

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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January 29, 1946

To Alfred W. Perkins, Insurance Commissioner

Fees Payable to Commissioner

I have your memo of January 24th relating to the provisions of Section 6, Chapter 118, P. L. 1945, which replaced Section 72, Chapter 56, R. S. 1944, relating to domestic mutual fire insurance companies writing on the assessment plan, which would exempt from paying a \$20 fee or filing an annual statement.

Your question is: "Does this new law require these domestic mutual fire companies to pay a filing fee of \$20?"

After reading the statute and after my conference with you this morning, I am of the opinion that this applies to every insurance company, whether domestic or foreign or mutual, doing business within this State.

It is evident that the drafters of this law intended to eliminate any discriminatory features in the Maine insurance law, and apparently they changed the language of the statute, so that every insurance company should register and every registrant under the provisions of this law should file an annual statement with the commissioner and pay the sum of \$20 with each annual statement. You will note that the words, "Every insurance company shall also pay all traveling expenses, etc.," occur at the end of paragraph 1 of the new section 272 under Chapter 118, which would also apply to all foreign, domestic and mutual companies.

In case this law creates a hardship on the mutual companies and you feel that it should be changed, I think it is a matter to be presented at the next session of the legislature, to clarify or change the words "registration fee."

Ralph W. Farris
Attorney General

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