

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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April 1, 1974

Albert C. Willis, Director, Fire
Control Division

Forestry

Lee M. Schepps, Assistant

Attorney General

AN ACT Relating to Municipal Fire Protection

This is in response to your memo of March 25, 1974, asking certain questions about the above act, Chapter 680 of the Public Laws of 1973.

Town Forest Fire Wardens must be appointed anew in all towns, pursuant to the new provisions of Title 25 M.R.S.A. § 2501, as enacted by Chapter 680 of the Public Laws of 1973. Appointments under the old law were for a three year term, whereas appointees under the new law serve at the pleasure of the Director. Appointments under the old law were from among a designated group of officials, whereas under the new law the Director is required to appoint the Municipal Fire Chief unless it is impracticable to do so. The new law makes no provision for appointees under the old law to serve out the unexpired portion of their term.

Based upon the foregoing, it seems clear that appointments of Municipal Forest Fire Wardens under prior laws expire upon the effective date of Chapter 680 of the Public Laws of 1973, and officials must be appointed again under the applicable provisions of the new law.

Let me know if I can be of further assistance.

LEE M. SCHEPPS
Assistant Attorney General

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