

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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August 2, 1951

To George F. Mahoney, Insurance Commissioner
Re: Interpretation of Chapter 272, P.L. 1947, and Chapter 235, P.L.
1949

Your memorandum of July 23, 1951, has been received by this office, relative to the above chapters.

In construing these two sections, it is obvious that a certain ambiguity exists. The 1947 law deals with public dances specifically, while the 1949 law speaks of "all buildings" used for "dancing", occasionally or habitually, and provides for the payment of a license therefor. Since the latter law specifically excludes charitable, educational and religious institutions from compliance with its provisions and they hold dances of a semi-public nature, and since the 1949 law amends the 1947 law, which dealt exclusively with public dances, it would appear that the intent of the legislature was that the 1949 law would concern itself also with public dances. A rather definite ambiguity exists in the case of the 1949 law, but it would appear that it should be construed along with the 1947 law.

James G. Frost
Assistant Attorney General