

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

REPORT

OF THE

ATTORNEY GENERAL

for the calendar years

1945-1946

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June 21, 1945

To Earle R. Hayes, Director of Personnel
Re: Laborers, Patrolmen, Truck Drivers, etc.

Your memo of June 16th received, asking if the above designated State employees, who are paid on an hourly basis, for only time actually worked—should be considered classified employees or not, for the purposes of Chapter 135 of the Private and Special Laws of 1945.

In my opinion these employees of the State Highway Commission come within the provisions of Section 6 of Chapter 59 of the Revised Statutes of 1944.

RALPH W. FARRIS
Attorney General

June 22, 1945

To Harold I. Goss, Esq., Secretary of State

Your inquiry concerns Chapter 346 of the Public Laws of 1945, namely an act amending the financial responsibility law by adding thereto a new paragraph to be lettered 'F,' which is as follows:

“To the owner or licensed operator of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer involved in an accident if the said motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer at the time of the accident was insured by the owner thereof under a motor vehicle liability policy as defined by this chapter.”

Your question is whether this amendment applies to those persons who in the past have been required to furnish proof of financial responsibility, although the owner of the vehicle carried liability insurance; and whether they would in the future, by reason of this amendment, be relieved from furnishing such proof.

This amendment was the result of considerable agitation on the part of those persons who protected themselves by carrying liability insurance; and it was because of this that the amendment was introduced and enacted.

It was the intent of the legislature to relieve those persons, and hence, when this law becomes effective, it is my opinion that irrespective of the date of the accident, if at such time the vehicle or the operator thereof was protected by liability insurance, then this provision would be applicable.

ABRAHAM BREITBARD
Deputy Attorney General

June 22, 1945

To Fred W. Hollingdale, Deputy Treasurer of State

I received your memo dated May 21st on June 20th, with a copy of the memo from former Attorney General Cowan dated July 10, 1944, relating to the responsibility of the State Treasurer; and you suggest the following questions: