query of January 9th in regard to Chapter 2 of the Public Laws of 1935. Said Act reads in part as follows:

"The Insurance Commissioner may incur such expense as may be necessary to carry out his duties in investigating or causing to be investigated the origin of fires and the inspection of buildings and the property.....said funds shall be used solely to defray the expense of such investigations and inspections and are hereby appropriated for such purposes."

The second paragraph of your letter is very broad, in fact too broad to be properly answered. In so far as any activities can be included within the meaning of the words "such investigations and inspections", the expense of such activities may properly be paid for from the funds. When they cannot be so included, they should not be paid for from said funds.

This reply is of necessity, vague, but it goes as far as is proper. Any time you want to ask about whether a specific use comes within the provisions of the Act above referred to, I will do my best to give you a specific answer.

Attorney General

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